

# Calculating the Soil N Concentration

## GENERAL EQUATION

*Soil N (in lbs/acre) =*

*Nitrate-N (NO<sub>3</sub>-N) concentration (mg/L) x 2 x soil sample thickness (inches) ÷ 6 inches*

- Take your own soil nitrate sample, or hire a laboratory or consultant to take it for you
- If taking your own sample, you will need to convert from the mg/L (ppm) concentration, into “pounds of N per acre”
  - Be sure to start with a concentration in units of “Nitrate as N” (NO<sub>3</sub>-N)

## Example:

13.9 mg/L (NO<sub>3</sub>-N) concentration

X

2

X

12 inches (actual soil sample thickness)

÷

6 inches

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55.6 lbs N/acre available to crop