Participants in the 2024 Soil California Bearing Ratio Proficiency Sample Program,

The 2024 Soil California Bearing Ratio Proficiency Samples 189 and 190 are currently being processed and packaged for shipping. Please take note of the following dates and deadlines associated with these samples:

Shipping Date: March 14th, 2024

Immediately after the shipping date, please log in to the AASHTO re:source website to track your packages. From the "My Lab" page, click "Packages" in the left-hand column of the page. ***Be aware that the sample boxes may not arrive in the correct order or on the same day. You may receive Sample 189 (A) before Sample 190 (B) and they may arrive a few days apart.***

Please be aware that the Shipping Contact on file will receive a FedEx Shipment notification email from TrackingUpdates@FedEx.com containing tracking information. To ensure receipt of the shipment details, kindly add TrackingUpdates@FedEx.com to your contact list and make sure your Shipping Contact information is up to date in our system.

Upon receipt of the samples, please open the boxes and ensure that all contents are included. If the samples are seriously damaged or missing a component, please notify us immediately and we will send replacements.

The outside of the sample boxes are labeled samples 189(A) and 190(B). The bags inside the boxes are labeled only (A) or (B). The bags labeled (A) are sample 189. The bags labeled (B) are sample 190.

Datasheets, instructions, and SDSs will be made available on the shipping date and can be found on the AASHTO re:source website:

http://www.aashtoresource.org/psp/datasheets-and-instructions

To view a video and description of the samples you will receive, please use the following link:

Non-Receipt Date: March 28th, 2024

If you have not received the samples by the non-receipt date or if the samples are seriously damaged, or missing a component please notify us immediately and we will send replacements.

Closing Date: May 9th, 2024

We encourage you to submit your results online, as soon as possible. This enables you to receive instant confirmation of data submitted and revise data if needed. Test results received after the closing date will not be included in the final report.

Final Report Date: May 23rd, 2024

AASHTO re:source will provide a final report approximately two weeks after the closing date. Individual laboratory reports will be provided by logging on the AASHTO re:source website. Laboratories will be notified by email when the final report becomes available.

Of course, confidentiality of individual laboratory results will be maintained. However, general information regarding the round of testing, such as statistical summary tables and Youden scatter diagrams associated with the analysis of data, will be provided to the public on AASHTO re:source' s website.

re:
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Frederick, Maryland 21704-7507

Testing Note

For each test performed please report the result of a single determination only, not the average of two or more, except in cases where an average is called for in the method or specification. The program is designed to obtain two independent test results, one for each numbered sample, for each test method that the laboratory chooses to perform.

To permit an estimate of single-operator precision, the same operator should conduct an individual test on both samples. It is not necessary that the same person conduct all the tests.

Treat each sample as you would treat a typical "testing" sample. Any special handling or preparation needs will be included below or within the Sample Instructions Document.

Special Instructions/New Test Methods

Both samples contain mixtures of manufactured sand and processed clay.

During penetration, be sure to use a load cell having an appropriate capacity. ***USE CAUTION WHEN TESTING FOR PENTRATION LOAD.*** Preliminary testing of the materials used for this round of testing indicated that the penetration load could reach approximately 3000 pounds when tested to 0.500 inches of penetration.

Prepare one specimen per sample using the rammer specified in T99 or D698 [5.5-lb (2.5-kg)] to compact the soil in 3 layers using 56 blows per layer.

Compact sample 189 (A) at a total water content of 8.5 percent.
Compact sample 190 (B) at a total water content of 8.0 percent.

Please review the full set of sample instructions prior to performing the testing.

No new test methods have been added to this sample program.

A complete sample schedule is available online:

http://www.aashtoresource.org/psp/schedule

Please contact AASHTO re:source at psp@aashtoresource.org or call 240-436-4900 if there are questions.

Sincerely,
John J. Malusky
Program Manager
AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample Program

re:
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