



## SOILLESS MEDIA INFORMATION SHEET

**NOTE: PAYMENT OF \$40.00 MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH YOUR SOILLESS MEDIA SAMPLE**

**Serial #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Grower Info:</b>	<b>Copy To:</b>
Name	Name
Address	Address
City, State, Zip	City, State, Zip
Phone	Phone
County	

**Sample Identification:** \_\_\_\_\_

**House No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bench No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CROP: (check one)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Azalea<br><input type="checkbox"/> Bedding plants<br><input type="checkbox"/> Begonia<br><input type="checkbox"/> Bougainvillea<br><input type="checkbox"/> Carnations<br><input type="checkbox"/> Foliage<br><input type="checkbox"/> Geraniums<br><input type="checkbox"/> Hydrangeas<br><input type="checkbox"/> Impatiens<br><input type="checkbox"/> Lilies<br><input type="checkbox"/> Marigold<br><input type="checkbox"/> Mums<br><input type="checkbox"/> Poinsettias<br><input type="checkbox"/> Roses<br><input type="checkbox"/> Viola<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Blueberries<br><input type="checkbox"/> Lettuce<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tomatoes |
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**Standard Soilless Media Program**

This program is designed as a management tool for greenhouse operators who use soilless growth media for plant production. Samples are analyzed for pH, nitrate nitrogen, ammonium nitrogen, soluble salts, phosphorous, potassium, calcium, magnesium, boron, copper, iron, manganese, sodium, and zinc using the saturated media extract method with DTPA. The final report includes the analytical results along with an interpretation based on the specified crop.

## SOILLESS MEDIA SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Take samples at least 6 hours after watering.
2. If possible, take samples at least 5 days after a fertilizer application.
3. Scrape aside the mulch and top ¼ inch of media.
4. **Bench Crops:** Take full core of media from top to bottom of bench with 10 cores or more if necessary. Take the cores from spots equally distributed through bench, but not within 2 inches of edge or ends of bench.
5. **Potted Plants:** Take samples from top to bottom from 10 or more pots.
6. **Potting or Transplanting Media or Compost Pile:** Take small portions of media from 10 or more locations in the pile.
7. Spread composite sample (1 quart required for test) on newspaper in a warm room to air-dry overnight. Then put the samples in a plastic zipper seal bag and mail with this information sheet.
8. A report of the results of the analyses and the recommendations will be sent to you. You may wish to consult your county agent for additional information.

### BEFORE MAILING, MAKE SURE YOU:

1. Complete this Soilless Media Information Sheet with your name, address and crop information.
2. Place your soilless media sample in the plastic bag and securely seal bag.
3. Place both your soilless media information sheet and soilless media bag in an envelope or box before mailing to our laboratory. **Enclose payment of \$40.00** with sample (check payable to Penn State University).
4. Place sufficient postage on front of envelope. To ensure delivery, postage must be based on weight of envelope with enclosed sample.