

Collecting and Shipping Plant Samples by Mail

1. Always select **fresh plant material** that is symptomatic but not dried out, dead, or decaying. We are unable to diagnose plants that are already dead.
2. If the **root system** is included, place a **plastic bag** around it and secure with a twist tie or rubber band to keep soil from contaminating leaves/stems.
3. Place the entire sample into a **sealed plastic bag**. A dry paper towel can be wrapped around the plant to absorb excess moisture and prevent the plant from sticking to the plastic. **Never add water to the sample for shipment.**
4. Ship in a **crush-proof container** such as a box.
5. Ship the package early in the week via **overnight delivery** to limit the time the sample is in transit. Do not ship over a weekend or holiday.
6. Please contact us if you have any other questions or if planning to ship near a holiday.
(860) 486-6271

Shipping Insect Samples by Mail

1. **Do not ship live insects or arthropods.** Crushed insects and insects stuck to clear tape are unidentifiable. Place insects in freezer to kill them. **Preserve soft-bodied insects in a leak-proof vial of alcohol.**
2. Place the entire sample into a sealed plastic bag.
3. **Ship in a box** to avoid damaging the sample during transit. Insects will be crushed by mail machines if sent in a plain envelope.
4. Do not ship over a weekend or holiday to limit the time the sample is in transit.
5. Please contact us if you have any other questions or if planning to ship near a holiday.
(860) 486-6271

Our lab does not accept insects found on humans, pets, or those found in the home. Such samples can be sent to the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory:

61 North Eagleville Rd., U-3089

Storrs, CT 06269-3089

Phone: (860) 486-3738

UConn

GEORGE LEIGH MINOR
PLANT AND SOIL HEALTH
CENTER

Ship Plant Diagnostic Samples To

UConn Plant Diagnostic Lab
27A Manter Road, Unit 4115
Storrs CT, 06269-4115