



DRY TISSUE SAMPLING GUIDE

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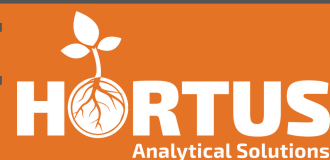
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DRY TISSUE SAMPLING GUIDE

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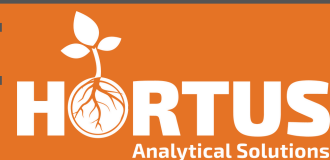


DRY TISSUE SAMPLING GUIDE


	Growth Stage ¹		Plant Part ²		Leaves: # to collect
	When to collect samples	Code	Plant part to collect (Indicator plant part)	Code	
African violet	Mature plants of flowering size	B, M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25
Alfalfa	Prior to early bloom	E, M	Most recent mature trifoliate leaves from the top (6") of plants	T	30
Almond	Mid shoot on current seasons extension growth of young trees	M	Normal size leaves on non-fruiting spurs	M	30-40
Apple	5 to 10 weeks after full bloom	M	Most recent mature leaf from mid shoot, leaves near base of current year's growth, or leaves from spur's; 4-8 leaves per plant	M	50
	(mid- June to mid- July)		from 20-30 plants		
Asparagus	Mid - summer	E	Top 4 - 6" of most recent fronds	M	20-30
	Late - summer	M	Top 18" of most recent fronds	M	
Avocado	Recent summer flush	M	Recently expanded, mature and healthy leaves. Non - fruiting terminals	M	4 - 8 leaves each, from 20 random trees
Azelea	Prior to flowering	E	Most recent mature leaf	M	75-100
Bahigrass	see Grass (Forage& Pasture)				
Banana	Actively growing suckers. Should be able to reach leaf from the ground.	E	3rd fully expanded leaf. 20cm wide strips from each side of the mid - rib to the leaf margins (in the centre section)	E	select from 5 trees

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Barley	see Small Grain				
Beans	Seedlings (less that 12")	S	All above - ground portion	W	20-30
	Prior to, or during initial bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf	M	
Beet	Early to mid - growth	E, B	Most recent mature leaf		20-30
Begonia (Rieger elator)	Prior to heavy flower formation	E, B	Most recent mature leaf (1st leaf from top that is 2" wide of greater)	M	20
Bentgrass	see Grass (Turf)				
Bermuda, coastal (hybrid)	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				
Bermudagrass (turf)	see Grass (Turf)				
Blackberry	Postharvest	M	Most recent mature leaf on primocane (nonfruiting laterals)	M	20-40
Blueberry	Early or during bloom	E, B	Growth	M	50-60
Bluegrass	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				
Bluestem, big	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				
Boxwood	Summer	M	2 - 3" cuttings from terminal growth	M	20 cuttings
Broccoli	Early of prior to head formation	E, B	Most recent mature leaf	M	25-30
Bromegrass	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				
Cabbage	Early to mid growth	E	Undamaged leaf		
Cabbage, Chinese	8 leaf stage	E	Oldest undamaged leaf	M	25-30



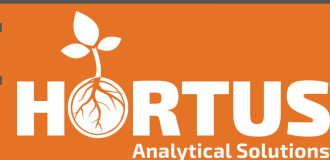
Growth - stage codes: S = Seedling, E = Early, B = Bloom (prior to first fruit) F = Fruiting, M = Mature

Plant - part codes: W = Whole plant, T = Top, E = Ear leaf, M = Most mature leaf (MRML),
O = Outermost undamaged leaf, P = Petiole, H = Harvest leaf




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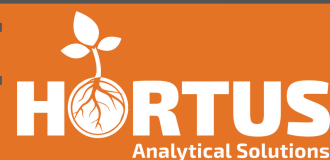


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Camellia	Summer	M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25-30
Caneberries	see Blackberry or Raspberry				
Canola	Prior to bloom	E	Most recent mature leaf	M	
Cantaloupe	see Melons				
Capsicum	Flowering - early fruiting	E	Young mature leaf with petiole	M	30
Carnation	Unpinched Plants	E	4th or 5th leaf pair from base of plant	M	20-30
	Pinched Plants	B, F, M	5th or 6th leaf pair from to of primary laterals	M	
Carrot	Early growth (60 days after seeding)	E	Most mature leaf	M	20-30
Cauliflower	Early or prior to head formation	E	Most mature leaf	M	25-30
Centipede	see Grass (Turf)				
Celery	Plant half grown	E	Youngest mature leaf blade	M	30
Cherry	5 to 10 weeks after full bloom	M	Leaves near base of current year's growth or from spurs; 4 - 8 leaves per plant from 20 - 30 plants	M	50-100
Chia	New flush	M	Most recent mature leaf	M	50-60
Chillies	Flowering - early fruiting	E	Young mature leaf with petiole	M	30
Chinese cabbage (heading types)	8 leaf stage	E	Oldest undamaged leaf	M	25-30
Chrysanthemum	Prior to or at flowering	E, B, F	Most recent mature leaf from top of plant or upper leaves on flowering stem	M	20-30

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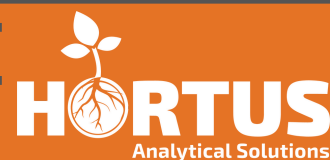


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Citrus	SA & VIC (3 – 6 months old); NSW & QLD (5 – 7 months old)	E	Healthy and mature leaves from the middle of non – fruiting terminals from the previous spring flush	M	40 – 60
Clover	Prior to bloom	E	Top 4 – 6" of the plant	T	40 – 50
Collards	Early	E	Oldest undamaged leaf	M	25 – 30
Conifers	Summer	E	Terminal shoot from upper ¹ / ₃ of tree; do not sample from leader or top whorl	M	20 – 40
Corn, field	Seedlings (less than 4")	S	Entire top of plant cut 1" above the soil	W	10 – 15
	Early (4 – 12")	E	Entire top of plant cut 1" above the soil	W	
	Prior to tasselling (>12")	E	First fully developed leaf below the whorl; This leaf should be totally unrolled and have developed a sheath (collar) on the stalk	M	
	Tasselling and shooting to silking	B, F	Leaf opposite and below the uppermost developing ear	E	
	Maturity	M	Leaf opposite and below the uppermost developing ear	M	
	Sampling after silking is not recommended	----	-----	----	
Corn stalk (end of season)	1 – 3 weeks after black layer has formed on 80% of the kernels of most ears	M	8" segment collected at 6 – 14" above the soil line	H	15
Corn, sweet	Prior to tasselling	E	First fully developed leaf below the whorl; This leaf should be totally unrolled and have developed a sheath (collar) on the stalk	M	15 – 20
	At tasselling	E		E	

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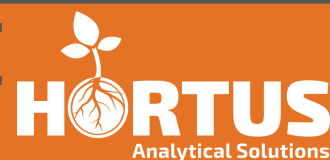


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Cotton	Seedling: 4 weeks following emergence of 2 - 3 true leaves	S Weeks 1,2,3,4	Most recent mature leaf and petioles. Separate petioles in the field	M	25 - 30
	Early: 4 weeks following seeding (S) stage, includes pinhead square formation	E Weeks 1,2,3,4			
	Bloom: Begins when plants have at least 5 open blooms per 25 row feet	B Weeks 1,2,3,4			
	Fruit: Begins 5th week after beginning of bloom	F Weeks 1,2,3,4			
	Mature	M			
Cucumber	Early to early bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf (generally 4 - 5 leaf from a growing point)	M	15 - 20
Cucumber, greenhouse	Early to early bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf (generally 4 - 5 leaf from a growing point)	M	8 - 10
Date Palm	Early in the potted form	E	Most recent mature leaf	M	1 whole leaf
Fescue	see Grass (Turf or Forage & Pasture)				
Fir	During dormancy (~Sept - Dec)	M	Two or three shoots from the upper 1/3 or 1/2 of 8 - 12 trees.	M	15 - 30 shoots
Daisy, gerber	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 - 50
Gammagrass	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				
Gardenia	Summer	B	Most recent mature leaf	M	25

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Garlic	Early growth prior to root/ bulb enlargement	E	Centre mature leaves	M	20 - 30
Geranium	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 - 50
Ginger	2 - 3 months	E	3rd fully expanded leaf from the top of the plant (ignore rolled leaves at the top)	M	40- 50
Grape, muscadine (<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>)	Mid to late summer but prior to final swelling of fruit (end of bloom through Aug); Best Time June to early July	B, F	Most recent mature leaf opposite fruit clusters from well-exposed shoots (generally the 1st or 2nd fruit cluster from the base of the shoot)	M	60- 80
Grape, vinifera (<i>Vitis aestivalis</i> , <i>labrusca</i> & <i>vinifera</i>)	Full bloom through veraison (ripening of fruit)	B, F	PETIOLES ONLY from Most recent mature leaf opposite fruit clusters from well- exposed shoots (generally the 1st or 2nd fruit cluster from the base of the shoot)	P	80- 100
Grass (Forage & Pasture)	Tillering (Less than 6" tall)	S	Entire top of plant cut 1/2" above soil	T	2 handfuls
	Greater than 6" tall and prior to seed head formation (after tillering to before boot stage)	E	Top 6" of the plant at the upper half of the plant (top 4 leaves)	T	20 tops
	After seed head formation (recommended only when troubleshooting)	F	Most recent mature leaf (leaf below seed head)	M	20 - 30
Grass (Turf)	During normal growing season; at 2 days growth	M	2 handfuls of freshly mowed grass (with trash removed)	T	2 handfuls
Holly	Summer	M	Most recent mature leaf	M	30- 50



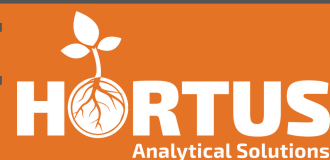
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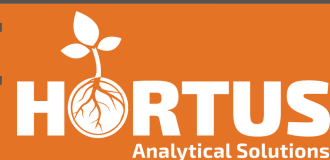


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Hydrangea	Early summer	M	Most recent mature leaf	M	30- 50
Impatiens	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 - 50
Kale	Early or during bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 - 50
Lettuce	Anytime during growing season	E	Outermost undamaged leaf	M	10 - 20
Lettuce (leaf), greenhouse	Anytime during growing season	E	Outermost undamaged leaf	M	10 - 20
Leucaena	Juvenile	E	Leaves + Petiole	M	40- 50
Lima bean	see Bean				
Lychee	1 - 2 weeks after flower panicle emergence	E	1st healthy leaf bunch from under panicle	M	4 pairs of leaves from 20 different trees
Macadamia	6 - 7 month old leaves from the 2nd whorl of the previous summer flush dominant terminals (no growth evident)	M	Leaf & Petiole	M	2 - 3 leaves from 30 random trees
Maize	30 - 40 days after emergence	M	Youngest, mature leaf	M	20 - 25
Mango	Nth QLD during peak flowering period; SE QLD just prior to flowering	M	Youngest, mature leaf	M	20 - 30
Marigold	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 - 50
Melons (watermelon, muskmelon)	Prior to or during bloom; prior to fruit set	E, B	Most recent mature leaves (generally the 5th leaf from the growing tip)	M	12 - 30
Millet	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				

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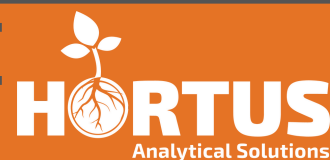


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Milo	see Sorghum				
Mung Bean	see Bean				
Muskmelon	see Melon				
Mustard greens	Early or during bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 – 30
Oats	see Small Grain				
Onion	Early growth prior to root/ bulb enlargement	E	Centre mature leaves	M	20 – 30
Orchardgrass	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				
Ornamental shrubs & trees (not conifers)	During active growth	M	Most recent mature leaf on current year's growth	M	30 – 100
Pansy	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 – 50
Passionfruit	Well developed, prior to active vegetative growth and fertiliser application	M	Youngest, fully expanded, recently matured leaf. Behind a recent flush of growth	M	30 – 40
Pasture	Grazing height, vegetative growth stage	M	Vegetative growth	M	500g
Paw Paw	Most recent mature leaf	M	Whole leaf	M	1 whole leaf
Peach	Mid – season; 12 to 14 weeks after bloom	F, M	Leaves near base of current year's growth; 4 – 8 leaves per plant/20 – 30 plants	M	50 – 100
Peanut	Prior to, or at bloom	E or B	Most recent mature tetrafoliate leaves (about 3rd to 5th leaf from growing point)	M	25 – 30

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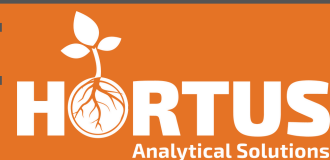


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Pear	5 - 10 weeks after full bloom	M	Leaves near base of current year's growth or leaves from spurs; 4 - 8 leaves per plant from 20 - 30 plants	M	20 - 30
Peas (English, southern)	Prior to, or during initial flowering	E, B	Most recent mature leaf (about 3rd set of leaf from the growing point)	M	30 - 60
Pecan	6 - 8 weeks after bloom; 8 - 12 weeks after catkin fall (July 7 to August 7)	M	Middle pairs of leaflets from a compound leaf on a terminal shoot	M	30 - 45
Pepper (bell, hot, banana)	Prior to bloom	E	Most recent mature leaf	M	20 - 30
Petunia	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 - 50
Pine	Summer	M	Needles from upper 1/3 crown; select dominant trees	M	200 needles
Pineapple	During vegetative growth	M	Most recent mature leaf, generally 4th leaf from the apex (D leaf)	M	10 - 15
Poinsettia	Prior to, or at bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf	M	15 - 20
Potato, Irish	Prior to, or during early bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf (3rd to 6th leaf from the growing tip)	M	20 - 30
	Early flowering to half - grown tubers	M	Most recent mature leaf (3rd to 6th leaf from the growing tip)	M	
Raspberry	Postharvest (10 - 14 days after final harvest)	M	Youngest mature leaves on primocane (no - fruiting laterals)	M	20 - 40

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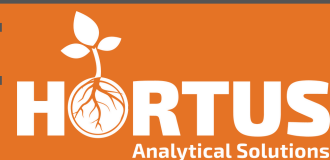


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Rhododendron	Summer	M	Most recent mature leaf	M	20 - 30
Rose	During flower production	F	Upper leaves on the flowering stem or 5-leaflet leaf below bud	M	20 - 30
Rye	see Small Grain				
Ryegrass	see Grass (Forage & Pasture)				
Small Grain	Seedling stage to early jointing; GS 3 - 6 (Feekes) or GS 26 - 31 (Zadoks)	S	Entire top of plant cut 1/2" above the soil	W	2 handfuls
	Early jointing to just prior to heading (ie just prior to boot); GS 7 - 9 (Feekes) or GS 32 - 39 (Zadoks)	E	Cut 2 - 4 uppermost leaves (Top 4 - 6")	T	30 - 40
	Just prior to heading (boot stage); GS 10 - 11 (Feekes) or GS 45 - 100 (Zadoks)[sampling after heading is not recommended]	B	Flag leaf	M	30 - 40
Snap Bean	see Bean				
Sorghum (Milo, Grain, sorghum)	Early or bloom	E, B	If E, 1st leaf out of the whorl; if B 2nd leaf from whorl	M	20
Sorghum - Sudan	Early or bloom	E, B	Top 4" to 6" of plant	T	15 - 20 plants
Soybean	Seedlings (less than 12")	S	Entire top of plant cut 1/2" above the soil	W	2 handfuls
	Prior to, or during initial bloom; before pod set [sampling after pods begin to set is not recommended]	E, B, F	Most recent mature leaf	M	20 - 30

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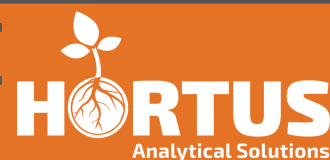


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Spinach	Mid - growth	M	Most recent mature leaf	M	20
Spinach, greenhouse	All growth stages	M	Most recent mature leaf	M	20
Spruce	Mid - season to late summer	M	2 - 3" terminal cuttings	M	25 cuttings
Squash	Summer	B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf (about 5th leaf from the growing point)	M	15 - 20
Strawberry, field	Early	E Weeks 1 - 8	Most recent mature leaf and petioles. Separate petiole in the field	M	20 - 25
	Bloom/Fruit: Initiated when there are 5 - 10 blooms on >75% of the plants or 2 - 3 blooms on most plants; Harvest usually begins at B/F week 5 or 6	B/F Weeks 1 - 12	Most recent mature leaf and petioles. Separate petiole in the field		
	Mature	M Weeks 1 - 4	Most recent mature leaf and petioles. Separate petiole in the field		
Strawberry, high tunnel	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf and petioles. Separate petiole in the field	M	20 - 25
Strawberry, greenhouse	All growth stages	E, B, F, M	Most recent mature leaf and petioles. Separate petiole in the field	M	20 - 25
Sugarcane	Active growing season	E, M	Top visible dewlap (TVD) leaf - 20cm cross section of leaf (minus midrib) measured from true centre of leaf towards base	M	20 - 30

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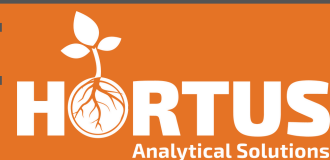


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Sweetpotato	Midgrowth; prior to root enlargement	E	Most recent mature leaf (generally the 4th to 5th leaf)	M	20 – 30
Tobacco, burley	Seedling	S	Entire top of plant cut 1" above the soil	W	8 – 12
	Prior to bloom	E	Most recent mature leaf (about 4th leaf from growing point)	M	
	During bloom	B, F		M	
	Maturity	M		M	
Tobacco, flue – cured	Seedling (greenhouse transplant)	S	Entire top of plant cut 1" above the soil	M	1 tray
	Prior to bloom	E	Most recent mature leaf (about 4th leaf from growing point)	M	8 – 12
	During early bloom	B			
	During late bloom	F			
	Mature	M			
	Harvest leaf	M	Upper leaves (tips) (Position U) (~21st to 30th nodes from the bottom)	H	
	Harvest leaf	M	Middle leaves (smoking) (Position M) (~11th to 20th nodes from the bottom)		
	Harvest leaf	M	Lower leaves (lugs & cutters) (Position L) (~1st to 10th nodes from the bottom)		
Tomato, field	Early growth (5 leaf stage through first flower	S, E	Most recent mature leaf (4th to 5th compound leaf back from the growing point)	M	
	Early flower through first fruit set (golf ball sized fruit)	B			
	First fruit set through harvest	F, M			

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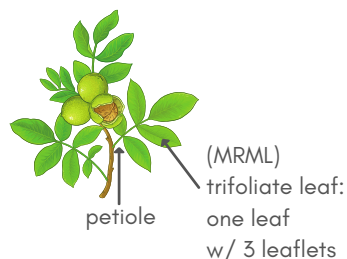
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Tomato, greenhouse	Early growth through first fruit set	S, E, B	Most recent mature leaf (4th to 5th compound leaf from the growing point)	M	8 - 10
	First fruit set through harvest	F, M			
Triticale	see Small grains				
Turnip greens	Early or during bloom	E, B	Most recent mature leaf	M	25 - 30
Walnut	6 - 8 weeks after bloom	M	Middle pairs of leaflets from a compound leaf on a mature shoot	M	30 - 35
Watermelon	see Melons				
Wheat	see Small grains				
Zucchini	see Squash				

Information sourced from: NCDA & CS Plant Tissue Analysis Guide - Updated May 2014, Plant/Waste/Solution/Media Analysis Section
Agronomic Division, N.C. Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services



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Indicator Plant		Example crops
Code	Description	
M	Most recent mature leaf (MRML)	Most plants, including cotton & strawberry
W	Whole plant (cut 1/2 - 1" above soil surface)	Seedling or young plants
T	Top 3 - 6" or top 2 - 4 leaves	Turf; forage grass and small grains prior to reproductive growth stages
E	Ear leaf (opposite and below ear)	Corn (from tasseling through silking)
P	Petiole only	Vinifera grape
O	Outermost undamaged leaf	Lettuce and other leafy vegetables
H	Harvest leaf	Tobacco



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