DR. DIRT'S SOIL TESTS ANYONE CAN DO AT HOME · TEST 8 OF 11

The Vinegar Fizz Test

Is there lime, coral or shell in your soil?



Time: 5 minutes | Kids and grown-ups together

You will need

- ☐ A spoonful of dry soil
- ☐ A small clear cup
- ☐ White vinegar
- ☐ A spoon

Try it

1. Put a spoonful of soil in the cup.
2. Pour in a few spoonfuls of vinegar.
3. Put your ear close and listen. Watch for bubbles.

What it means

Fizzes or hisses

The soil has lime in it: crushed coral, shell or limestone. It's probably on the basic side (pH above 7). Don't add more lime.

No fizz

No lime. Most Hawai'i volcanic soils don't fizz.

Good to know: This test finds lime, not the exact pH. Try the Red Cabbage pH Test, or bring a sample to Dr. Dirt's pH meter.

Safety: Vinegar stings eyes. Keep it away from faces.

Wonder: *Does soil near the beach fizz more than soil up mauka?*

My result