



## Manual plant sap sampling

# *Strawberry*



### Contact details

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## ***Sampling and sending samples***

### **Location**

Take the following steps into account when collecting leaf samples:

- Avoid the outer rows of the field or greenhouse. Also avoid the first and last 10 meters of a row.
- Sample leaves with an average leaf quality. Sample abnormal plants with e.g. deficiency symptoms separately. Might a deficiency be present in the young or old leaves of the total crop, then sample these leaves regularly as a young or old leaf sample.
- Take into account the sunny and shady side of the plant. Always consistently sample the same side.

### **Time of sampling**

It is strongly recommended to take the samples before 9:00 AM. The plant will then have enough leaf-tension with proper moisture conditions.

### **Plant parts**

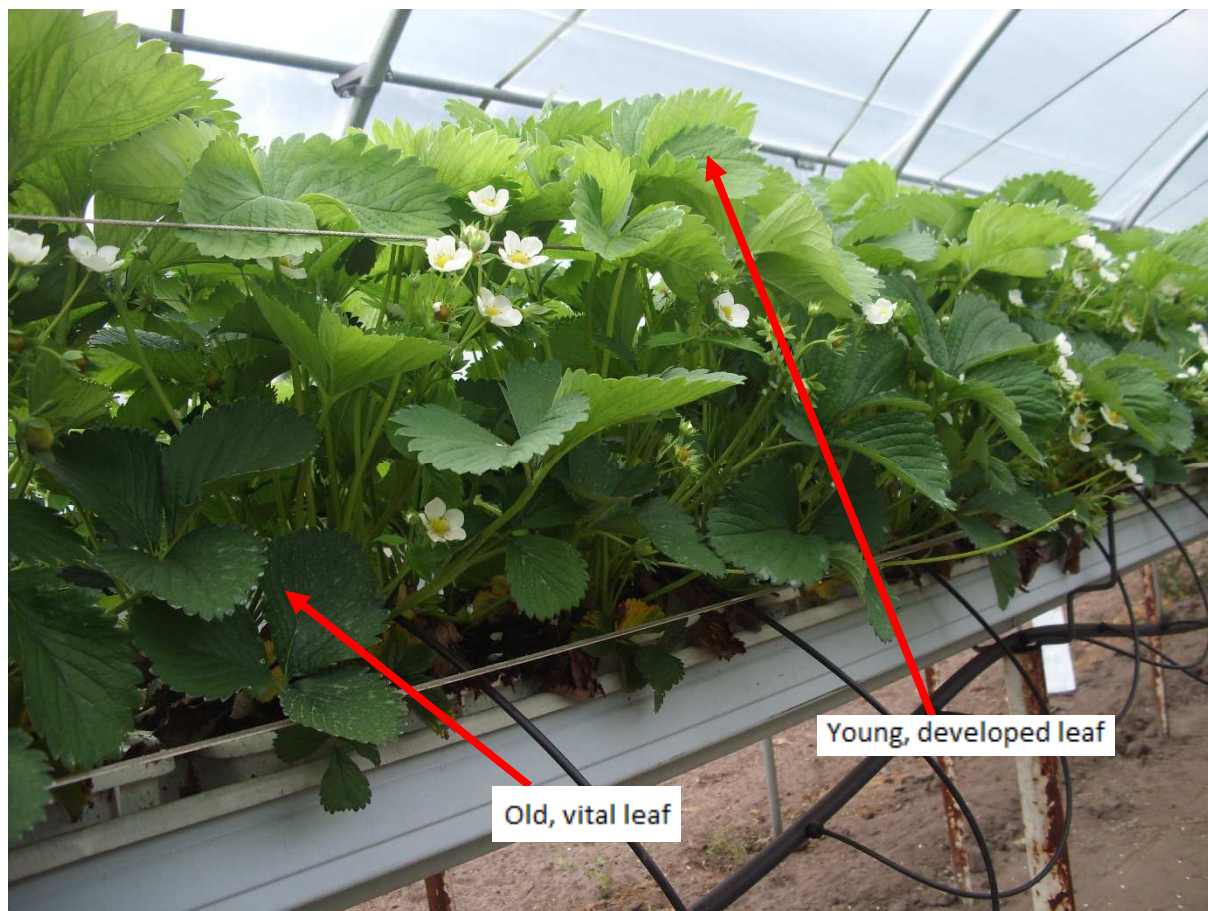
For a young leaf sample, pick the **youngest, fully developed leaves**. Also pick (separately) the **oldest, but still vital leaves**. From these composited leaves, only the middle (top) leaf is needed for each leaf sample (see pictures 1,2 and 3). Stack the leaves for each sample and remove the petioles, as they will not give a good indication and influence the sample.





## Sampling

Pic. 1





### Sampling trayplants

Pic. 2



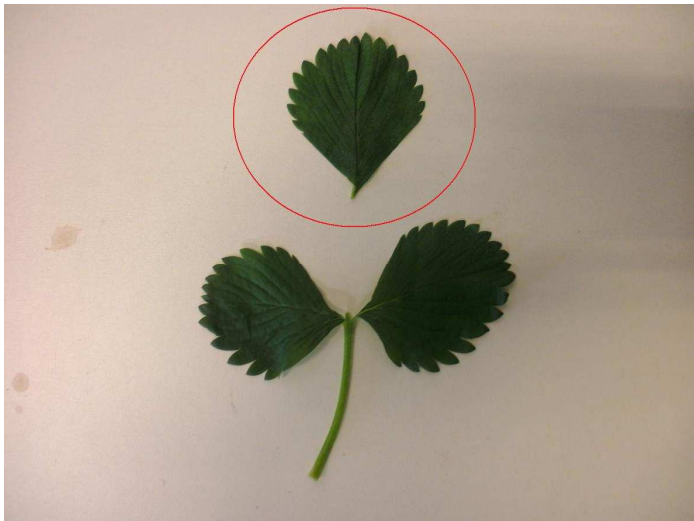
1: Young, developed leaf  
(sample)

2: Too old, not vital leaf

3: Too young,  
undeveloped leaf

4: Old, vital leaf  
(sample)

Pic. 3



### Sample size

Per sample (both young and old) 20 – 25 top leaves are needed.





### Packing the leaf samples

To assure fluent processing of the samples, please stack the leaves. When leaves are humid it is needed to dry them, water will affect the sample results. This can be done with a tissue (see pic. 4).



**Pic. 4**

Put the leaves in a plastic zip-lock bag carefully. Make sure all air is out, so any leaf evaporation is excluded. See pictures below (tomato leaf as an example).



Fill in the labels correctly and place them on the bags (see pictures below). It is possible to order pre-printed labels. Contact us about the possibilities.





### Sampling water

Make sure that the bottle is completely full. The analysis may be wrong if there are air bubbles in the bottle.



Right



Wrong



Wrong

Take a drip water sample at the dripler like in the picture. The drain water sample can be taken from the water return system.



The labels for a water sample need to be placed in such a way that the barcode is still readable.





### Packing the samples

Put all samples in the envelope and make sure it fits in a mailbox (max 3,5 cm. high).



### Sending the samples

The sample zip-lock bags with barcode can be sent in the envelope, in case you want to send more than one sample, please send them together in 1 box, so they will arrive together. Then put sufficient postage on the envelope or package. Always check the weight. Please take care that envelopes are sealed well. You can put an extra tape over the closure to avoid opening during transportation.

We recommend to sample crops on Friday and send the same day by DHL or FedEx, then NovaCropControl is receiving your samples in the beginning of the next week. Please put €1.00 as the shipment value on the sample package.

Please send samples to the address below:

**NovaCropControl**  
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