METHANOL (MeOH) FIELD PRESERVATION FOR SOIL VOCs
SAMPLE KIT INFORMATION

Each MeOH kit provided with this container shipment consists of the following:

1) One (1) tare weighted 40mL vial.
2) One (1) 10mL sealed MeOH tube.
3) One (1) Soil sample collection device, consisting of either a variable straight plunger or a 10 gram T-Handled coring device.
4) Shipping bubble bag

Sample collection

Specific sample collection procedures are presented in USEPA Method 5035A "*Closed-System Purge-and-Trap and Extraction for Volatile Organics in Soil and Waste Samples, Draft Revision 1, July, 2002"* and MDEQ Operational Memorandum No. 2, Attachment 6, "*Sampling Methods for Volatile Organic Compounds in Soils, July 5, 2007*" and are summarized as follows:

1) Collect the sample according to the procedures outlined in the sampling plan. As with any sampling procedure for volatiles, care must be taken to minimize the disturbance of the sample in order to minimize the loss of the volatile components. Always wear gloves whenever handling the tared sample vials.
2) Using the sample collection device provided, collect approximately 10g of sample as soon as possible after the surface of the soil or other solid material has been exposed to the atmosphere.
3) Carefully wipe the exterior of the sample collection device with a clean cloth or towel. Using the sample collection device, add about 10g (4 - 6 cm) of soil to the vial.
4) Add the10mL of methanol by cutting open the seal methanol tube and carefully pouring the contents into the sample vial.
5) Quickly brush any soil off the vial threads and immediately seal the vial with the septum and screw-cap. Place sample vial in bubble bag provided and store on ice at 4°C.
6) When practical, use a portable balance to weigh the sealed vial containing the sample to ensure that 10.0 ± 0.5g of sample was added. The balance should be calibrated in the field using an appropriate weight for the sample containers employed. Record the weight of the sealed vial containing the sample to the nearest 0.01g. Alternatively, collect several trial samples with plastic syringes. Weigh each trial sample and note the length of the soil column in the syringe. Use these data to determine the length of soil in the syringe that corresponds to 10.0 ± 0.5g. Discard each trial sample.
7) The collection of at least one additional sample is required for the determination of the percent solids (optional container or other container provided for non-volatile analyte testing).

Please call 1-616-975-4500 and speak to your project chemist with any questions.