

HOW TO take a soil sample

DISTURBED SAMPLE

List of equipment for soil sampling

BEFORE STARTING, MAKE SURE TO USE CLEAN MATERIAL

When to sample?

- Early enough in the cropping cycle so you can use the results to adapt your management practices;
- When the soil is not frozen, overly wet or too dry

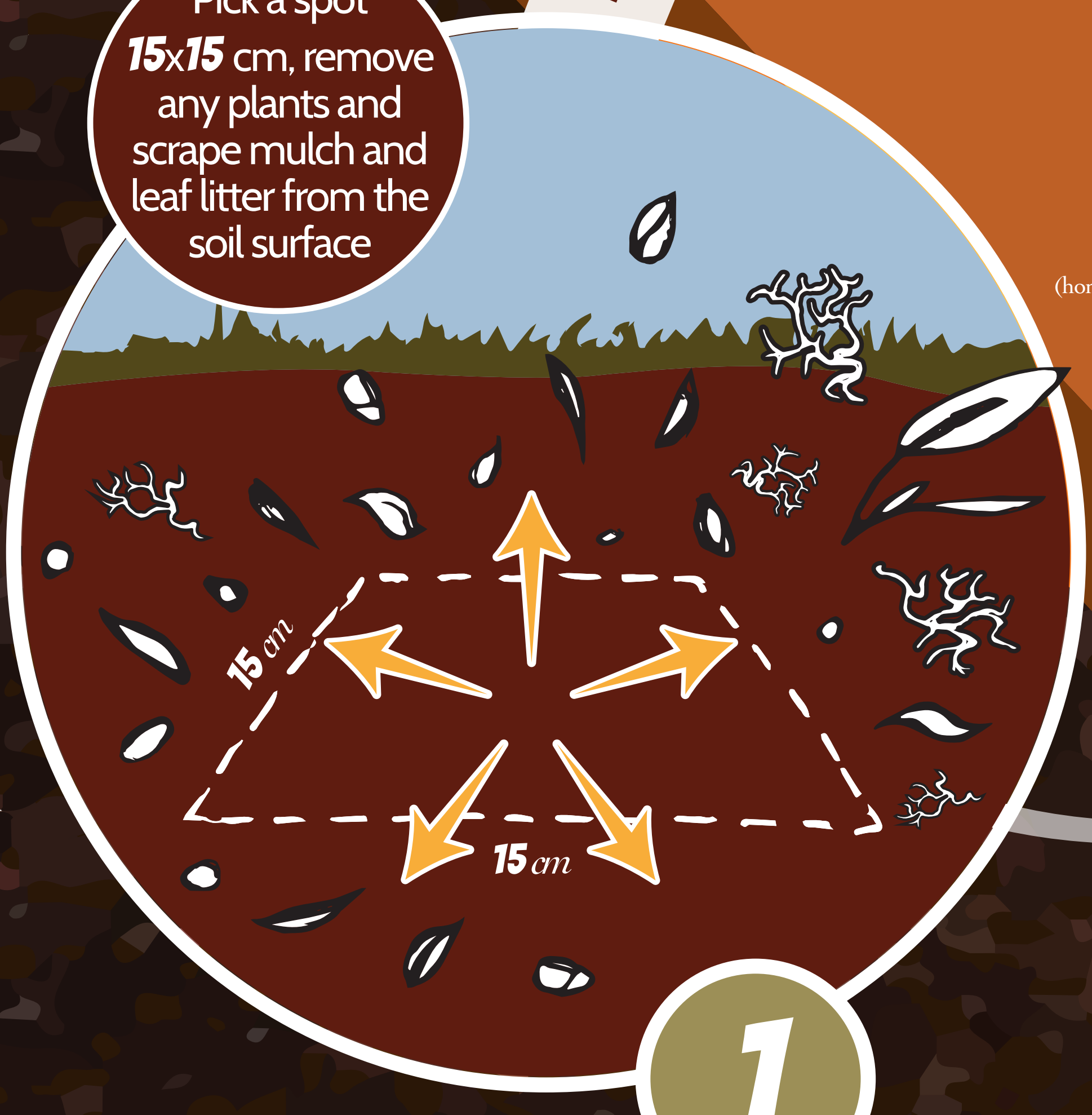


REPEAT STEPS 1 TO 3 UNTIL THE PLOT IS COVERED. PUT THE SAMPLES IN THE SAME BUCKET AND MIX WELL

2

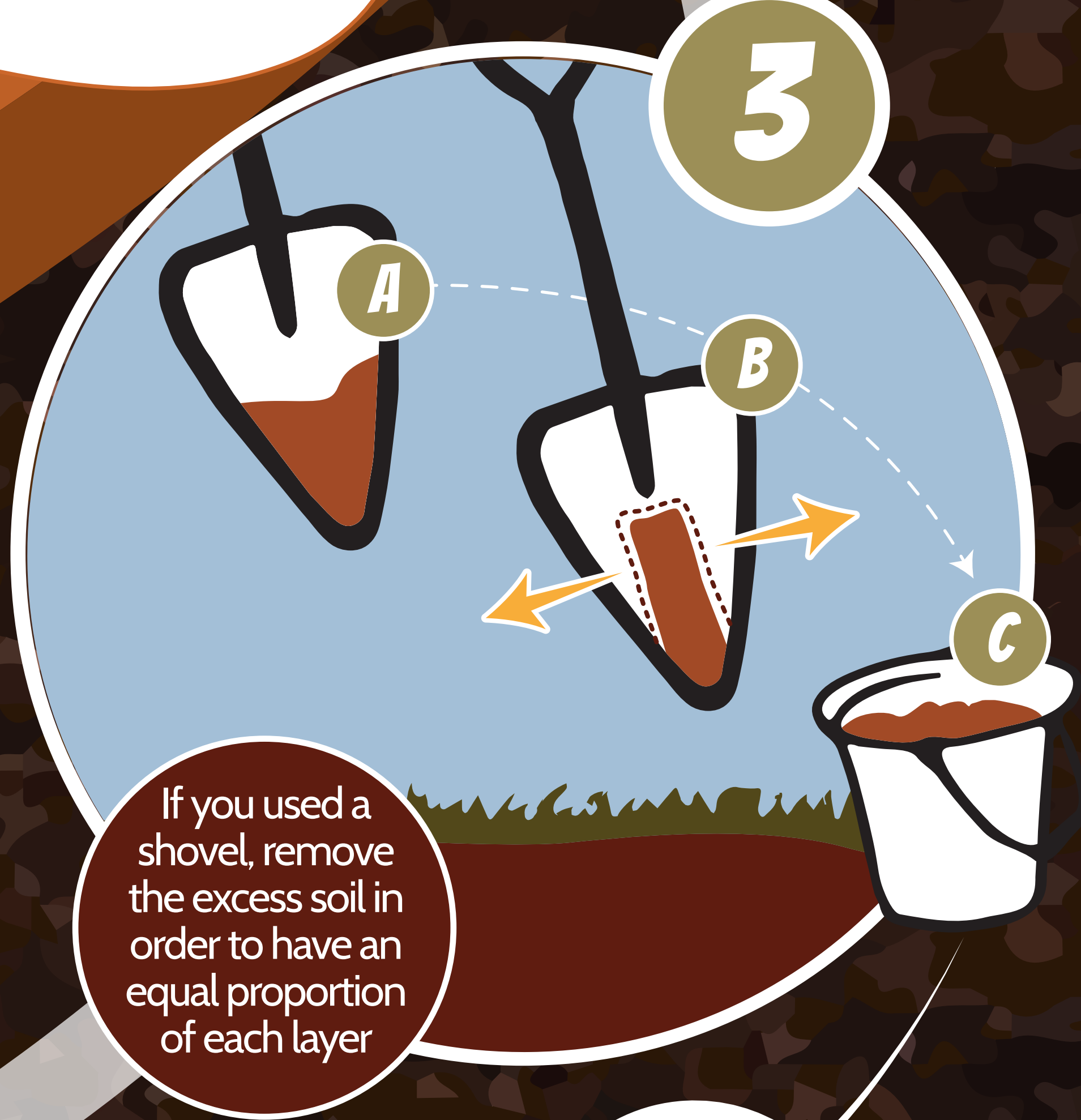
HERE, I SUGGEST A GRID SAMPLING DESIGN BUT OTHER DESIGNS CAN BE USED. THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF SAMPLES TO TAKE IS 10

Pick a spot **15x15 cm**, remove any plants and scrape mulch and leaf litter from the soil surface



1

field (e.g. of 30 Ha)
 sampling plot (homogeneous part of the field)
 Max: 800 x 800 mt
 (200 x 200 mt if the zone is hilly)
 sampling spot 15 x 15 cm



3

If you used a shovel, remove the excess soil in order to have an equal proportion of each layer

HETEROGENEOUS AND/OR BIG FIELDS
 Subdivide it into homogenous sub-areas to be sampled separately. Repeat steps 1 to 4

5

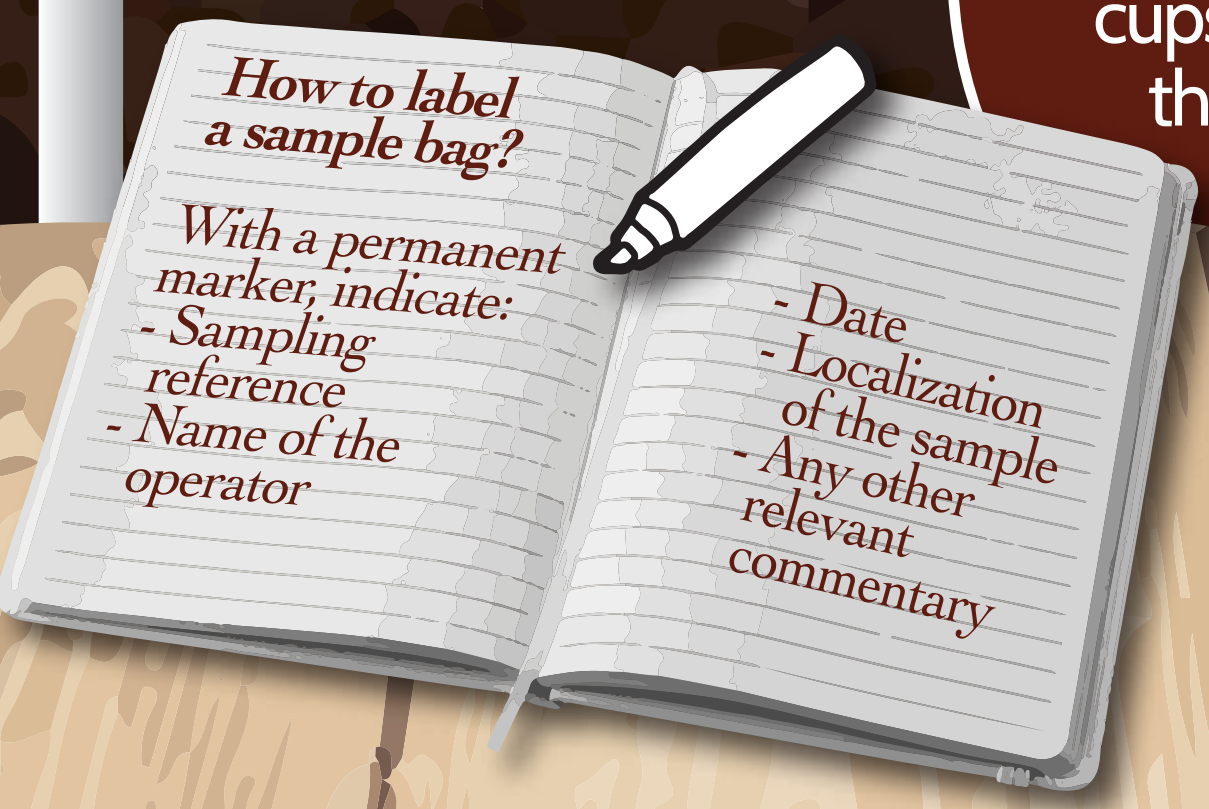
Analyse your sample with a soil testing kit or send it to the lab

HOMOGENEOUS AND/OR SMALL FIELD
 Go directly to Step 5

4

Label the plastic bag and put the equivalent of 2 cups of the soil from the bucket into it

combine the samples taken from the same plot



Thanks to the financial support of

