



## Manual plant sap sampling

# *Strawberry*



### Contact details

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## ***Sampling and sending samples***

### **Location**

Take the following steps into account when collecting leaf samples:

- Avoid the outer rows of the field or greenhouse. Also avoid the first and last 10 meters of a row.
- Sample leaves with an average leaf quality. Sample abnormal plants with e.g. deficiency symptoms separately. Might a deficiency be present in the young or old leaves of the total crop, then sample these leaves regularly as a young or old leaf sample.
- Take into account the sunny and shady side of the plant. Always consistently sample the same side.

### **Time of sampling**

It is strongly recommended to take the samples before 9:00 AM. The plant will then have enough leaf-tension with proper moisture conditions.

Begin with sampling the leaves two weeks after planting, then every week. The same applies to water samples, irrigation, slab and drain water when you grow the strawberry's in a greenhouse. Until the cultivation is finished.

### **Plant parts**

For a young leaf sample, pick the **youngest, fully developed leaves**. Also pick (separately) the **oldest, but still vital leaves**. From these composited leaves, only the middle (top) leaf is needed for each leaf sample (see pictures 1,2 and 3). Stack the leaves for each sample and remove the petioles, as they will not give a good indication and influence the sample.

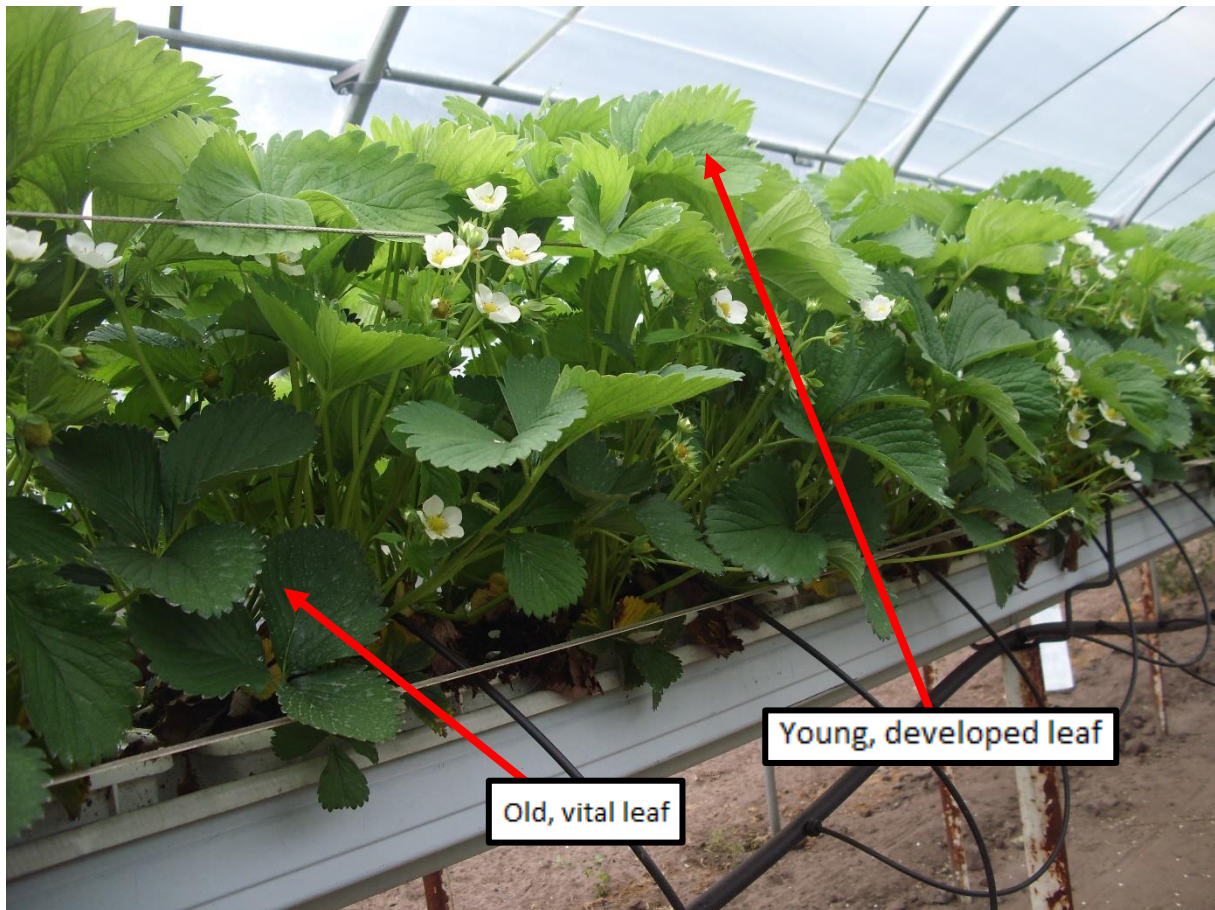
It is not allowed to send in samples that have a fungal, bacterial or virus infection. The leaves must also be free from insects.





## Sampling

Pic. 1



### Sample size

For an average, representative sample about 40 leaves are needed. Of course sample size can vary, depending on leaf type (size and thickness). If you are unsure about the sample size, please feel free to contact us.





## Sampling tray plants

Pic. 2



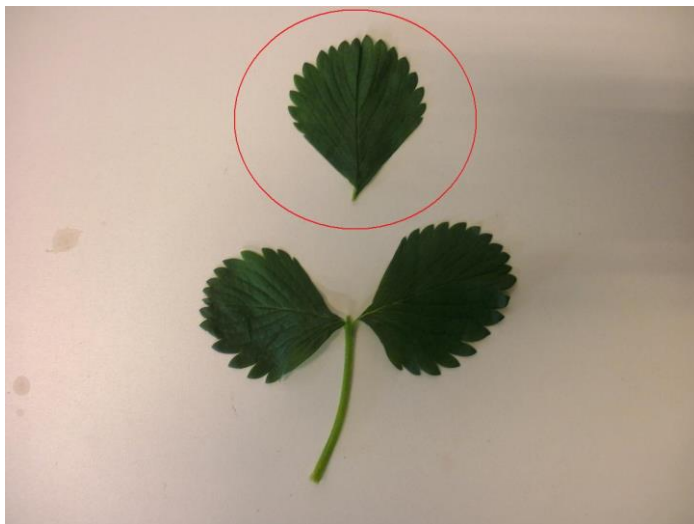
1: Young, developed leaf  
(sample)

2: Too old, not vital leaf

3: Too young,  
undeveloped leaf

4: Old, vital leaf  
(sample)

Pic. 3





### **Sending the samples**

The sample zip-lock bags with barcode can be sent in an envelope (make sure it fits in a mailbox (max 3,5 cm. high)). In case you want to send more than one sample, please send them together in 1 box, so they will arrive together. Then put sufficient postage on the envelope or package. Always check the weight. Please take care that envelopes are sealed well. You can put an extra tape over the closure to avoid opening during transportation.

We recommend to sample crops on Friday and send the same day by DHL or FedEx, then NovaCropControl is receiving your samples in the beginning of the next week. Please put €1.00 as the shipment value on the sample package.

Do you ship samples from outside Europe? To avoid clearance delay at the customs please consult our shipment guide for sending samples to Europe. You can find this guide at our website: <https://www.novacropcontrol.nl/en/sampling>

Please send samples to the address below:

**NovaCropControl**  
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