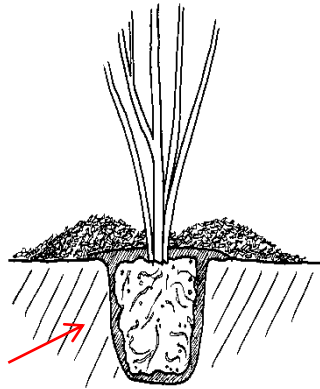


How to Submit Blueberry Plants for Diagnosis

1. ENSURE THE SAMPLE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PROBLEM.
2. DO NOT SEND DEAD PLANTS. Send a plant that is in the process of dying.
3. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE HOW TO TAKE A SAMPLE, CALL THE LABORATORY FOR ADVICE.



Good samples. These plants show symptoms but are not dead.

Include field soil from the root zone in the sample

Poor sample. This sample is dead.

4. Specimens must be fresh. Field dug plants should be sent the same day they are dug. INCLUDE AT LEAST 4 CUPS OF FIELD SOIL from the root zone.
5. Dig up plants rather than pulling them from the ground to preserve the roots. If plants are potted, send the whole pot. Enclose base of the plant, or pots in a plastic bag that is secured at the plant crown to prevent roots from drying and contamination of leaves with soil.
6. DO NOT EXPOSE THE SAMPLE TO HEAT OR FREEZING.
7. Fill out the plant laboratory submission form with as much detail as possible.
8. The submission form can also be filled out at the lab.
9. Package securely, enclose appropriate payment and bring to the address above.

Plant Health Laboratory Submission Form

THE LAB DOES NOT DO SOIL OR TISSUE, NUTRIENT AND/OR CHEMICAL RESIDUE ANALYSIS.

If the whole plant cannot be submitted, USUALLY OLD, LARGE PLANTS, follow the instructions on the next page:

How to Submit Blueberry Plants for Blueberry Scorch Virus and Blueberry Shock Virus

The BC Blueberry Council sponsors a testing service for Blueberry Scorch Virus and Blueberry Shock Virus that is conducted at the BC Ministry's Plant Health Laboratory. This service runs from mid May to mid August and is free of charge. This is a separate program from the services provided by the Plant Health Laboratory and requires a separate form that is

available at the office. Sampling instructions are on the back of the form.

BC Ministry of Agriculture, Plant Health Laboratory
1767 Angus Campbell Road, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3
604-556-3003
Toll-Free: 1-888-661-9903

If the whole plant cannot be submitted, follow these instructions:

The whole plant does not need to be submitted when you suspect a specific problem and are looking for confirmation, however, a follow-up sample of other plant parts may be required .

ALL SAMPLES SHOULD BE PLACED IN A PLASTIC BAG AND KEPT FROM OVERHEATING OR FREEZING.

Fruit samples:

Fruit samples can only be checked for fungi and insects. Fungi that affect fruit may be present on leaves and stems as well, therefore a whole plant would give a better evaluation of the problem.



Blossom Samples:

Blossom samples can only be tested for viruses, bacteria, and fungi. Symptoms may be an indication of what is happening in the bud area or in the roots.



Leaf samples:

Leaf samples can only be tested for viruses, bacteria, fungi, and insect damage. Symptoms may be an indication of what is happening in the roots



Branch samples:

Branch samples can only be tested for fungi and bacteria if symptomatic tissue is submitted. Usually, the crown, roots and soil are necessary for proper evaluation.



Root and soil samples:

Roots can be checked for root rotting organisms, nematodes, and insect damage. Soil can be tested for pH, salt level and nematodes. There can be a problem when the pH is different in the root ball than in the field soil, THEREFORE, both should be included. Problems can be missed when the whole plant is not submitted.



The BC Berries Production Guide, has up to date information on growing berries in British Columbia. The Guide can be found at <http://productionguide.agrifoodbc.ca/guides/14>.