

Plant Problem Diagnosis Form

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

Submit samples and form to:
Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic
327 Bessey Hall
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011

(515) 294-0581

For Office Use Only

Sample No.: _____

Date Received: _____

Please use a separate form for each plant problem. Include a check or money order (payable to Iowa State University) for \$20.00 per sample. See page 2 for collecting and shipping instructions.

County of owner: _____ Date _____

Owner: _____ Submitted by: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ E-Mail: _____

Please indicate to whom report should be sent: Owner or Person who submitted

Plant ID: _____

Do you think the problem was due to: disease insects herbicide damage I don't know

Circle all that apply:

Symptoms:	Affected parts:	Distribution:
Leaf spot	Whole plant	Entire field
Wilting	Leaves/needles	Single plant
Yellowing	Stem	Scattered
Galls	Roots	High areas
Root rot	Flowers	Low areas
Marginal burns	Fruit	Wet areas
Leaf/needle drop	Bark	Dry areas
Stunting	Other _____	Sunny areas
Other _____		Shaded areas

When was the problem noticed? _____

How quickly has the problem progressed? _____

Are other plant species also affected? _____

Age/Planting Date/Size: _____

Watering practices: _____

History of chemicals/fertilizers: _____

Additional details, site conditions, comments: _____

For clinic use:

Collecting Samples

1. Examine the plant carefully. Keep in mind that symptoms may appear at some distance from the actual site of the disorder. Look for any irregularities or injuries in the lower portion of the plant.
2. Make sure the specimen is representative of the condition in question.
3. Include enough material to show all stages of the disease from healthy to maximum disease involvement.
4. Wrap specimens in dry paper toweling or clean newspaper. (Do not add moisture!) Pack the specimen loosely in a plastic bag to prevent excessive drying and mail in a strong carton.
5. Send only freshly collected specimens by the most rapid transit method. Undue delays can result in extensive deterioration of the specimen which makes diagnosis difficult or impossible.
6. Fill out form as completely as possible.

Hints for specific plant material

1. Send entire plant or plants whenever possible.
2. Fleshy fruits, roots, and tubers—wrap with enough clean, absorbent material such as paper toweling to absorb any leakage.
3. Woody plants—branch specimens should consist of 4 to 6 pieces which measure 6 to 8 inches long and come from branches 1/2 to 1 inch in diameter. Collect samples only from branches actively displaying symptoms. Dead, deteriorating branches are often worthless as specimens. Canker may be sampled by cutting and removing a rectangular section of bark across the margin of the canker so that some healthy tissue is included with the margin and the central portions of the canker.
4. Turf—lift out a section of turf about 4 to 6 inches square so that healthy plants are included along with those at the margin and the central portions of the affected area.

... and justice for all

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