

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

SOIL SEED ANALYSIS



What does Soil Seed Analysis tell us?

Weed populations are established each year because of persistent seed banks in arable soils. A knowledge of weed composition is necessary to carry out studies of population dynamics, to establish weed management programs or to avoid weed spread when transferring potentially contaminated soil, topsoil or compost. Seed counts in soil samples provide information about the size and composition of the weed seed bank in the area tested.

How to submit samples

- Follow proper sampling procedures to build a representative sample.
- Package 400 grams (2 cups) of soil, topsoil, compost or garden soil into a sample bag.
- Samples should be submitted with as few clumps as possible, especially if clay based and as dry as possible.
- Standard turn around is 3-5 business days. RUSH analysis is available upon request.

How does SGS BioVision Perform Soil Seed Analysis?

- The submitted sample is dried, mixed and broken down, then sub-sampled to 50 grams.
- The working sample is washed over fine sieves, then the remaining material is dried and prepared for analysis.
- All seeds are removed, identified and quantified.
- Results are expressed as "Seeds Found per 50 gram Soil Analyzed".



Learn more about Soil Seed Analysis Testing and our other services at biovision.ca.

