

## Plant Tissue Sampling for Wheat

**Predictive (GS-30)** sampling is used to determine mid-season N rates and evaluate overall nutritional status.

When to sample: Zadoks growth stage 30 (GS-30).

~ Feb. – March but correct growth stage is <u>critical</u>. When wheat begins to stand up tall and straight, pull several plants. Split the stems from the top to the base and look for the growing point. Before GS-30, it will be just above the roots. At GS-30, it will be about 1/2 inch up the stem.



**How:** GS-30 sampling requires two types of samples: tissue and biomass.

**Tissue:** Cut plants about 1/2 inch above surface. Two large fistfuls of leaves will make a good sized sample.

**Biomass:** Collect all the above-ground plant tissue in 36" row section or, in broadcast fields, from one yard<sup>2</sup>.

- Use paper bags for storing and mailing. Don't put your leaves in a plastic bag. They will rot.
- Submit your tissue and biomass samples in separate bags.



• For submitting **Diagnostic** 

(troubleshooting) samples outside of the GS-30 period, there is no need to submit a biomass sample.

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

**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).

(no charge for biomass samples)

Send samples to: NCDA&CS Agronomic Services

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, visit the Plant Tissue Analysis page at www.ncagr.gov /agronomi or contact the regional agronomist for your county.