

Plant sap sampling guide

Citrus



Contact details

NovaCropControl
Gasthuisstraat 20
5061 PB Oisterwijk
The Netherlands
info@novacropcontrol.nl
www.novacropcontrol.nl

**It is not allowed to send citrus (leaves) from outside Europe to
NovaCropControl**



Collecting and submitting samples

Location

Take the following steps into consideration when collecting leaf samples:

- Avoid the outer rows of the field and the first and last 10 yards of a row.
- Sample leaves of average leaf quality.
- Sample abnormal plants (with deficiency symptoms) separately. If a deficiency might be present in the young or old leaves of the total crop, sample these leaves separately as a young or old leaf sample.
- Keep in mind 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.

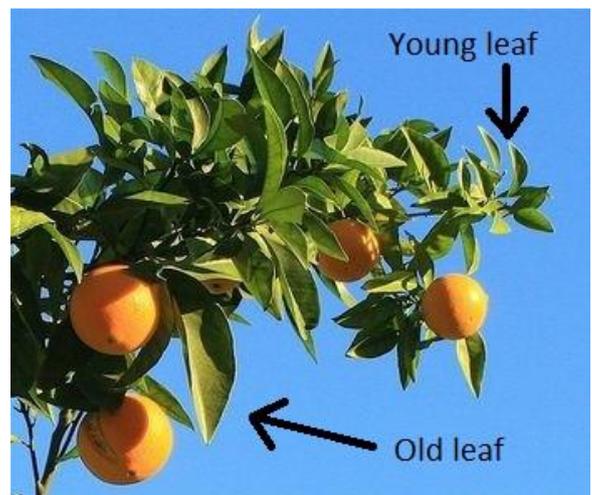
- Begin with sampling one month before pre-flowering
- Beginning of flowering
- Early fruit set
- When fruit size is about 25 mm
- When fruit is full grown

Plant parts

- In the first growth stage sample only the young (cluster) leaf as picture 1 shows.
- When branches developed leaves from top to bottom, then start sampling the young and old leaves.
- Sample the young leaf from the top of the shoot and the old leaf halfway the shoot (see pic. 1).

Remove the petioles to avoid that these will affect the sample. The petioles can have a significant effect on the analysis of the leaf samples. When leaves are wet because of rain or dew, dry them first with a tissue.

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



Pic. 1





Sample size

For an average, representative sample about 50-60 leaves are needed, at least 150 grams. Sample size can vary, depending on leaf type (size and thickness). If you have questions about sample size, please contact us.

Packing the leaf samples

When leaves are wet on the outside due to dew or rain, they can be dried with a tissue. Leaves have to be dry from the outside to be analyzed because water will have an influence on the results. Moreover, the leaves will spoil faster if there is water in the sample bag.

Please pack the young and old leaf samples separately, these will be two different samples. To assure fluent processing please stack the leaves, fold the leaves if needed, and put them in a plastic zip-lock bag carefully. Make sure all air is out, so any leaf evaporation is excluded. See pictures.



Fill in the labels correctly and place them on the bags (see pictures below). We prefer pre-printed labels because it saves us a lot of administration time. It has also advantages for you:

- When using Bemesting-Online program you need the same location names and crop names to make comparisons (graphs), pre-printed labels make this a lot easier;
- If our employees must read what is on the label, the chance of reading errors is very high, this is not the case with preprinted labels;
- You no longer must write the location and crop name on the label on the spot.

Let us know if you need help with this.





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.

Please send samples to the address below:

NovaCropControl

Gasthuisstraat 20
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The Netherlands

