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## LEAF SAP SAMPLING GUIDE Tobacco

## Keep in mind!

- Avoid outer rows and five 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, irrigation times and application rates if possible.
- Sample either before or 3+ days after fertilizer/pesticides have been applied.

## Sampling Instructions

**<u>Sample Time</u>**: Take samples before 11 a.m. and temperatures less than 80 °F to ensure adequate leaf tension and moisture.

**Sample Size:** Collect 80+ grams each of both new (young) and old <u>leaves + petioles</u> for a collected total of 160+ grams per sample set. Bag new and old leaves separately in gallon zip lock bags labeled New and Old.

<u>Initial Sampling:</u> Begin sampling at early knee-high stage. Collect NEW fully developed <u>leaves +</u> <u>petiole</u> and OLDEST yet still viable <u>leaves + petiole</u>. Old leaf sample is 2nd leaf from base of the plant. Place leaves in separate zip lock bags labeled NEW and OLD. Growth stage: vegetative. <u>Sequential Samples:</u> New/Old leaf sample set every 2+ weeks. Stages of growth: vegetative **Budding/Flower Stage -** If topping is a preferred practice at this stage and new leaves are cut off, sample at the same time as 'topping' so that new fully developed <u>leaves + petioles</u> can be samples along with old yet viable <u>leaves + petiole</u>. Old leaf is 2nd-3rd leaf from base of the plant. Place stacked <u>leaves + petiole</u> in separate zip lock bags labeled NEW and OLD.

**Pre-Harvest -** Sample newest yet fully developed <u>leaves + petiole</u> and oldest yet still viable <u>leaves + petiole</u>, If plant has been topped sample youngest old leaf at top of the plant as new leaf sample. Old leaf samples are 2nd-3rd leaf from base of the plant. Place stacked <u>leaves + petiole</u> in sepasrate zip lock bag labeled NEW and OLD.

\*\*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 <u>www.newagelaboratories.com</u>.

