

Soils and Plant Nutrients Chapter 2 Quiz

Name _____

Date ____ / ____ / ____

1. What are the proportions of mineral materials, organic matter, water and air in an ideal soil?

Mineral Materials:	5%	25%	45%	50%
Organic Matter:	5%	25%	45%	50%
Water:	5%	25%	45%	50%
Air:	5%	25%	45%	50%

2. **True or False:** Materials sold as “topsoil” must meet specific testing standards for organic matter, water holding capacity, and weed content.
3. What is the best material to add to clay soils to improve drainage?
- a. Sand
 - b. Peat Moss
 - c. Organic Matter
 - d. Pine Straw
4. Soil pH is a measure of relative acidity or alkalinity, with a pH of 7.0 being neutral. Which of the following statements is correct?
- a. A pH of 5.0 is ten times more acidic than a pH of 6.0.
 - b. Most WNC red clay soils have a pH between 4.5 and 5.5.
 - c. Lime is used to increase the pH.
 - d. All of the above are correct.

5. Which of the following statements about fertilizers is correct?
- A 50-pound bag of 10-10-10 fertilizer contains 5 pounds each of N, P and K.
 - Natural fertilizers like manure break down just as fast as synthetic fertilizers.
 - Soil tests don't report a value for N because it leaches through the soil so quickly.
 - All plants need a regular fertilizer regimen.
6. None of the above is correct. Which of the following has the least potential to cause harm if used for lowering the soil pH?
- Ammonium Sulfate
 - 100% Elemental Sulfur flakes
 - Pine needles, bark, or other acidic organic mulch
 - Aluminum Sulfate
7. **True or False:** A low P-I on a soil test report indicates that there is very little Phosphorus in the soil.
8. What are the 3 particles of soil texture?
- Clay
 - Rock
 - Sand
 - Loam
 - Humus
9. After organic matter is mostly broken down by decomposition, it is called:
- Humus
 - Compost
 - Soil aggregate
 - Manure