George Leigh Minor Plant and Soil Health Center
Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory
University of Connecticut
27A Manter Road Unit 4102, Storrs, CT, 06269-4102
Web: s.uconn.edu/plant-soil
Email.soiltest@uconn.edu

BarCode Scanner

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:
UConn

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

$ .....

Or pay online at: soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu

Online receipt #:_____

Plant Tissue Nutrient Analysis Submission Sheet

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Please choose the required test(s) for each sample (see price list for details).
2. After completing this form, send it with samples and payment to the lab.
3. Attach a check or money order to this form. If an online payment was made, write the online order number to indicate it.
4. **Send Samples to: George Leigh Minor Plant and Soil Health Center**
   Soil Nutrient Analysis Lab
   27A Manter Road Unit 4102, Storrs, CT, 06269-4102
5. Please allow **two weeks** for return of test results and recommendations (Samples during April-May will take longer). Sometimes emails can end up in the spam folder. Check there for emails from CAHNR – Soil Nutrient Lab and add soiltest@uconn.edu to your contact list to prevent that in the future.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: ..... **Business:** .....

Address: ..... **Phone:** .....

Town, State, Zip:..... **Email:** .....

How to receive results?

Mail [ ] Email [ ] Both[ ]

Sample ID (Choose a name you will remember)	**Crop**	**Growth Stage**	**Plant Vigour**	**Age**	**Expected Yield**	**Growth Stage**	**Pruning**	**List Fertilizers Applied**	**List Sprays or pesticides (if contain Nutrients)**	**Test Options and Fees (per sample)** *(Check ✓ the option(s) you would like to test for each sample)*								**Lab ID** *(For lab use only; Leave blank)*
										$40		$25		$15		$15		
										Tissue Nutrients with N		Tissue Nutrients without N		Tissue Total N (%) Only		Tissue Total N and C (%) Only		

Growth Stage: Early (E); Intermediate (I); Mature (M) **Plant Vigour:** Weak (W); Good (G); Vigorous (V) **Expected Yield:** Low (L); Moderate (M); High (H)

Pruning: Light(L); Moderate (M); Severe (S); None (N) **Age (if Applicable):** Young, Nonbearing-1-3 yrs (YN); Young, Bearing-4-7 yrs (YB); Mature-8 + Years (M)

For Lab Use Only

Order# Check# Amount($)

Tissue Analysis Sampling Guidelines

Proper sampling is essential for accurate plant tissue analysis. The best sampling time, sample size, and plant part to collect depend on the crop. For best results, call the Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory at **(860) 486-4274** or review the **Crop-specific Sampling Guidelines** on the lab's website before collecting samples.

When to sample

In general, collect tissue samples during active growth, before plants reach senescence or severe decline. For many crops, this is mid-season, when plants are fully leafed out and still responsive to management. Some perennial crops have specific sampling windows, which are noted in the crop-specific guidelines.

What plant parts to sample

For most crops, collect the **most recently mature leaves**: the youngest leaves that are fully expanded, not the newest emerging leaves.

- **Turfgrass:** collect clippings from mowed turf, not whole plants.
- **Grapes and some other crops:** collect petioles instead of whole leaves.

See the crop-specific guidelines on the lab's website for crop-specific details.
Avoid leaves that are dusty, dirty, diseased, or heavily insect-damaged unless you are specifically asked to submit symptomatic tissue.

How many plants to sample

Keep each sample as uniform as possible. Do not mix varieties, plant ages, or very different soil or management conditions in a single sample.
As a general rule:

- For most field and vegetable crops, collect leaves from about **10 to 30 plants**.
- For tree and small fruit crops, collect about **30 to 50 leaves**. For grapes, collect about **60 petioles**.
- For turfgrass, collect clippings from many small areas and combine them into one composite sample.

Diagnostic samples (problem vs. normal)

If some areas look poor and others look normal, collect one sample from the affected plants and one from healthy plants. Label each clearly as **"problem"** or **"normal."** This side-by-side comparison makes it easier to determine whether nutrient status is contributing to the problem.

Pairing tissue and soil samples

Whenever possible, submit a soil sample from the same area at the same time. The soil test shows the nutrient and pH conditions around the roots, while the tissue test shows what the plant actually took up. Together, they provide a clearer picture of whether problems are related to fertility, pH, root issues, or other stresses.

Handling, packaging, and submitting

If leaves are dusty or soil-splashed, quickly rinse them in a mild, phosphate-free dish soap solution for **less than 1 minute**, then rinse in clean water. Do not soak tissues. Shake off excess water and air-dry them on clean paper towels at room temperature.
Once dry, place the tissue in a clean **paper bag or envelope**. Do not seal dried tissue in plastic bags for mailing. If samples cannot be dried before shipping, deliver them the same day or ship them promptly so they do not mold or decay.
Label each sample clearly with a unique sample ID, crop name, and plant part sampled, and complete the **Plant Tissue Nutrient Analysis** submission form. Send the completed form, samples, and payment to the address below. Attach a check or money order to the form. If you paid online, write the online order number on the form.

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Turnaround and notes

- Results are usually available in about **2 weeks**.
- Fertilizer recommendations are **not** provided with tissue analysis. Tissue results should be interpreted together with soil test results and field observations.

Further questions

If your crop is not covered here, or if you are unsure how or when to sample, contact the Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory for guidance before collecting samples.