



## Plant sap sampling guide

### *Cotton*



#### Contact details

NovaCropControl  
Gasthuisstraat 20  
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The Netherlands

[www.novacropcontrol.nl](http://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**

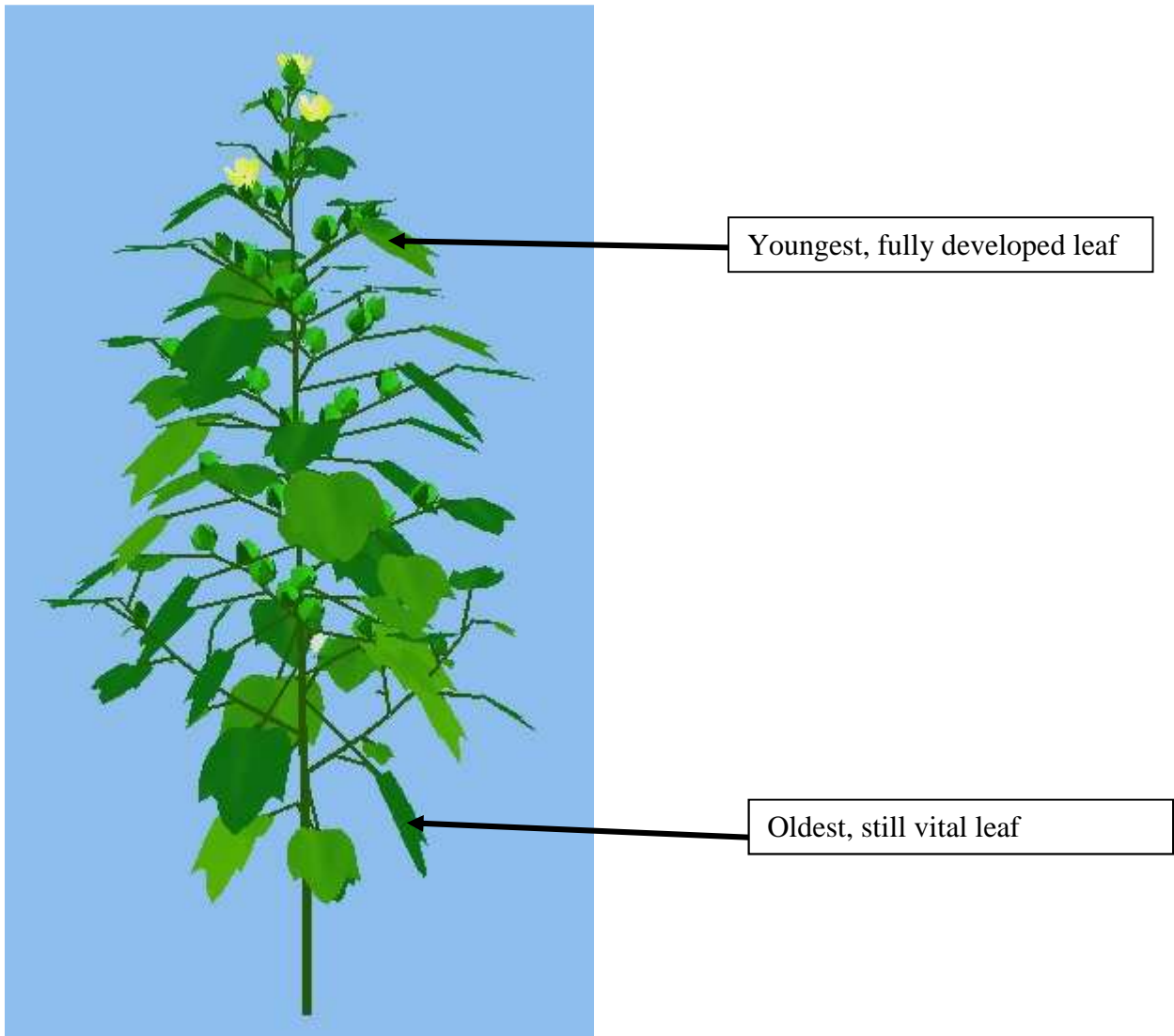
It is strongly recommended to take the samples before 9:00 AM. The plant will then have enough leaf-tension with proper moisture conditions.





### Plant parts

For a young leaf sample, pick the **youngest, fully developed leaves**, just below the top of the plant. Also pick (separately) the **oldest, but still vital leaves**, in the lower parts of the plant. This is often the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> vital leaf from the lowest part of the plant (see picture 1). Stack the leaves for each sample and remove the petioles, as they will not give a good indication and influence the sample.



Pic. 1 (Source: CRC for Tropical Pest Management, Brisbane, Australia)





**Sample size**

For an average, representative sample about 40 leaves are needed. Of course sample size can vary, depending on leaf type (size and thickness). Might you doubt about the sample size, please feel free to contact us.

**Packing the sample**

When the leaves are wet because of rain or dew, dry it first with a tissue (see picture 2).



Pic. 2

Pack the young and old leaf samples separately, this are two different samples. Put the samples 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**  
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