



Plant Tissue Sampling for Forages

Important: The Plant Tissue Lab analyzes forages for monitoring crop fertility. Forage hay samples analyzed for animal nutrition should be sent to the Food & Drug Protection Division Animal Feed Program at: 4600 Reedy Creek Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607. Phone: 919-733-7366.

How: For seedlings (<6 " tall), collect entire top of plant, cut 1/2" above soil line. For early, cut the top 6 inches. Collect two handfuls or 20 tops.

Growth Stage: Seedling (S) Early (E)

Plant Part: Top (T)



Tips

- Fill out the plant sample information form as completely as possible.
- Specify the **growth stage** and whether your sample is **Predictive** (routine) or **Diagnostic** (troubleshooting). For diagnostic testing, submit a plant sample from both a "good" (healthy) and "bad" (unhealthy) area.
- Use paper bags for storing and mailing. Don't put your leaves in a plastic bag. They will rot.

Standard analysis includes: nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, iron, manganese, zinc, copper, aluminum and boron.

Fees: \$5 per sample for N.C. growers (\$25 for out-of-state; \$12 for N.C. researchers).

Turnaround time: 2 days from receipt.

Send samples to: NCDA&CS Agronomic Services-Plant Lab

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 area.