Plant Tissue Sampling for Fraser Fir

**When to sample:** Take samples during dormancy — after bud set (August-September) and before bud break (February-March). September is ideal.

**Growth stage:** Early (E) or Mature (M)

**Tree Position:** Middle (M). Collect shoots from the current season's growth from the upper half of the tree. Do not sample from the top whorl.

**Plant part:** Most Recent Mature Leaf (MRML). Break off 4-6” mature lateral shoots from 15–20 trees for ~15-20 shoots total.

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**Tips**

- Fill out the Plant Sample Information Form as completely as possible. The more information you provide, the more precise your recommendations will be.
- Specify the *growth stage* and whether your sample is *Predictive* (routine) or *Diagnostic* (troubleshooting). For diagnostic testing, submit a plant sample and a corresponding soil sample from both a “good” (healthy) and “bad” (unhealthy) area.
- Use paper bags for storing and mailing. Don’t put your leaves in a plastic bag. They will rot.

**Standard analysis includes:** nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, iron, manganese, zinc, copper, and boron.

**Fees:** $5 per sample for N.C. growers ($25 for out-of-state; $12 for N.C. researchers). **Turnaround time:** 2 days from receipt.

**Send samples to:** NCDA&CS Agronomic Services—Plant Lab

*Mailing address:*
1040 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699

*Physical address:*
4300 Reedy Creek Rd, Raleigh NC 27607
Phone: (919) 733-2655

For more detailed information, go to the Plant Tissue Analysis page at www.ncagr.gov/agronomi or contact the regional agronomist for your area.