

Soil Sampling • Soil-Tissue Analysis • Crop Scouting
TAKING SAMPLES FOR PLANT ANALYSIS

United Soils, Inc. suggests following the provided guide below when obtaining plant tissue samples for analysis. Results of the analysis will determine whether problems in plant development are due to nutritional factors.

Precise results are possible only when carefully selected plant material is submitted for analysis. Accurate sampling requires that select parts of a plant are collected at certain stages of plant development. A plant's nutritional condition differs for each variety, stage of development and growing area. It is recommended to select plant tissue representative of a particular variety and growing area. Place samples in un-lined paper bags.

What Not to Sample: Diseased or dead plant material; Plant Tissue damaged by insects and/or mechanical equipment; Plant tissue which has been stressed by excesses of cold, heat or moisture; Seeds should not be sampled as they do not reflect nutritional status of the whole plant.

How to Sample Field Crops

Crop	Stage of Growth	Plant Part to Sample	Number of Plants to Sample
Corn	Seedling Stage (less than 12")	All the above ground portion	20-30
	Prior to Tasselling	The entire leaf fully developed below the whorl	8-10
	From Tasselling & Shooting to Silking	The entire leaf opposite side and below the ear	8-10
	<i>Sampling after Brown Silk is not recommended. Place samples in un-lined paper bags.</i>		
Soybeans	Seedling Stage (less than 12")	Most recently developed trifoliate leaf. Do Not include petiole	20-30
	Prior To or During Initial Flowering	Two or three fully developed leaves at the top of the plant	20-30
	<i>Sampling after pods begin to set is not recommended. Place samples in un-lined paper bags.</i>		
Alfalfa	Prior To or 1/10 Bloom Stage	Mature leaf blades taken about 1/3 of the way down the plant	40-50
Wheat	Seedling Stage	All above ground portion	25-40
	Before Heading	Upper 4 leaves	25-40