

WHO WE ARE



The Plant Health Laboratory has decades of experience providing plant disease and insect identifications in B.C. since its establishment in 1967. Located in the Abbotsford Agricultural Centre, we are outfitted with state-of-the-art equipment and staffed with qualified professionals, including plant pathologists, entomologists and laboratory technologists who make our work safeguarding plant health in British Columbia possible.

Image below highlights an example of anthracnose (a fungal disease that affects many plants, including fruits and trees).



PLANT HEALTH LABORATORY

1767 Angus Campbell Road
Abbotsford, B.C. V3G 2M3

Local: 604-556-3003

Toll Free: 1-800-661-9903

Fax: 604-556-3010

E-mail: PAHB@gov.bc.ca

www.gov.bc.ca/planthealthlaboratory



BRITISH
COLUMBIA
Ministry of
Agriculture, Food
and Fisheries

PLANT HEALTH LABORATORY



BRITISH
COLUMBIA
Ministry of
Agriculture, Food
and Fisheries

WHAT WE DO

The Plant Health Laboratory provides **diagnostic services** for plant health problems affecting crops and plants grown in B.C., problems that may include:

- Infectious disease;
- Non-pathogenic or abiotic disorders; and/or
- Insect pests.

The Plant Health Laboratory also supports **plant-related research** of emerging and current plant health threats by:

- Developing and validating new tests or methods; and
- Performing at-cost testing for research projects that address plant health threats.

Please Note:

- Soil testing is limited to pH readings, electrical conductivity (EC) readings, and clubroot detection.
- We do not provide nutrient analysis, chemical residue analysis, and mushroom or nematode identifications.

WHOM WE HELP

We help a broad range of clientele from commercial berry and orchard growers to backyard gardeners in diagnosing problems in their fruit trees, vegetable crops, turf, ornamental plants, and more.

Providing these diagnoses enables us to assist in the prevention, monitoring, control and management of plant pests and diseases in B.C.

HOW WE DO IT

We use **traditional and modern diagnostic methods** to provide timely and accurate diagnoses, including:

- Culturing and light microscopy;
- Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) testing;
- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR);
- DNA sequencing;
- Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM);
- Soil pH and EC testing; and
- Insect identification.

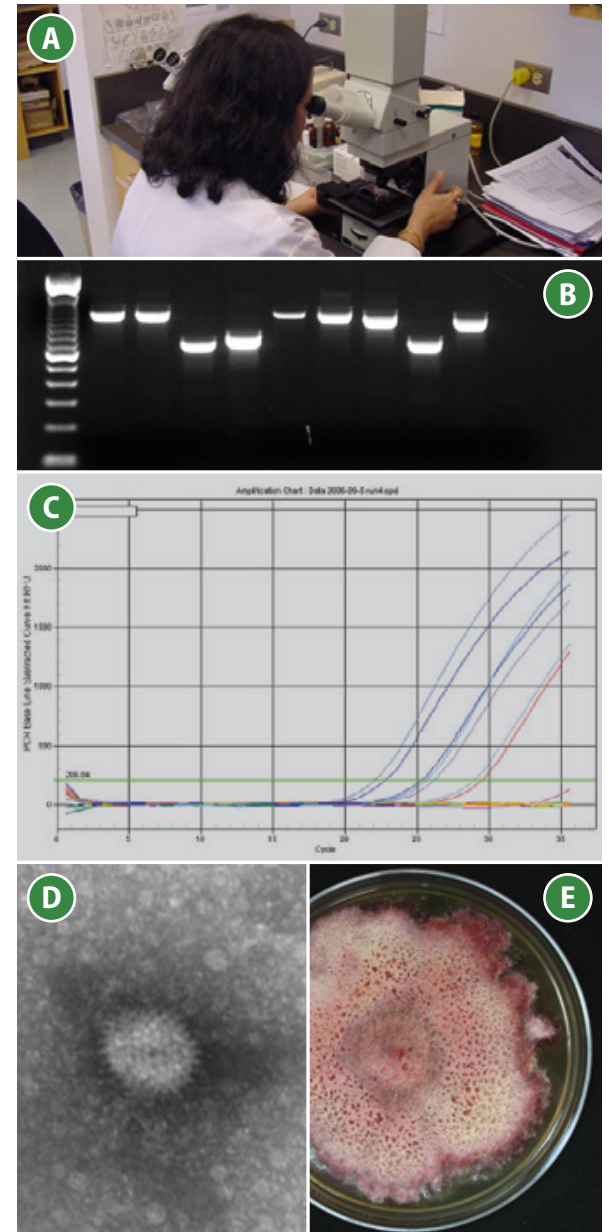
SUBMITTING SAMPLES

To provide you with the most accurate diagnosis, samples should be:

- Representative of the range of symptoms;
- As fresh as possible and not completely dead;
- Packaged securely, with burlap or plastic wrap around any root balls;
- Free of added moisture;
- Kept at a stable temperature to avoid heating and/or freezing the specimen;
- Collected prior to pesticide application; and
- Enclosed with payment and a **submission form*** completed with as much detail as possible.

For more details on submission guidelines, fees and available services please call or visit our website using the contact details on the back of this brochure.

* <https://bit.ly/3wc1PyH>



Above are images highlighting some of the techniques employed by the Plant Health Laboratory:

- A) Examining a sample under the light microscope;*
- B) Gel picture showing the results of a conventional PCR;*
- C) Real-Time PCR graph;*
- D) TEM picture of a plant virion; and*
- E) Fungal isolate.*