



## Acid sulphate soil testing

### ACID SULPHATE SOILS

These are soils or sediments that when exposed to air can rapidly form sulphuric acid. This acid can leach into surrounding environments, possibly causing damage to concrete and steel structures such as foundations and swimming pools. These soils occur predominantly on coastal low lands with elevations generally below 5m.

EnviroLab Services has NATA Accreditation for the full SPOCAS suite (Suspension Peroxide Oxidation Combined Acidity & Sulfur) and the Scr suite (chromium reducible sulphur). This will provide results for both the 'acid' trail and the 'sulfur' trail allowing comparison of results to guideline values.

### Turnaround Time

We can offer a standard 5 working day TAT for SPOCAS. Faster TAT's are available, up to 3 working days, depending on the sample. Surcharges apply for fast TAT's.

### Sampling

A minimum of 200g should be collected in zip-lock bags to minimize contact with air. Large shells, wood, charcoal and stones should be removed in the field, but biological remnants such as roots should not be removed.

Samples should be kept cold in the field and should reach the lab within 24 hours of sampling. Where this is not possible samples should be either frozen or dried at 85°C and stored in zip lock bags.

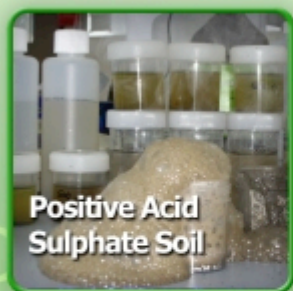
### Definitions

**ASS:** Acid Sulfate Soil. A complete group of predominantly low-lying coastal soils and sediments that contain iron sulfides and/or their oxidation products.

**PASS:** Potential Acid Sulfate Soil. An ASS that has not been disturbed, remaining in a reduced state with the sulfides they contain unoxidised, typically having a near-neutral or slightly alkaline pH.

**SPOS:** Peroxide Oxidisable Sulfur. Sulfur oxidised by peroxide digestion.

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Positive Acid Sulphate Soil



Acid sulphate affecting footings



Pool foundation