

Participants in the 2024 Soil Classification and Compaction Proficiency Sample Program,

The 2024 Soil Classification and Compaction 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 7th, 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. Please note that the packages are not shipped simultaneously. Delivery of your packages will most likely occur on different days and may not arrive in order (Box 2 may arrive before Box 1).

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. If you do not, we cannot guarantee that samples will be available with enough time for testing to be completed.

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 bag labeled (A) is sample 189. The bag labeled (B) is sample 190.

Datasheets, instructions, and SDSs will be available for this sample on our website beginning on March 7th, 2024. They can be found by using the following link:

<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:

<https://youtu.be/Trtfq6jgHwE>

Non-Receipt Date: March 21st, 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 2nd, 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 16th, 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 to 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 the AASHTO re:source website.

Testing Note

AASHTO Accredited laboratories are required to perform every test included in the AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample Program that is also listed under each laboratory's AASHTO Accreditation. The tests that are not listed under the laboratory's accreditation may also be performed, but testing is not required, and the AASHTO Accreditation Program will not evaluate the ratings.

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 "production-type" sample. Any special handling or preparation needs will be included below or within the Sample Instructions Document.

Special Instructions/New Test Methods/Information

New Test Method(s)

Determination of Organic Content by Loss on Ignition T267 or D2974: Determine the percentage of organic material in the specimens in accordance with the test procedures. When testing in accordance with ASTM D2974, perform the test in accordance with Method A. Report the percentage of organic material to the nearest 0.1%.

Information

- Soil resistivity methods T288 and G187 are now two separate line items.
- pH of Soils D4972 will now require the reporting of the pH values in the soil/water slurry and soil/Calcium Chloride slurry. They will be two separate line items in the datasheet.

A complete sample schedule is available online:

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

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

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