

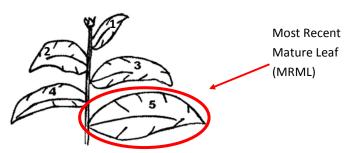
Plant Tissue Sampling for Tobacco

Tissue analysis is used to monitor tobacco fertility, troubleshoot nutritional problems or to measure leaf ripeness prior to harvest.

Seedlings (defined as < 12"): Collect the above-ground portion from 20-30 plants.

Early through Mature growth: Collect one Most Recent Mature leaf from ~ 12 plants. For routine monitoring, 1 week before layby is a good time to test.

Harvest ripeness test: Collect one MRML from the lower, middle or upper stalk position from 12 plants. Specify that the sample contains *harvestable* leaves (H) instead of *most recent mature leaves* and specify whether the plant position is Upper (U), Middle (M), or Lower (L).



Tips

- Fill out the Plant Sample Information Form as completely as possible. The more information you provide, the more precise your recommendations will be.
- Specify the growth stage and whether your sample is Predictive (routine) or Diagnostic (troubleshooting).
 For diagnostic testing, submit a plant sample and a corresponding soil 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, 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.