

Sampling Guide

Plant pathogen isolation and identification- sample collection and submission protocol

Collecting Samples

- 1 Include both diseased and non-diseased tissue (where disease is evident), covering leaf, stem, fruit, root, shoot or flower tissue as relevant to the species and symptoms observed. The sample should not be significantly degraded, as pathogens must remain viable for culturing.

Package the Sample

- 2 Use an appropriately labelled bag, paper bags are preferable, to allow moderate air flow. Loosely wrap the tissue in paper towel to protect it from crushing or moisture. Posting in a cardboard box is preferred where required.

Submitting Samples Online

- 3 Enter required details in Metagen's sample portal submission linked below. Follow the link where you will be directed to log in or register, ensure details match those on the bag.

Posting Samples

- 4 Send sample via express post to the address below, early in the week to avoid sample being held in post over weekends. Refridgerate (not freeze) sample over weekend if required.

Process & Turnaround

- 5 Testing includes disease symptom assessment, culturing and isolation of pathogens, Sanger sequencing, and DNA identification. Results are typically available within 3 weeks of sample receipt, although timeframes may vary depending on microbial growth and processing.

Receiving & Paying Invoices

- 6 Invoices are issued once results are ready. On rare occasions where sample cannot be processed due to its soil properties, we do not charge for samples.
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SUBMIT ONLINE

Lab Portal

Submit your sample and required information here:
metagenlab.au →

POST TO

Metagen Lab

Metagen Laboratory
98 Chadwick Road
Gatton QLD 4343

CONTACT US

Lab Manager

Jade Mathews
M: 0459 363 465
E: jade@metagen.com.au

Sample Selection

Which plants to pick and which part to send for analysis.

Select the Best Plant



No symptoms of disease



Showing symptoms, still alive



Completely dead, not alive

Select living plant or tissue showing early disease symptoms. Avoid dead or heavily infected tissue, as secondary organisms can make isolating the primary pathogen difficult.



Roots

Dig out the plants with root ball intact, send the roots, the soil around them and the crown. Also include above-ground crop sample.



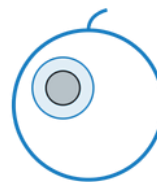
Stem

Remove or cut a piece of stem with canker, rot or dieback as well as healthy tissue. Include leaf sample if showing symptoms.



Leaves

Pick leaves where spots or lesions are spreading, still some green tissue. Send 3-4 leaves from several different plants.



Fruit

Choose fruit where rot is not completely collapsed, send whole, unwashed fruit wrapped in dry paper towel.

Tell Us

Our online submission portal will ask you to provide a description any details about the crop and variety and how the symptoms have spread.

Suspected Phytophthora

If your sample relates to suspected *Phytophthora* sp., please contact Jade Mathews, Laboratory Manager, directly for guidance before submitting.