





# College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

- Tools Required: Pencil or pen, shovel/spade and metal rod probe
- Turn over a shovel full of soil (about 6-8" deep) and rate each indicator by making an "X" in the box that best represents the value for that indicator.
- Determine soil compaction by pushing a metal rod probe into the soil and noting the resistance.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Evaluation by: \_\_\_\_\_ Garden Site: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soil Moisture Level: Good for planting: \_\_\_ Too wet for planting: \_\_\_ Too dry for planting: \_\_\_

**Current Garden Management Notes** (Rotations, fertilizer/soil amendments/lime applications, pesticides applied, tillage (digging) means – rototiller and/or spade, shovel)

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## **Ideas for Garden Management Changes**

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## **Pointers to Keep in Mind**

- The Soil Health Card is a tool to help the gardener evaluate a soil's health or quality as a function of soil, water, plant, and other biological properties.
- Evaluations should be conducted once a year and are most reliable when completed by the same person, at the same time of the year, at the same garden site location and under similar soil moisture (dry or wet) levels.
- Keep the completed Soil Health Card on file to look for trends in order to maintain and/or adjust garden management practices.



*The O'ahu Master Gardeners are a group of dedicated volunteers who are trained by the University of Hawai'i Cooperative Extension Service in environmentally sound tropical gardening practices*

(808) 453-6055, 9am - 12pm, M – F, <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/UHMG>