



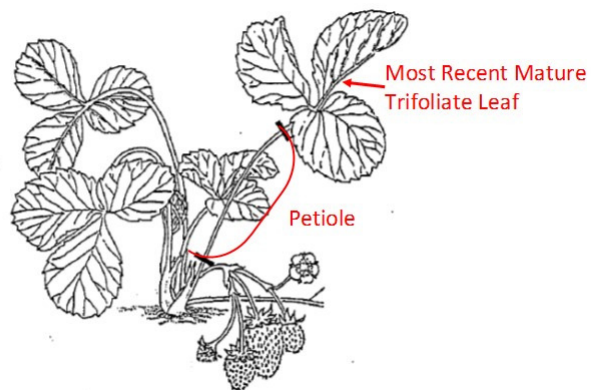
Plant Tissue Sampling for Strawberry

Predictive samples are used to monitor strawberry nutrient needs beginning in the first week of bloom. Generally, 1 week after the 1st spring nitrogen application (~March 1) and then every 2 weeks for 12 weeks.

Growth stage: Bloom (B) or Fruiting (F)

Week: The first week of Bloom is week 1 and is the stage where most of the plants have two or more blooms. The first week of Fruit should be week ~ 6.

Plant part: Collect 1) the **most recently mature trifoliolate leaf** (MRML) and 2) the associated detached **petiole**. MRMLs are fully expanded and consist of one petiole (leaf stalk) with three leaflets. Usually located 3 to 5 leaves back from the growing point.



How much: 1 trifoliolate leaf with detached petiole from 20–25 plants that are similar in health, appearance, fertilization, etc. Total of 20-25 leaves and 20-25 petioles.

Fill out the Plant Sample Information form as completely as possible. The more information you provide, the more precise your recommendations will be. It is very important that you list whether the growth stage is Bloom (B) or Fruiting (F) and the correct week. Weeks are numbered beginning with the first week of bloom and ending at week 12.

Diagnostic (troubleshooting) samples can be submitted any time during the growing season—Seedling (S), Early (E), Bloom (B) or Fruiting (F). Collect a “good” and a “bad” sample for comparison including detached petioles.

Tips: Use paper bags or envelopes for storing and mailing. Don’t put your leaves in a plastic bag. They will rot.

Turnaround time: 2 days from receipt

Fees: \$7 per sample (includes petiole analysis)

Send samples to: NCD&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 go to the Plant Tissue Analysis page at www.ncagr.gov/agronomi or contact the regional agronomist for your county.