

## Investigation 7: Using Soil Data to Plan a Garden

### This investigation will help you to:

- Learn more about planning a successful garden.

To learn more about planning a successful garden, visit the following web sites:

Soil pH Modification, **University of Minnesota Extension Service**

This site discusses pH and plant growth requirements.

Vegetable and Flower Gardens, **University of Minnesota Extension Service**

This site has general information on nutrient requirements in gardens.

Soil pH Preferences for Selected Landscape Plants, **University of Minnesota Extension Service**

This is a very useful pH preference chart for common landscape plants, organized by Latin names.

Soil Quality Indicators, **NRCS**

This PDF (you must have Adobe Acrobat to view this file) explains what pH is, what controls soil pH, how soil pH is measured, and more.

Mineral-Based Fertilizers , **National Gardening Association**

This article contains information on what to do if your garden soil has a pH above or below what is considered ideal (6-7), including which fertilizers to use and when to apply them.

Growing Vegetables in the Home Garden, **USDA-ARS**

This site examines factors to consider when selecting a garden site, how to protect the garden from damage, how to reach ideal levels of sunshine and water drainage, how to prepare the soil, and more.

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, **(CSREES)**

To find information and gardening tips specific to your state, click on your state on the US map. This will take you to a new page of state-related resources. Click on the link to your state's Cooperative Extension Office.

State Master Gardner Coordinators, **Ohio State University**

Master Gardeners are volunteers within the community who teach about gardening, and can be a valuable resource when starting a new garden. To find a Master Gardner near your community, contact your state's Master Gardner Coordinator.

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