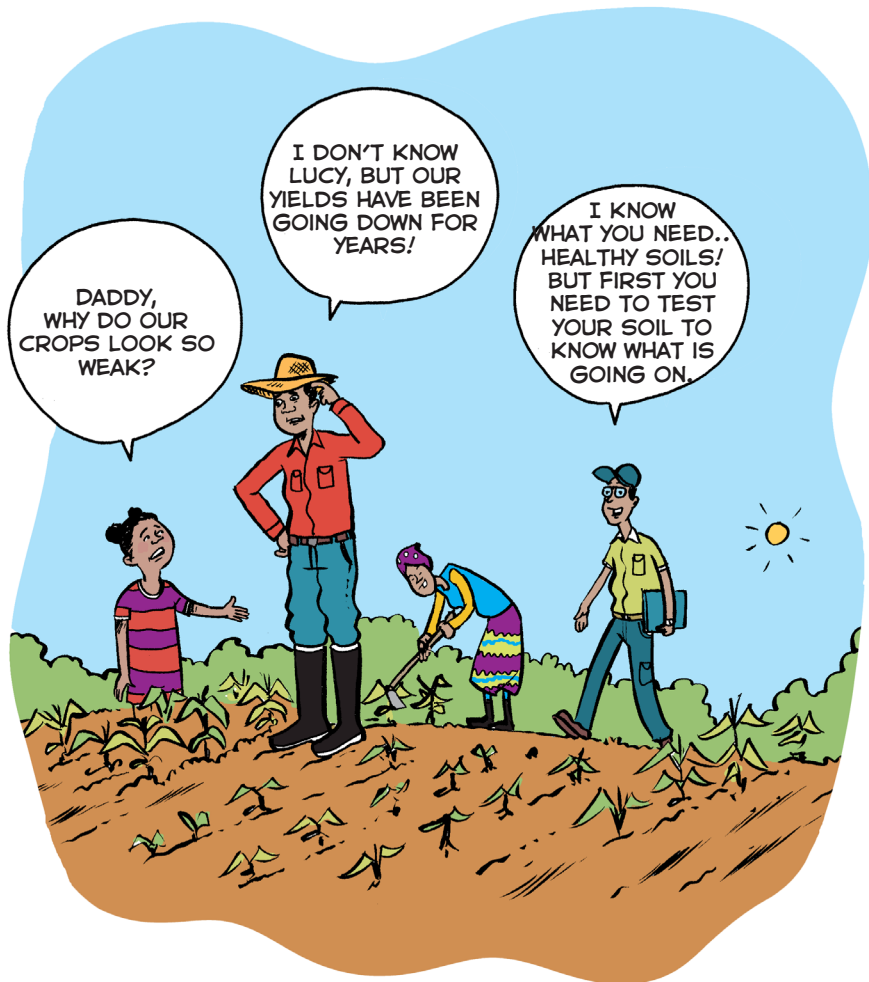
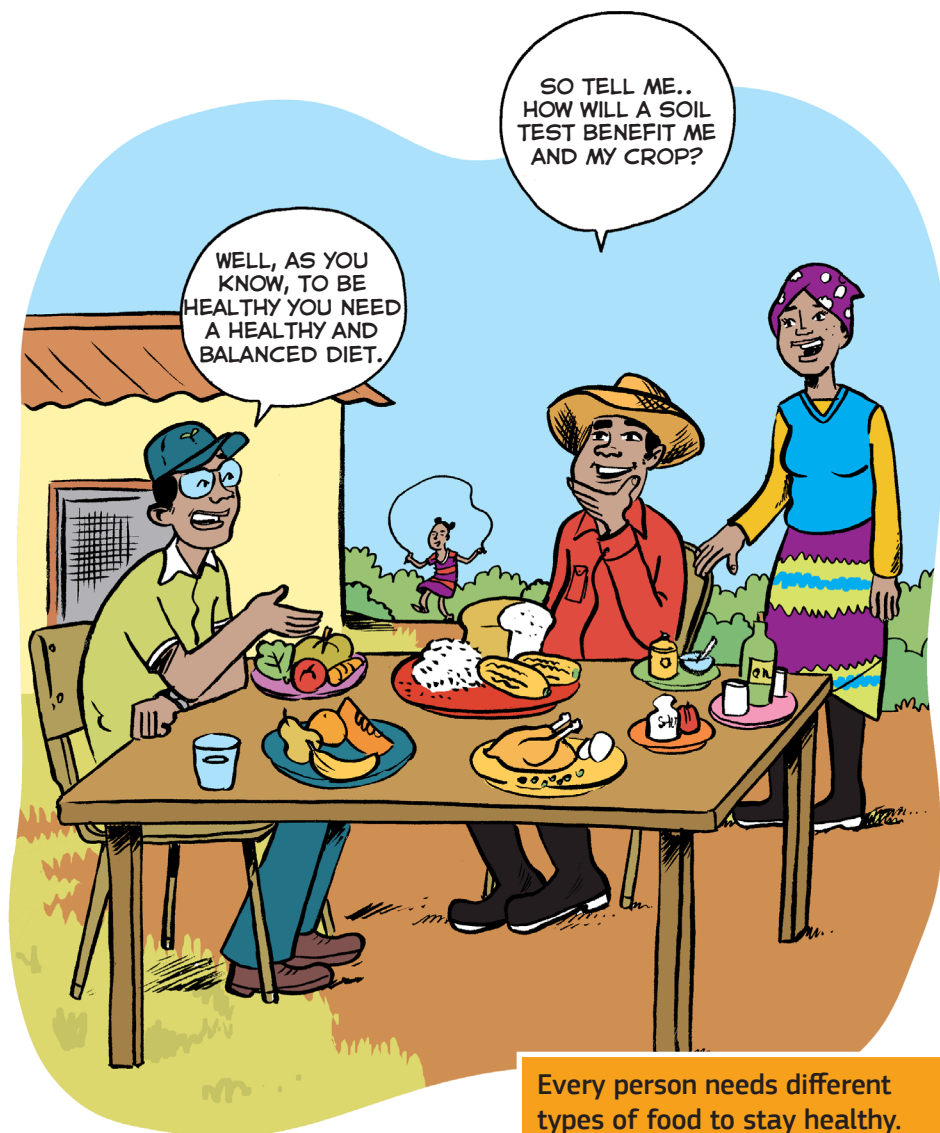


Why should I test my soil?



Why should I test my soil?



WELL, AS YOU KNOW, TO BE HEALTHY YOU NEED A HEALTHY AND BALANCED DIET.

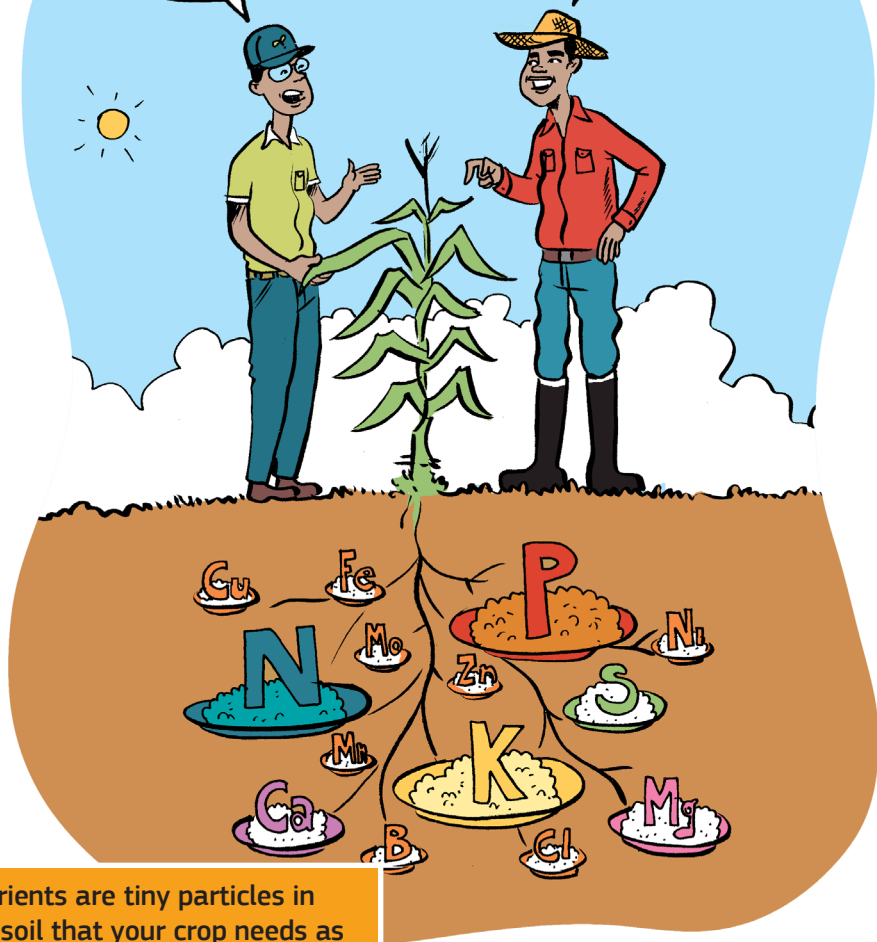
SO TELL ME.. HOW WILL A SOIL TEST BENEFIT ME AND MY CROP?

Every person needs different types of food to stay healthy. Some types of food you need a lot of, others less. For example you need a lot of fruits, vegetables and rice but only a little bit of fat, sugar and milk.



IT IS THE SAME
WITH OUR CROP.
TO PRODUCE HIGH
YIELDS, CROPS NEED A
BALANCED SUPPLY OF
NUTRIENTS FOR
FOOD.

AH, I SEE!
AND THOSE
NUTRIENTS ARE
IN THE SOIL!



Nutrients are tiny particles in the soil that your crop needs as food. Some nutrients your crop needs a lot of, others less. For example your crop needs a lot of Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) but only a little bit of Boron (B) and Zinc (Zn).

!

WHEN WE
DON'T FEEL WELL,
WE NEED TO SEE
A DOCTOR AND
HAVE A CHECK-UP
DONE.

YES, THE
DOCTOR WILL
DRAW MY BLOOD
AND SEND IT
TO A LAB.



If you don't eat well, you will get sick easily. When you are sick, you need to go to the doctor to find out what is wrong with you.

!



To make you feel better, the doctor will give you a prescription for the right medicine. Take the right medicine in the right dosage and you will get better.



THE SAME IS TRUE FOR OUR CROPS. IF THEY DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO ENOUGH NUTRIENTS, THEY GET WEAK AND SICK.

LOOK AT THAT! THE PLANT CANNOT ACCESS ENOUGH NUTRIENTS FOR FOOD!

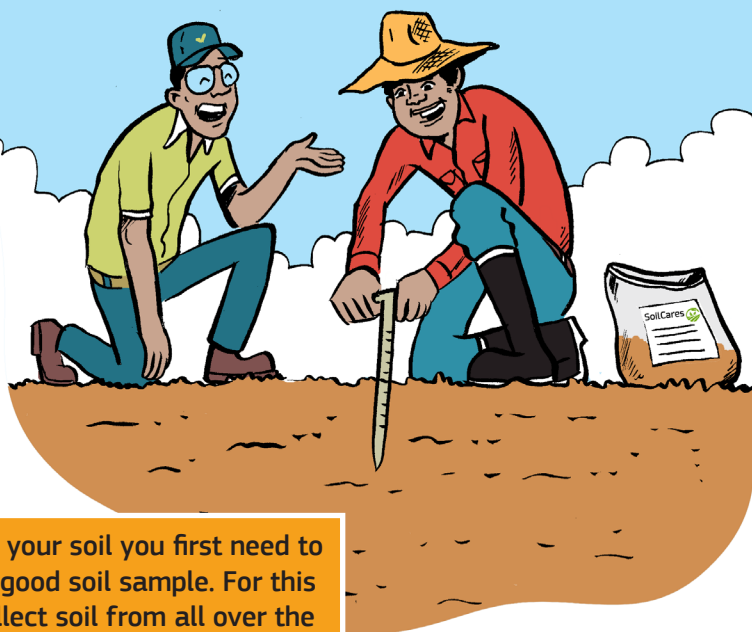


When the right type and amount of nutrients are not available in the soil, the crop looks weak and sickly.

!

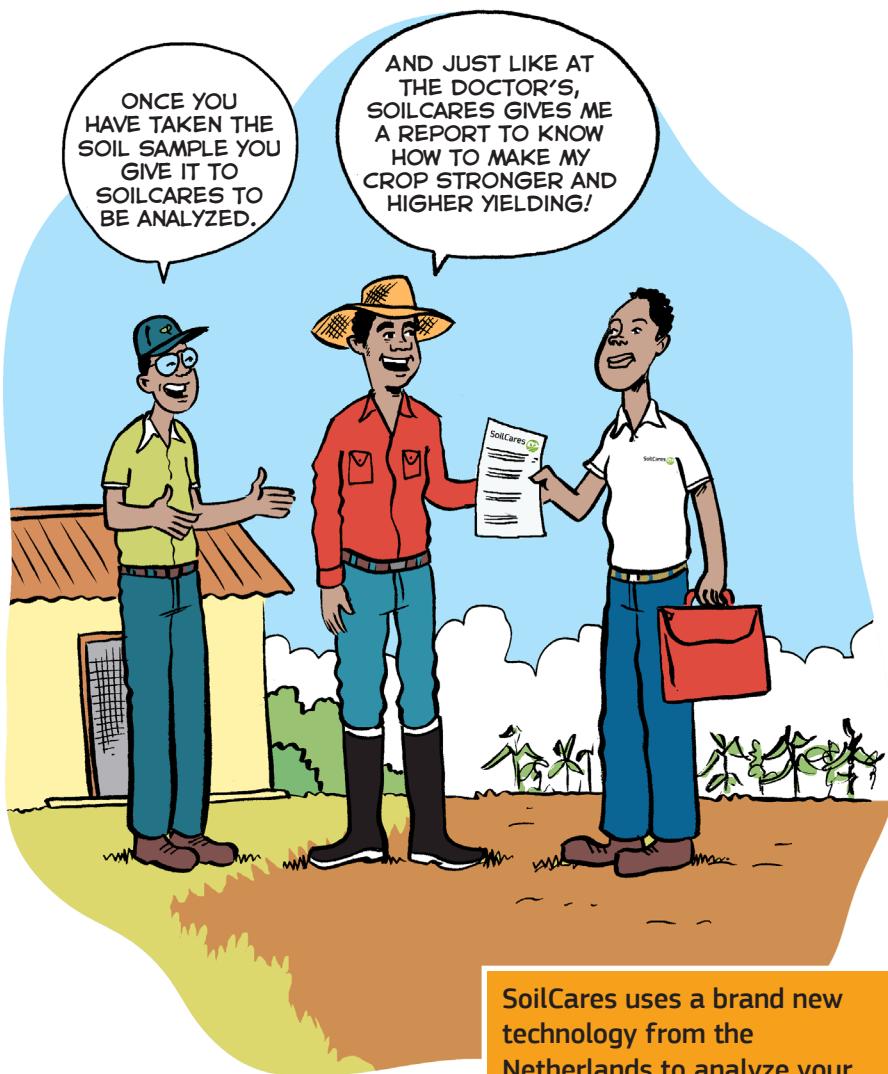
TO KNOW WHAT
THE PROBLEM IS
YOU NEED TO TEST
YOUR SOIL.

I WILL TAKE
A SOIL SAMPLE
AND LET IT BE
ANALYZED!



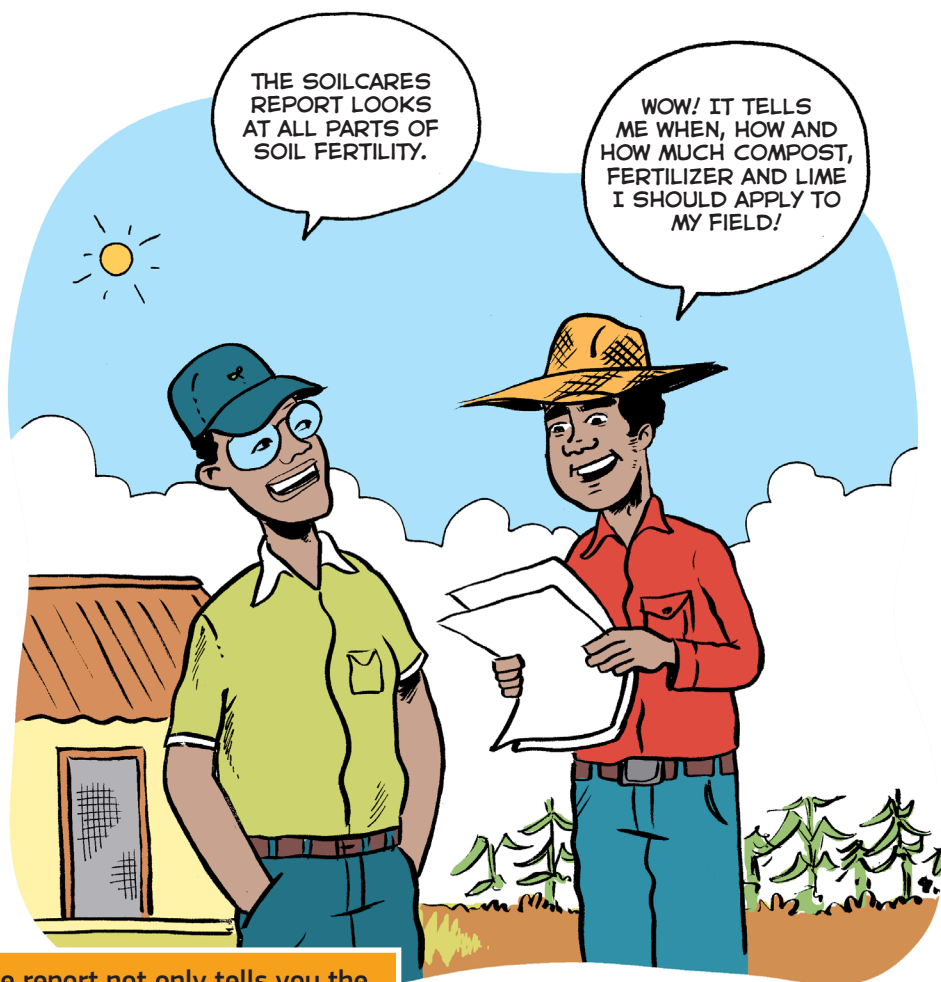
To test your soil you first need to take a good soil sample. For this you collect soil from all over the field with an auger or a panga and mix it all together. This way you will have a sample that represents your whole field.





SoilCares uses a brand new technology from the Netherlands to analyze your soil. They will give you all the advice you need in a report and explain to you how to use it.





THE SOILCARES
REPORT LOOKS
AT ALL PARTS OF
SOIL FERTILITY.

WOW! IT TELLS
ME WHEN, HOW AND
HOW MUCH COMPOST,
FERTILIZER AND LIME
I SHOULD APPLY TO
MY FIELD!

The report not only tells you the status of your soil, it also advises you on what to do so you can grown a strong and healthy crop.



AFTER YOU
RECEIVE THE REPORT
FROM SOILCARES,
YOU CAN TAKE IT
TO THE AGROVET
TO BUY THE RIGHT
PRODUCTS.

NOW I FINALLY
KNOW FOR SURE
THAT I AM SPENDING
MY MONEY ON THE
THINGS THAT WILL
REALLY HELP MY
FARM!



The report helps you to spend
money on the right inputs that
will make your crop stronger and
higher yielding.

!

THE REPORT
ALSO ADVISES
YOU THE RIGHT
AMOUNT OF
COMPOST TO USE
ON YOUR FIELD.

WHEN I
ADD COMPOST,
MY SOIL WILL BE
BETTER ABLE TO
GIVE THE
NUTRIENTS TO
THE CROP.



By advising the right amount of
compost, the soil testing report
will help you to maintain soil
fertility in the long run.





A soil provided with the correct amount of nutrients will make sure your crop has enough and balanced food. This makes your crop strong and higher yielding.

!



Higher yields mean a happy, healthy family and more food for sale.



Colofon

Want to know more about soil testing?
info@soilcaresfoundation.com

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This booklet wants to explain why it is usefull to test your soil. It does not aim to promote fertilizer use. It seeks to increase awareness on soil fertility management by enabling farmers to make informed decisions about the quantity and type of fertilizer to use.

Through these training booklets SoilCares Foundation wants to show you how to take care of your soil – so the soil can take care of you.

This booklet is part of a training series:

1. Why should I test my soil?
2. How do I collect a good soil sample?
3. What do the recommendations of the soil test report mean?
4. How and why should I apply fertilizer?
5. What are the differences between mineral fertilizers?

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