LEAF SAP SAMPLING GUIDE **Pepper**



Keep in mind!

- Avoid outer rows and first 20 feet of a row.
- Sample leaves with average leaf quality. Sample areas of abnormal growth separately.
- Sample consistently; sunny side of plant, avoid extreme weather etc.
- If leaves are wet at sampling lightly pat dry before shipping (moisture influences results).
- Sap Analysis data works best when used in progression. The more samples the better crop nutrient uptake can be illustrated and understood.
- Note fertilizer and irrigation times and application rates if possible.
- Sample either before or 3+ days after fertilizer/pesticides have been applied.



Sampling Instructions

Sample Time: Sample in the morning before 11 a.m. and temperatures less than 80 °F for adequate leaf tension and moisture. Avoid sampling in the rain. Store samples in cooler.

Sample Size: Collect 80+ grams each of both new (young) and old leaves + petiole for a collected total of 160+ grams per sample set. Bag compound leaves separately in zip lock bags labeled New and Old.

Initial Sampling: Begin sampling when plants are 8+ inches tall. Collect NEW fully developed leaves only. Place stacked <u>leaves + petiole</u> in zip lock bag labeled NEW. Stage of growth: vegetative Sequential Samples: New & Old compound leaf set every 2+ weeks in combination with growth stages: flower, fruit development, fruit fill.

NEW- Youngest fully expanded <u>leaves + petiole</u>, 3rd -5th from the growing point of the plant. Place stacked <u>leaves + petiole</u> in zip lock bag labeled NEW.

New leaf = newest yet fully developed leaf

OLD- Oldest still healthy and functional <u>leaves + petiole</u>, 2nd-3rd leaves from base of the plant. Place stacked <u>leaves + petiole</u> in separate zip lock bag labeled OLD.

Old leaf = oldest yet still viable leaf

Do not mix varieties when sampling as this may cause variation in analyses

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Keep samples cool. Ship overnight or 2-day on M/T/W (morning arrival time) with ice packs. Samples should not come into direct contact with ice packs. Let air out of bags before shipping.

All samples must be accompanied by a fully completed Sample Submission Form. Fillable version available on our website www.newagelaboratories.com.