

Plant sap sampling guide

Citrus



Contact details

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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.

Leaf samples

- In the first growth stage sample only the young (cluster) leaf as picture 1 shows.
- When branches developed leaves from top to bottom, then start sampling the young and old leaves.
- Sample the young leaf from the top of the shoot and the old leaf halfway the shoot (see pic. 1).

Remove the petioles to avoid that these will affect the sample. The petioles can have a significant effect on the analysis of the leaf samples. When leaves are wet because of rain or dew, dry them first with a tissue.



Pic. 1





Sample size

For an average, representative sample about 40-50 leaves are needed. Sample size can vary, depending on leaf type (size and thickness). If you have questions about sample size, please contact us.

Packing the leaf samples

Pack the young and old leaf samples separately, these will be two different samples. Stack the leaves to assure fluent processing and put in a plastic zip-lock bag. Make sure all air is out, so any leaf evaporation is excluded (see pictures below).



Fill in the labels correctly and place them on the bags (see pictures below). Order preprinted labels before submitting samples for analysis.



Fruit samples

To avoid problems at the border and customs, please do not send us fruit samples. The whole sample package, including your leaf and/or water samples will be put on hold.





Packing the samples

Put all samples in an 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 samples, 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. When sending samples by a national post service, transportation time can take up to 2 weeks and samples are not fresh anymore.

Please send samples to the address below:

NovaCropControl
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