



RECOMMENDED SAMPLING INTERVALS

TRIFOLATE (POST-CUTTING)	EARLY BUD	LATE BUD	FLOWERING	SEEDLING (P & P)
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Alfalfa Leaf Sampling Instructions

1. Collect **NEW** leaves and **OLD** leaves **SEPARATELY** in individually labeled bags:
 - New = newest recently-mature growth from the top of the plant
 - Old = oldest still-viable growth from the bottom of the plant
2. Collect a **representative field sample** by gathering multiple new leaves and multiple old leaves from each of 20-30 plants of the same cultivar and growing conditions. **Make sure to collect enough leaves so that each sample (new and old) will fill a 1 quart plastic bag.**
3. **Remove petioles** and all other non-leaf plant material from sample leaves.
4. Complete a Leaf [Sampling Label](#) (linked) with your contact info, crop, cultivar, field/block info, new/old leaf, and desired agronomy services. Affix labels to the **outside** of each sealed plastic sample bag. If you would like to save time filling out labels, you can create or access your account [here](#) (linked) and place your order online. At the end of the ordering process, all you need to write on your bags are the 6 digit Sample numbers that are generated for each sample. *(Do not use paper bags or include paper in bags)*
5. **Keep samples viable** by minimizing shipping time and using cold-packs and/or insulated packaging when shipping leaves in warm conditions. Wrap frozen cold-packs in paper to insulate them from direct contact with samples.

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DO NOT SEND ANY INTERNATIONAL LEAF, SOIL, OR WATER SAMPLES WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM APICAL.

TIPS FOR BEST RESULTS:

- Request Apical's [Agronomy Services](#) for Detailed Recommendations.
- Include notes about growth stage, health, pests/disease, and other points that will help us serve you.
- Be proactive by conducting 5-7 Leaf Extract Analyses throughout the growing season (recommended sampling intervals listed in the table above).
- Solve stress, pests, or toxicities by testing and treating weekly until optimal health is achieved.
- Collect leaves at a consistent time of day, preferably prior to 10 a.m. to ensure minimal transpiration - about two hours after sunrise is optimal. For indoor, sample within one hour of light cycle start.
- Ensure leaves are clean of dew, dirt, and fertilizers - wash with clean, cold, non-chlorinated water if needed.
- Ensure leaves are surface-dry (not dried out) before bagging - use a paper towel or air-dry if needed.

*Please do NOT leave paper towels (or anything that will dry out leaves) in bags with samples.