



Plant Tissue Sampling for Blackberry & Raspberry

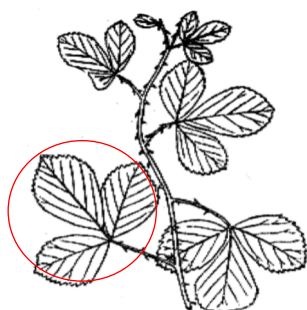
When to sample: *Diagnostic* (troubleshooting) samples can be collected any time during the growing season as long as some primocanes are present. Collect a “good” (healthy) and a “bad” (unhealthy) sample.

Predictive samples evaluate nutritional needs for next year’s crop and should be collected from primocanes post-harvest and before topping.

How: Collect leaves from primocanes; 1–2 leaves per bush from 20–40 bushes; 20-40 leaves total

Plant part: Collect Most Recent Mature Leaves (MRML) from primocanes. MRMLs are neither young and shiny nor old and dull. About the 5th leaf down from the tip.

Most Recent
Mature Leaf
(MRML)



Primocane

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: N.C.D.A.&C.S. 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.