

## Sampling Guide for Plant Tissue Analysis

### Collection and Preparation of the Sample

When gathering the tissue sample in the field, be sure to use a clean container. A plastic pail or a paper bag work best. Never use a metal container to gather the sample as the metal may contaminate the sample.

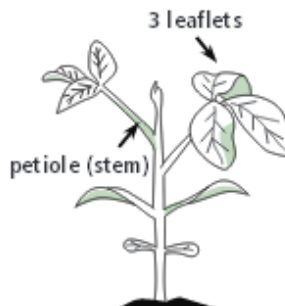
To insure proper sample amount on young plants, collect approximately one pint of lightly packed material.

If the plant samples have soil, fertilizer, dust, or spray residues on them, they will need to be cleaned. A dry brush works well. For stubborn residues, wipe the samples with a damp cloth or wash the samples with distilled or deionized water. However, do not prolong the washing.

Air-dry the samples. Clean paper bags or envelopes work best to avoid contamination when mailing the samples to the laboratory. **Never place fresh samples in a plastic bag.** Do not include roots with samples submitted for nutrient analysis.

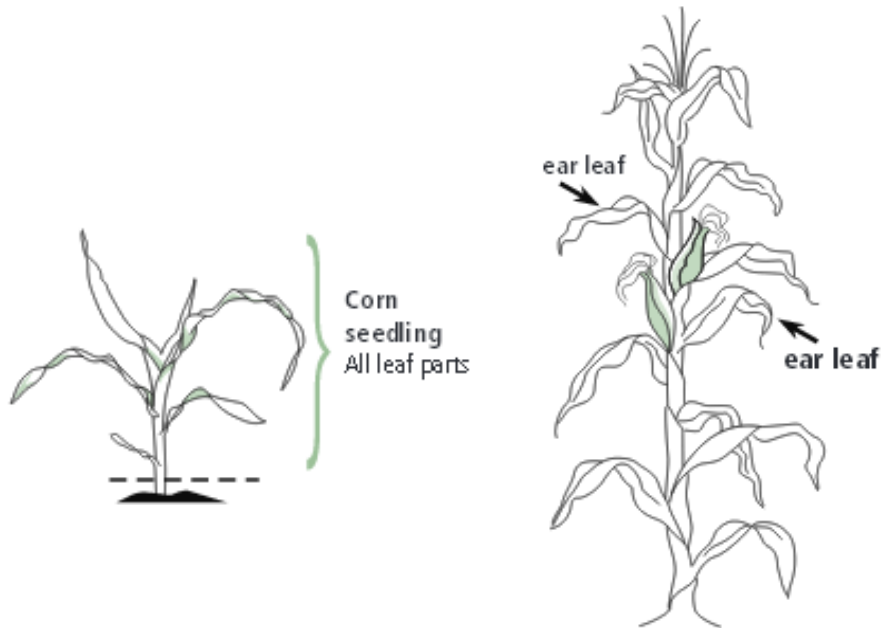
### Soybean Tissue

<u>WHEN TO SAMPLE</u>	<u>PART OF PLANT TO SAMPLE</u>	<u>SAMPLE SIZE</u>
Seedling Stage	All the above ground portion	20-30 Plants
Prior to or during initial flowering	The first fully developed leaves from the top	20-30 Leaves



## Corn Tissue

<u>WHEN TO SAMPLE</u>	<u>PART OF PLANT TO SAMPLE</u>	<u>SAMPLE SIZE</u>
Seedling Stage	All the above ground portion	20-30 Plants
Prior to Tasseling	The first fully developed leaves from the top	15-20 Leaves
From Tasseling to Silking	The leaves below and opposite the ears	15-20 Leaves



### Common Mistakes when Sampling Crop Tissue

- Corn Silk has begun to brown
- Soybean is in full flower
- More than 10% of legumes are in bloom
- Cereals and Grasses are at flowering
- Storing Samples in Plastic Bags
- 

**ALL TISSUE SAMPLES, LEAF or STALK; CORN or SOYBEAN,  
ARE \$40.00 PER SAMPLE**