

# LEAF SAP SAMPLING GUIDE

## Turfgrasses/Sod



### Keep in mind!

- Grasses should be sampled in a suite comprised of a plant sap sample and a RapidSoil sample. A RapidSoil sample is run in duplicate once with facilities irrigation water and once with lab DI water.
- Samples should be clipped by hand not machine mowed to minimize mastication or crushing of tissue.
- Do not mix varieties of grasses.
- Choose sampling locations representative of the entire area, avoid areas near edges and of abnormal growth.
- Sample consistently; same time of day, sunny/dry conditions.
- If blades are wet at sampling lightly pat dry before shipping (moisture influences results). Do not put paper towel in sampling bag.
- Sap Analysis data works best when used in progression. The more consistently samples are taken, the better crop nutrient uptake can be illustrated and understood throughout the year.
- Sample either before or 3+ days after fertilizer/pesticides have been applied. Please note on sample submission form if they have been applied for the safety of our lab technicians.



### Sampling Instructions

**Sample Time:** Sample in the morning before 11 a.m. and temperatures less than 80 °F to ensure adequate blade tension and moisture. Avoid sampling in the rain. Store samples in cooler.

**Sample Size:** Collect 80+ grams of blades, ranging from 1-10 cm in length. Place in zip lock bag.

**Sequential Samples:** Sample every 2+ weeks.

**RapidSoil Sampling:** Samples are collected from the active root zone. Collect 3 cores from at least 10 sites (30 total) and combine for a final sample size of 1 cup. Do not let the soil dry out or overheat during sampling or shipping as this can lead to loss of NO<sub>3</sub> and NH<sub>4</sub>.