

## **Phosphorus Trends in New England Soils**

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United States Department of Agriculture





#### **Bruce Hoskins**



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# Thank you!

Tracy Allen



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The University of Vermont











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### # of Modified Morgan samples by lab in 2015





## P interpretations for Modified Morgan (mg/kg or ppm)

	Very Low	Low/ Below Optimum	Medium	Optimum	Above Optimum	Excessive
MA all crops	0-2	2-4		4-14	14-40	> 40
CT Agronomic Crops		0-6.5		9-10	10-17.5	> 17.5
VT all crops		0-1.9	2-3.9	4-7.9	8-39.9	>40
ME established lawn		0-1.75	1.75-3.5	3.5-5	>5	
ME potatoes		0-1.75	1.75-5	5-25	>25	
SARE 'Building Soils for Better Crops'	0-2	2-4		4-7	7-20	





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#### Number of Soil Samples by State in 2015





#### Number of Soil Samples by Crop ID in 2015





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#### Nursery/Tree, Fruit, Vegitable, and Agronomic Crop Types



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Thank you! Ben Warner Postdoc Researcher, UMass Geosciences







#### **Median P ppm**



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### % of samples in 3 P levels





#### Modified Morgan extracted P ppm in relation to pH







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# Summary / Questions

- Gardeners have 'above Optimum' P and are the largest potential audience for education, but we don't know how much acreage they represent.
- Agronomic crops make up the largest acreage, but why are the P levels lower than other crops?
- Vegetable and Organic crops have higher P; why?
- What does the soil test P level have to do with environmental risk?





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