



# PLANT HEALTH LABORATORY SAMPLE SUBMISSION FORM

**BC Ministry of Agriculture**

Plant Health Laboratory  
 Abbotsford Agriculture Centre  
 Abbotsford, British Columbia, V3G 2M3  
 Telephone: (604) 556-3003, Toll-Free 1-800-661-9903

**Date received:**

**Sent via:** Mail  Courier  Walk in

**SPECIMEN NO.**

|                               |  |  |           |
|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------|
| <b>GROWER NAME</b>            | PHONE NO.  | <b>SUBMITTED BY</b>                    | PHONE NO. |
| FARM NAME                     | FAX NO.  | COMPANY NAME                           | FAX NO.   |
| ADDRESS                       |  | ADDRESS                                |           |
| POSTAL CODE                   |  | POSTAL CODE                            |           |
| EMAIL                         |  | EMAIL                                  |           |
| <b>SAMPLE COLLECTION SITE</b> | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input type="checkbox"/> Golf course <input type="checkbox"/><br>Greenhouse <input type="checkbox"/> Orchard <input type="checkbox"/> Vineyard <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>DIAGNOSTIC REPORT TO BE SENT TO</b> |           |
| <b>SAMPLE TYPE</b>            | Whole Plant <input type="checkbox"/> Branches <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves <input type="checkbox"/><br>Soil <input type="checkbox"/> Insect ID <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |           |

|  |                               |  |   |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>PLANT</b>   | <b>VARIETY</b>                | <b>PLANT AGE</b>                       | <b>COLLECTION DATE</b>                          |
| <b>DESCRIPTION OF SYMPTOMS</b> (Problem description, possible causes, specific questions etc.) ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY. |                               | <b>DISTRIBUTION OF SYMPTOMS</b>        | <b>PRIORITY</b>                                 |
| <b>HERBICIDES/OTHER CHEMICALS USED</b>   |                               | Whole crop <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent                 |
|  |                               | Random <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/> Routine                |
| <b>IS THE PROBLEM SPREADING?</b>   |                               | Localized <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> Casual                 |
|  |                               | Edge of field <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Research               |
|  |                               | Few rows <input type="checkbox"/>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Alien Species |
|  |                               | High/dry area <input type="checkbox"/> |   |
|  |                               | Low/wet area <input type="checkbox"/>  | <b>SEVERITY OF SYMPTOMS</b>                     |
|  |                               | Sunny area <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> Slight                 |
|  |                               | Shady area <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate               |
|  |                               | Varietal <input type="checkbox"/>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Severe                 |
|  |                               | Other <input type="checkbox"/>         | <b>% CROP AFFECTED</b>                          |
|  |                               |  |   |
| <b>WHEN DID SYMPTOMS FIRST APPEAR</b>  | <b>DRAINAGE</b>               | <b>IRRIGATION TYPE</b>                 | <b>PRODUCTION SYSTEM</b>                        |
|  | Good <input type="checkbox"/> | Overhead <input type="checkbox"/>      | CONVENTIONAL <input type="checkbox"/>           |
| <b>OTHER CROP OR WEEDS SHOWING SYMPTOMS</b>  | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Drip <input type="checkbox"/>          | ORGANIC <input type="checkbox"/>                |
|  | Poor <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/>         | <b>PREVIOUS CROP</b>                            |
|  |                               |  | <b>FUTURE CROP</b>                              |

## SAMPLE DIAGNOSTIC TURN-AROUND TIME AND FEES

**STANDARD DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURE** includes identification of most plant pathogenic fungi, bacteria, insects, nematodes, phytoplasma, viruses, viroids as well as cultural and physiological conditions that are apparent and may be responsible for plant health problems. Cost per submission:\*

Urgent – Up to 7 days\*\* = \$31.50

Routine – 7 to 10 days\*\* = \$21.00

Casual – 10 to 20 days\*\* = \$15.75

Standard Diagnostic Fee includes the GST (5%)

**Suggested time frame is not guaranteed**

\*\* Diagnostic response time (working days) may vary depending upon the procedures/tests required for the sample.

\*Each plant sample with different symptoms collected from different locations is considered a separate submission. A separate report will be prepared for each submission number.

If the problem is widespread (common problem on many hosts or varieties), plants from these groups can be pooled to submit under one submission number. A diagnostic report will be provided on the submission not on individual plants.

\*Golf course samples from different areas/greens require separate submission numbers.

Any questions, call us at the number printed on top of the page.

**NOTE: RESULTS ARE VALID ONLY FOR THE SAMPLE SUBMITTED TO THE LAB. RESULTS ARE NOT RELEASED UNTIL PAYMENT IS MADE.**

### PAYMENT METHOD:

Cheque/Credit/Debit. Enclose payment with the sample.  
 Cheques payable to: **Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations**

For out of province samples, please contact (604)556-3128 prior to submitting.

# Sample Collection, Packaging and Submission Information

1. Samples submitted to the lab must be representative of the symptoms observed in the field. Specimens must be fresh.
2. **For woody specimens** (branches, stem sections, roots and crown etc.) – Ensure that samples do not dry out. Wrap in damp paper towel if needed and enclose sample in plastic bag.
3. Submit several plants or plant parts showing the various symptom. It is better to submit too much of a specimen than too little. Do not submit dead or decayed tissue. Include a healthy plant for comparison, if possible.
4. **Dig up plants rather than pulling them from the ground to preserve feeder roots.** If plants are potted, submit the whole pot. Enclose base of the plant, roots and pots in a plastic bag so that it is secured at the plant crown to prevent drying of roots and contamination of leaves with soil. Include roots with samples showing symptoms of dieback.
5. It is important that you collect the sample **prior to pesticide application.** Once pesticides have been applied it may be difficult to get an accurate and timely diagnosis.
6. If a sample cannot be mailed immediately, keep it refrigerated or out of direct sunlight.
7. Turf disease samples should be at least 10 cm by 10 cm and as deep as the roots. Include the margin of the affected areas in each sample.
8. Soil samples for pH, EC (electrical conductivity), club root and nematode assessments may require specific collection techniques. **The lab does not do soil or tissue, nutrient and/or chemical residue analysis.** If you have questions regarding this, contact laboratory personnel.
9. Fill out the form with as much detail as possible, attach another sheet if necessary. Package sample securely, enclose appropriate payment and send or deliver to the address below. Diagnostic forms should never be packaged where they will be in contact with any soil or tissue.

## Plant Health Laboratory

BC Ministry of Agriculture  
Abbotsford Agriculture Centre  
1767 Angus Campbell Rd  
Abbotsford BC, V3G 2M3  
Tel: (604) 556-3003, Toll free: 1-800-661-9903  
Fax: (604) 556-3010

Web address: <http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/cropprot/lab.htm>

**Working Hours: 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday to Friday**

## Greyhound bus —

Urgent samples can be sent prepaid via Greyhound to the Abbotsford Bus Depot. Ministry personnel will collect packages from the bus depot. Send parcels early in the week (Monday - Wednesday) to ensure adequate delivery time.

## Courier —

Urgent or perishable samples should be sent by courier.

## BC Ministry of Agriculture, Plant Health Laboratory —

The Plant Health Laboratory provides diagnosis of plant health problems caused by diseases and insects affecting crops/plants grown in B.C. and in cooperation with other ministry staff promotes pest management recommendations which emphasize IPM (Integrated Pest Management). The Plant Health Laboratory is part of the Plant Health Unit in the Plant and Animal Health Branch.

**Note:** All test results are confidential and will remain the property of the client except where the Plant Health Laboratory is required to report the results (quarantine or regulatory significance) to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

**Failure to recover or identify a disease or insect in a sample does not imply that a field or commodity represented by the sample is free of the organism. Due to uneven distribution and/or seasonal fluctuations of disease or insect population in plant tissue and limitations of the sampling procedure used, the Plant Health Laboratory does not guarantee, warrant or imply, as a result of negative test results, freedom of infection in the population from which the sample was withdrawn.**