LEAF SAP SAMPLING GUIDE Blueberry



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Keep in mind!

- Avoid outer rows and first 5 bushes of a row.
- Sample leaves with average leaf quality. Sample areas of abnormal growth separately.
- Sample consistently; sunny side of the tree, avoid extreme weather etc.
- If leaves are wet at sampling lightly pat dry before shipping (moisture influences results).
- Sap Analysis data works best when used in progression. The more samples the better crop nutrient uptake can be illustrated and understood.
- Note fertilizer and irrigation times and application rates if possible.
- Sample before or 3+ days after fertilizer/pesticides have been applied.

Sampling Instructions

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

Sample Size: Collect 80+ grams each of both new (young) and old <u>leaves + petioles</u> for a collected total of 160+ grams per sample set. Bag new and old leaves separately in gallon zip lock bags labeled New and Old.

Initial Sampling: New leaf only sample. Sample new leaves that are fully developed and expanded, 3rd or 4th leaf from growth point. Place leaves in zip lock bag labeled NEW. Stage of growth: bloom.

Sequential Samples: New and Old leaf sample set every 2+ weeks.

NEW- Youngest fully formed leaves, 3rd or 4th leaf from the growth point of the shoot. Place leaves in gallon zip lock bag labeled NEW. **New leaf = newest yet fully developed leaf and petiole.**

OLD- Sample fully functional leaves, 2nd or 3rd to last leaf from the base of the new shoot node. Place stacked leaves in separate zip lock bag labeled OLD. Old leaf = oldest yet still viable leaf and petiole.



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Do not mix varieties when sampling as this may cause variation in analyses

Keep samples cool. Ship overnight or 2-day on M/T/W (morning arrival time) with ice packs. Samples should not come into direct contact with ice packs. Let air out of bags before shipping.

All samples must be accompanied by a fully completed Sample Submission Form. Fillable version available on our website <u>www.newagelaboratories.com</u>.

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