



## Plant Tissue Sampling for Turf Managers

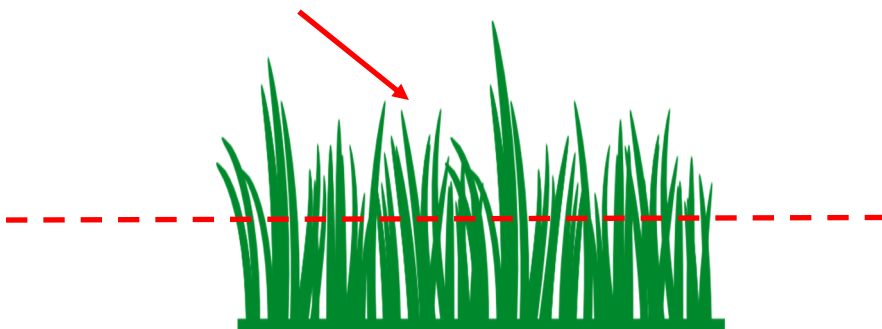
**Predictive** samples are used for routine monitoring of nutritional status. Submit one representative sample.

**Diagnostic** samples are used to troubleshoot observed problems with turf health. Submit a sample from both a “good” (healthy) and “bad” (unhealthy) area.

**How:** Collect all clippings from area of interest, mix and remove one-pint subsample. Allow clippings to air dry. *Clippings can be collected directly from the mower basket.* If no basket is used, either collect recently mown clippings from multiple areas of the turf or cut with scissors the upper 1/3 of grass tissue from multiple areas. Remove any non-turf debris.

**Growth Stage:** Early (E) or Mature (M)

**Plant Part:** Top (T) one third of grass



### 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 or nematode 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](http://www.ncagr.gov/agronomi) or contact the regional agronomist for your area.