

February 10, 2024

Dear MSU Soil Test:

I am submitting this soil test to find out why I am having a difficult time getting root vegetables to develop (e.g. beets, carrots and radishes).

My garden is 4 years old. I have used native soil and amended it most years with compost and sometimes additional garden soil. In Spring 2023 I added compost and a balanced fertilizer (Garden-tone). In late summer, I also added peat moss. My soil tends to have a lot of clay, but after all these amendments, it is pretty loose now.

The plants produce green tops and the roots are long; they just don't develop the vegetable bulb. The only thing I can think of, is that the pH is too high. I have tested the soil with a home kit and the pH is alkaline, but I'm not sure how high.

If the soil pH is too high, please advise what I can do to have a successful root crop this season. I also plant leaf and legume crops. Last year, I rotated my crops and plan to do that again this year.

See soil test results from MSU, attached.

Thank you.