

Interpreting PNST results for vegetable crops (adapted from UMass Extension)

In general, for vegetable crops (except for sweet corn), if soil nitrate is 0-25 ppm, apply the full sidedress amount recommended in Table 1. For sweet corn, apply the full amount for test results up to 30 ppm.

If soil nitrate levels are 25-30 ppm, cut the sidedress rate in half for vegetables. Cut the rate in half for sweet corn if levels are 30-35 ppm.

Above 30 ppm,(35 ppm for sweet corn) no additional N application is necessary, and may reduce yield. See the table below for recommendations on timing of sampling and making sidedressing applications of N based on PSNT for many vegetable crops.

CROP	SOIL SAMPLING TIME FOR PSNT	SIDEDRESS N IN LBS/ACRE ^a
Beets	After thinning (2-4 leaves)	30
Cabbage, brussels sprouts, broccoli	2 weeks after transplanting	60
Cauliflower	2 weeks after transplanting	30
Celery	2 weeks after transplanting, again 3-4 weeks later	40 twice, 3-4 weeks apart
Cucumber, muskmelon	Before vines are 6" long	40
Eggplant	3-4 weeks after planting, again 3-4 weeks later	30-50
Lettuce, endive, escarole	2 weeks after transplanting or after thinning (2-4 leaves)	30-50
Pepper	3-4 weeks after planting, again 3-4 weeks later	50, and 40 later at fruit set
Spinach	2-4 leaves, again after first cutting	30
Sweet corn	when plants are 6-10" tall	60-90
Tomato	3-4 weeks after planting, again 3-4 weeks later	30 twice, 3-4 weeks apart