

# Can a Soil MDD Analysis turn your brown thumb green?

## FAQ'S ABOUT SOIL MDD ANALYSIS

### **What is a living soil?**

Soil that contains complex food webs made of diverse and abundant microbial communities. These microbial food webs provide nutrients for every other form of life (earthworms, crop plants, etc.).

### **What causes soil to be "alive"?**

Fertile soils that contain adequate organic matter, rich nutrients and optimal amounts of clean air and water, can recruit and nourish microbial communities from surrounding areas. Here in the desert, a single dust storm can transport microbes from all over the planet to your farm or garden soil!

### **What causes soil to be "dead"?**

Common chemicals and management practices used by many growers can destroy these beneficial soil microbes, leading to decreased crop yields and increased erosion, pest, and disease problems.

### **What is a soil MDD Analysis?**

An MDD analysis (soil microbial density and diversity analysis) is a semi-quantitative assay that provides growers an estimate of the microbial density (abundance) and diversity in a soil or compost sample. MDD analysis is rapid, and can be used alone or in conjunction with soil chemistry tests to guide grower decisions.

### **Who can benefit from an MDD Assay?**

Growers who are unsatisfied with their current yields or wish to reduce input costs.

Growers planting in a new location, who want to characterize their soil before they start planting.

Growers who want to assess the quality of their compost, or of compost they are preparing to buy.

Compost makers who want to document the diversity and density of specific types of microbes.

### **What can an MDD Assay tell me about my soil?**

A Soil Microbial Density and Diversity (MDD) Assay can give you a description of the microbial population in your soil. An MDD Assay from End-O-Fite Enterprises will also provide an estimate of soil texture, humic acid content, and pH.

### **Growers can use this information to decide:**

Do I need to add anything to my soil?

What kinds of amendments should I add?

What amendments should I avoid?

How can I increase my production?

How can I increase the nutritional value of my crops?

Will my plants be likely to resist pests and disease?

Will my soil hold adequate moisture?

### **If I do an MDD Assay, do I still need to test for N, P, K, or other nutrients?**

Not always. If the MDD Assay reveals a thriving and diverse microbiome, it can be assumed that necessary nutrients are available. When assays reveal deficiencies additional testing might be helpful.

*For more information, or to have your soil tested, contact End-O-Fite Enterprises LLC 575-649-3955  
Web: [www.endofite.com](http://www.endofite.com)*



**Turning brown thumbs green.**