



Plant sap sampling guide

Alfalfa



Contact details

NovaCropControl
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The Netherlands

www.novacropcontrol.nl



Collecting and submitting samples

Location

Take the following steps into consideration when collecting leaf samples:

- Avoid the outer rows of the field and the first and last 10 yards of a row.
- Sample leaves of average leaf quality.
- Sample abnormal plants (with deficiency symptoms) separately. If a deficiency might be present in the young or old leaves of the total crop, sample these leaves separately as a young or old leaf sample.
- Keep in mind the sunny and shady side of the plant. Always consistently sample the same side.

Time of sampling

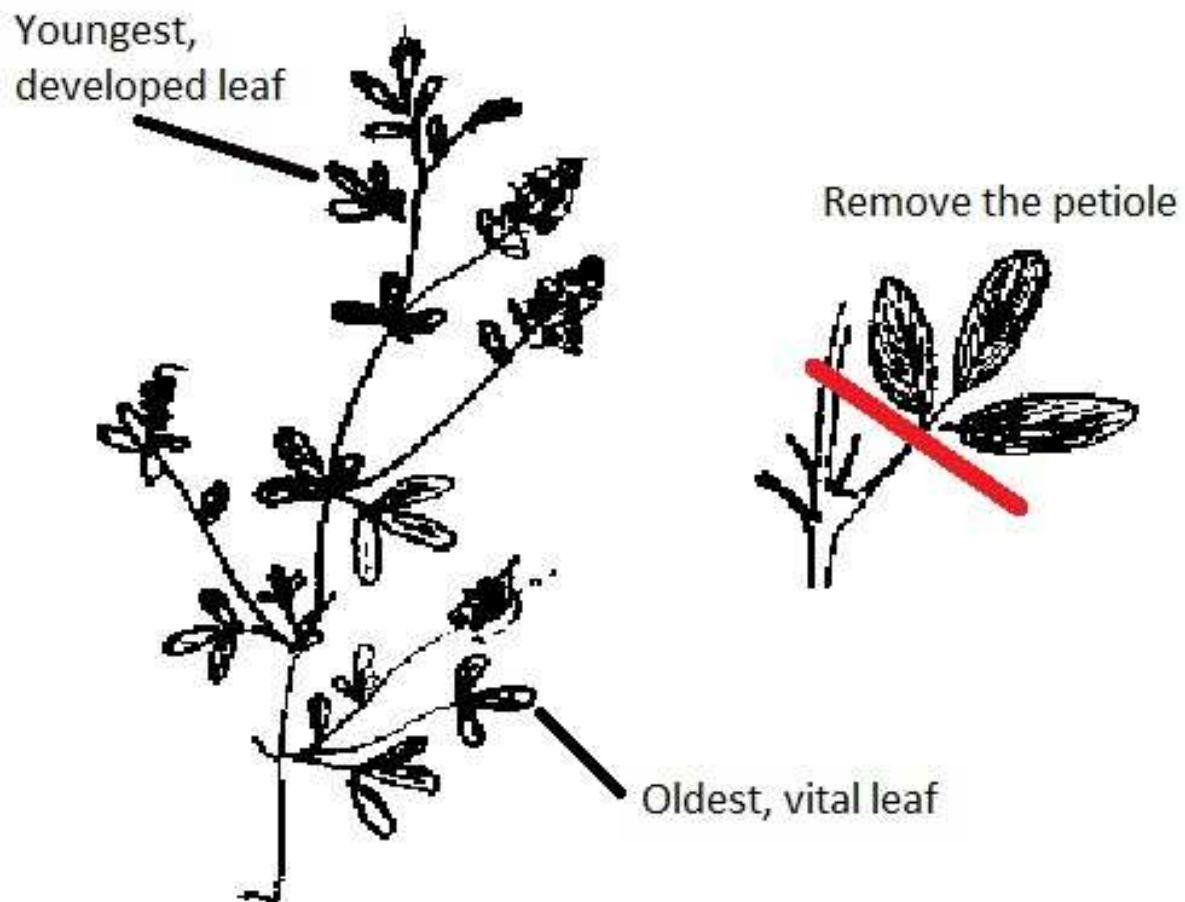
It is strongly recommended to take the samples before 9:00 AM. The plant will then have enough leaf-tension with proper moisture conditions.





Plant parts

An alfalfa sample consists out of a young leaf sample and an old leaf sample. For the young leaf sample, pick the youngest, fully developed leaf. For an old leaf sample, pick the oldest, but still vital leaf. Remove the petioles from the leaves, as they will not give a good indication and influence the sample (See picture 1).



Picture 1

Sample size

The sample will have enough mass when the weight is about **80 grams**.





Packing the leaf samples

When the leaves are wet because of rain or dew, dry them first with a tissue (see pic. 2, grass as an example).



Pic. 2

Pack the young and old leaf samples separately, these will be two different samples. Put them in a plastic zip-lock bag. 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). Order preprinted labels before submitting samples for analysis.





Packing the samples

Put all samples in the envelope and make sure it fits in a mailbox (max. 1.38 inch high).



Sending the samples

The sample zip-lock bags with barcode can be sent in the envelope. If you want to send more than one sample, send them in 1 box. Put sufficient postage on the envelope or package. Always check the weight. Make sure the 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 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
Gasthuisstraat 20
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