

Soil

[IS1294 Soil Testing for the Homeowner](#)

Four steps for taking a soil sample and four steps for sending soil samples to the lab.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1294.pdf>

[IS1564 Amending the Planting Site for Landscape Plants](#)

By adding amendments and improving the soil, you will have a better chance of success with your landscape planting.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1564.pdf>

[P2571 Soil pH for Landscape Plants](#)

Test your soil pH before planting. Select plants suited to the natural pH range or determine the optimum pH range for your plants following the tables on previous pages. Follow your soil test recommendations closely. Contact your Extension office or the MSU Soil Testing Laboratory if you need help interpreting the soil test results.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2571.pdf>

[P1782 Composting for the Mississippi Gardener](#)

Compost is a dark, crumbly, partially decomposed form of organic waste that has not fully decomposed into humus.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1782.pdf>

[P2301 Mulches for the Landscape](#)

Mulching keeps your garden and landscape healthy. Mulching occurs regularly in nature with fallen leaves, twigs, spent flowers, and other materials. These natural mulches have provided a protective covering for the soil.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2301.pdf>

Fertilizer

[IS0372 Soil pH and Fertilizers](#)

The pH of a soil refers to how acid or alkaline the soil is. The letters 'pH' mean 'potential hydrogen.'

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0372.pdf>

[IS1977 A Quick Guide to Fertilizing Mississippi Landscapes](#)

Why fertilize? To supply nutrients to achieve a clearly defined objective, such as -

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1977.pdf>

[IS0411 Fertilizing Ornamental Trees & Shrubs](#)

Fertilize when shrubs and trees are actively growing. In most areas of Mississippi, the best times to fertilize are from April through October. In the Gulf Coast counties, the best times are from March through October. Young plants are small and growing actively, and they require more fertilizer than mature, established plantings.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0411.pdf>

IS0767 Nitrogen in Mississippi Soils

Nitrogen (N) is essential for plant growth. It is the mineral plants require most. Lack of N in a plant may be seen on older leaves that are mostly pale green or yellow.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0767.pdf>

IS871 Phosphorus in Mississippi Soils

This publication examines phosphorus (P) in soils, plant uptake, soil fertility and testing, and management of P fertilizers.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0871.pdf>

IS0894 Potassium in Mississippi Soils

Potassium (K) is the element second only to nitrogen in the amount plants absorb. Although plants need large amounts of K, its exact function is not clearly known.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0894.pdf>

P2572 Organic and Inorganic Fertilizers and Materials for the Home Gardener

Home gardeners today have many choices when considering how to improve the soil and add nutrients. With the renewed interest in gardening practices that emphasize conservation and sustainability of our natural resources, many people have an interest in using organics to build the soil and supply needed nutrients.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2572.pdf>

Plants (Types and Species)

P1826 Annual & Perennial Flowers for Mississippi Gardens

Annuals and perennials spice the landscape with their beautiful flowers and foliage.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1826.pdf>

P1736 Planting and Care of Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes, and Roots

Bulbous plants in the landscape can provide years of enjoyment if you follow the few steps listed below. Tulips are among the most popular of the bulbous plants. However, there are several other beautiful flowering plants from true bulbs, corms, tubers, or rhizomes that provide color in the landscape.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1736.pdf>

IS1661 Butterfly Plants & Mississippi Butterflies

Butterflies and their host plants are intricately tied to one another. Generally, there are two types of plants that you must have in your garden for butterflies.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1661.pdf>

IS1523 Caladiums for the Landscape

Caladiums are tropical foliage plants, discovered within the Amazon basin of Brazil. Now, widely grown for their colorful leaves, they are used as pot, border, and bedding plants.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1523.pdf>

P2007 Crapemyrtle - Flower of the South

Crapemyrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*) is a popular ornamental shrub/small tree for Mississippi landscapes.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2007.pdf>

IS0656 Growing Azaleas

Sooner or later almost every Mississippi homeowner tries to grow azaleas. Azaleas are best suited to an informal garden that has partial shade.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0656.pdf>

IS1562 Easy-to-Grow Herbs for the Landscape

The value of herbs has been known for centuries. They have been used as flavorings in foods and as medicines for ailments. In addition to use in medicine and in culinary art, herbs are being used as ornamental plants in the landscape.

http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1562_12.pdf

P1901 The Garden Tabloid

Grow your own vegetables.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1091.pdf>

P2835 Roses in Mississippi

The rose is one of the most popular flowering plants in the world. Its beauty, fragrance, and diversity provide value beyond our physical needs.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2835.pdf>

P2330 Native Trees for Mississippi Landscapes

The use of indigenous trees in homes, gardens, and communities is not new to Mississippi. Indigenous trees form the very fabric of our surroundings and create our state's own unique regional identity.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2330.pdf>

P2334 Native Shrubs for Mississippi Landscapes

This publication describes 30 shrub species that are native to Mississippi and can be successfully used in home landscapes.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2334.pdf>

P2574 Hydrangeas For Mississippi Gardens

Hydrangeas have been a part of the southern landscape since they were first imported from Japan in the 1750s. The most commonly grown species is the big leaf, or French, hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla*). This is the traditional hydrangea with the large, 'mophead' bloom in shades of blue or pink. The color of the bloom depends on the pH of the soil.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2574.pdf>

P1709 Wildflowers for Mississippi Meadows and Gardens

From the hundreds of wildflower species available, including both native and naturalized species, there are only a few dozen dependable or showy enough for use in Mississippi wildflower meadows.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1709.pdf>

IS0642 Identifying Poison Ivy

Poison ivy is known by many names because of its wide variation of appearance in different locations. Some poison ivy has heavy, rough, woody vines. Others are trailing shrubs that run on the ground, and some are erect, woody shrubs.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0642.pdf>

M1194 Mississippi's 10 Worst Invasive Weeds

The '10 worst weeds' described in this publication are biological pollutants that crowd out native plants, degrade wildlife habitat, and threaten many endangered species.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/misc/m1194.pdf>

Tools

P2250 Disaster Relief: Chain Saw Safety: Tree Felling

A chain saw can be a major asset, but it also is one of the most dangerous tools a person can buy.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2250.pdf>

IS1955 Choosing a Disinfectant for Tools and Surfaces in Horticultural Operations

Disinfecting tools and surfaces is one good way to limit the spread of disease-causing pathogens to healthy plant materials in greenhouses, nurseries, and farms...

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1955.pdf>

Pests & Diseases

IS1666 The Plant Doctor Powdery Mildew on Crapemyrtles

The twisting, smooth-textured, cream to cinnamon-brown-colored trunk of the crapemyrtle makes it a pleasing plant in both winter and summer gardens. The red, pink, white, lavender, or purple flowers give great summer color.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1666.pdf>

M1230 Plant Disease and Nematode Diagnostic Services

Plant disease and nematode diagnostic services brochure.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/misc/m1230.pdf>

P1224 Plant Analysis Sampling Instructions

This publication tells you how to collect a plant tissue sample for analysis. Remember: Plant analyses and evaluations are worthless unless you submit the proper plant part.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1224.pdf>

Insect Pests of ornamental plants in the home landscape

This publication provides information on the biology, management, and control of some of the insect pests most commonly encountered on perennial landscape plants.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2369.pdf>

P2483 Integrated Pest Management In the Home Landscape

Insecticides are important gardening tools, but gardeners vary considerably in their attitudes toward pesticide use.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2483.pdf>

IS1580 Nonchemical Weed Control For Homeowners

Mississippians take pride in the appearance of their lawns and landscapes. Weeds, however, can detract from that appearance and cause hardship and frustration for homeowners.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1580.pdf>

IS1668 The Plant Doctor - Plant Disease and Fertilization

Plants must have a proper growing medium for healthy growth. Most often the growing medium is soil.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1668.pdf>

IS1670 The Plant Doctor - Watering and Plant Disease

Water, especially water droplets on leaves and stems, plays a major part in plant diseases.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1670.pdf>

Lawn

P1322 Establish and Manage Your Home Lawn

The home lawn and the turf areas surrounding churches, parks, and office buildings do more than just serve as pleasant green backdrops. The grass plants that make up the lawns serve as miniature air-conditioners and pollution-abatement centers.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1322.pdf>

P2171 Weed-Control Calendar for Warm-Season Turfgrasses

Information provided in this publication is targeted for areas around Starkville, Mississippi. In the Jackson area, move dates back about 2 weeks; near the coast about 3 weeks; and north of Starkville near Hernando or Corinth, move the date forward about 2 weeks.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2171.pdf>

P2331 Control of Insect Pests in and around the Home Lawn

This publication addresses some of the most common pests that are likely to be found on lawns in Mississippi and provides information to help identify them.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2331.pdf>

Plant Selection

P1012 Care and Selection of Indoor Plants

Growing indoor plants is not difficult if proper environmental factors for each plant are met. The most important factors affecting plant growth and success are light, temperature, water, humidity, soil, and fertilization.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p1012.pdf>

P0666 Selecting Landscape Plants

Choosing plants can be confusing. Maybe this is because there are so many plants to choose from. This publication will help you choose landscape plants. It is for Mississippi gardeners who are planning new or improving their existing landscapes. It lists many kinds of plants that grow well in Mississippi.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p0666.pdf>

P2651 Selecting Landscape Shrubs With Special Comments on Invasive and Native Plants

This publication will provide information to help you make the right shrub choices. Whether you are planning a new landscape or renovating an established one, this publication contains plant characteristics and cultural information on many kinds of shrubs that grow well in Mississippi.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2651.pdf>

P2679 Selecting Landscape Trees

This publication will provide information to help you make the right tree choices. Whether you are planning a new landscape or renovating an established landscape, this publication contains plant characteristics and cultural information on many kinds of trees that grow well in Mississippi.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2679.pdf>

[P2311 Soil pH and Tree Species Suitability in Mississippi](#)

The species of tree you wish to grow largely depends on the soil properties on your site. Among the many soil properties, soil pH is one of the most important. Soil pH provides a good indication of the chemical status of the soil and can be used in ...

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2311.pdf>

Plant Management

[P0456 Espalier Shrubs and Trees](#)

Technically speaking, an espalier (ess-PAL-yer) is a plant that has been trained to grow in only one plane. It has only two dimensions, height and width.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p0456.pdf>

[IS0207 Propagating Plants for the Home Landscape](#)

There are several reasons to propagate plants at home rather than purchasing them. An interesting plant growing in a neighbor's yard, but not available through commercial outlets, could be propagated at home.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0207.pdf>

[IS0204 Pruning Landscape Plants](#)

Pruning is one of the least understood practices of landscape maintenance. Before trying to prune your landscape shrubs and trees, consider the basic principles of pruning.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0204.pdf>

[IS0965 Transplanting Trees and Shrubs in the Landscape](#)

Buying trees and shrubs for landscaping can be expensive. For a newly built home, the estimated cost for a landscape design is 5 to 15 percent of the cost of the home.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is0965.pdf>

[P2339 Preserving Trees in Construction Sites](#)

Protection and the highest quality of care are the keys to preserving trees in construction sites. Health decline and death following construction are usually caused by damage inflicted on the root system.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2339.pdf>

Landscape Design

[P2698 Home Landscape Design](#)

A well-designed and functional home landscape can add to your family's joy and increase the value of your property.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/publications/p2698.pdf>

[IS1141 Landscaping to Conserve Energy](#)

Too frequently people do not use landscape plants to conserve energy. Proper placement of trees, shrubs, and vines around a house conserves energy while adding beauty.

<http://msucares.com/pubs/infosheets/is1141.pdf>

Gardening Through the Seasons: Videos

Do you want to know when and how certain garden and landscape tasks should be done? These short instructional videos are designed to provide seasonal tips, techniques and how-to's for the home gardener.

<http://msucares.com/gardenvideos/index.html#>