

Plant Tissue Sampling for Soybean

Tissue analysis is used to optimize soybean fertility or troubleshoot nutritional problems from seedlings (V2) up to R2. Sampling after R4 is not recommended.

Seedlings (V2-V3): Cut the entire plant 1" above the soil line. Collect about 20 plants.

Early growth (>V3) through bloom (R1-R2): Collect the most recent mature trifoliate leaf (MRML) from ~20 plants. MRMLs are neither young and shiny nor old and dull and are about the 3rd to 5th leaf down from the top.



Fill out the Plant Sample Information form as completely as possible. The more information you provide, the more precise your recommendations will be.

Specify **growth stage** and whether your sample is **Predictive** (routine) or **Diagnostic** (troubleshooting). For diagnostic testing, submit a sample from both a "good" (healthy) and "bad" (unhealthy) area.

Tips: Use paper bags for storing and mailing. Don't put your leaves in a plastic bag. They will rot.

Turnaround time: 2 days from receipt

Standard analysis (\$5 per sample) includes: nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, iron, manganese, zinc, copper, aluminum and boron. Molybdenum test is available for an additional \$2.

Send samples to: NCDA&CS Agronomic Division

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 county.