

## What is soil pH?

It is a measure of how acidic or alkaline soil is. The pH scale goes from acidic at 0 to alkaline at 14, but most soils fall into the range 4 to 9.

## Why is it important?

Nutrients in soil need to be soluble and available for plants to take them up, this can only happen if the pH is right for the plant. Most plants either prefer acidic to neutral or neutral to alkaline pH.

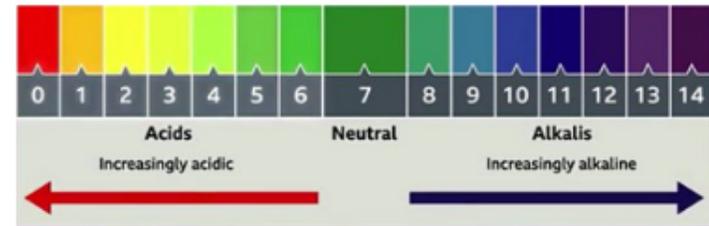
## Why do we test the pH?

To check that the soil is right, and to correct it if it is not right.

## How to test soil pH?

1. Collect a small sample of soil
2. Dissolve it in water
3. Leave it to settle

4. Dip a pH testing strip into the water
5. Check the colour of the strip against the pH colour chart.



## How to increase soil PH

Add white rock powder to the soil, this is known as lime. Then repeat the soil pH test. Or blend alkaline soil components to your soil

## How to lower soil pH

Add fertilizer (this is known as aluminium sulphate. Or blend with compost like components. Then repeat the soil pH test.