

Sample Collection and Submission Instructions – Plant (disease testing)

Remember, taking a good sample is vital to obtaining useful laboratory results. Molecular assays conducted on plant samples RELY HEAVILY ON QUALITY SAMPLING PROCEDURES in order to produce quality results.

1. Carefully examine all plant parts and determine those parts which are thought to be diseased (note that diseased roots can cause symptoms such as wilted leaves).
2. Ideally the whole plant should be sent when possible (small plants or seedlings). Place the root ball in a plastic bag and tie it with string or rubber band to separate it from the rest of the plant so the soil does not contaminate the foliage. Wrap the plant in dry paper towels or newspaper and place in a zipper-seal plastic bag.
3. If the plant is too large to ship as a whole in a single bag:
 - Place fresh leaves in a zipper-seal plastic bag wrapped with a dry paper towel. Include multiple healthy and suspected diseased leaves.
 - Wrap cut stems/stalks in a dry paper towel and place in a zipper-seal plastic bag.
 - Shake roots free of soil, wrap in a lightly dampened paper towel and place in zipper-seal plastic bag.
4. Once plant materials are packaged, clearly label each bag with a permanent marker for identification. The identification (ID) label on the sample bags need to match the Specimen ID # listed on the Submission Form.
5. All shipments must be accompanied by a Submission Form. Send samples and Submission Form to the lab as soon as possible. **Testing of samples will not begin without a completed Submission Form.** Please do not place the Submission Form inside a container that contains the plant material, rather place the Submission Form inside the shipping box, but outside of the sample container. If the sample cannot be sent the same day, it should be kept refrigerated. Samples should be **stored for no more than 1 to 2 days** and **PREFERABLY SHIPPED OVERNIGHT** to ensure samples arrive in good condition. Degraded samples cannot be tested.

If there are any questions regarding sampling and shipping procedures, please contact the National Agricultural Genotyping Center Laboratory at 701-239-1451.

Ship Samples To:

**National Agricultural Genotyping Center
1616 Albrecht Blvd N
Fargo, ND 58102**