

Appendix 18

Sample collection for foliar analysis

1. Foliage nutrient levels vary with the season of the year and position of foliage in the crown. Therefore sampling should follow rigid guidelines.
2. Conifer foliage samples should be collected during the dormant season, in the period from mid-October till the end of December. Broadleaves and deciduous conifers should be sampled in August.
3. Foliage samples should be collected from the current seasons growth on secondary branches and from the upper third of the tree.
4. Collect sub-samples from at least 20 trees, which are representative of the problem and composite to form a single sample for analysis.
5. Place sub-samples in a clean, labelled, plastic bag and send to the laboratory.
6. Growers should remain with the same laboratory over a stands rotation, as labs use differing analytical tests and report results in different ways.

FOLIAGE SAMPLING SITE/CROP FORM

ONE FORM TO BE COMPLETED PER SAMPLE

CUSTOMER DETAILS

Name & Address		
Telephone No.	Fax. No.	Mobile No.
Your Reference		
Sampled by		Date Sampled
Townland		OS Grid Ref.

SAMPLE/SITE DETAILS

Species for analysis	Year planted	Forest type Pure	Mixed
For mixed 1st species	2nd species	Type Intimate	Non Intimate
Area Ha	Acre	Dominant ground Vegetation	
Aspect facing N,S,E,W, or flat		Elevation (1) ft or (2) m	

CROP HISTORY

Herbicide/fertiliser used Yes/No	YEAR				TYPE/RATE
Suspected cause(s) of damage	(1) herbicide	(2) frost	(3)nutrient	(4) aphid	other (specify)

ANY COMMENTS

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FILL IN AS APPROPRIATE, TICK AS APPROPRIATE

% of Crop Type	Thriftiness (%)	*Site Fertility	Soil Type	Soil Drainage	Exposure
Pre-thicket	Healthy	A	Brown Earth	Poor	V. exposed
Thicket	Mod. unthrifty	B	Podsol	Moderate	Mod. exposed
Irregular	Very unthrifty		Gley		
	Yellow	C	Alluvium	Good	Mod. sheltered
	Dead tops	X	Lithosol		
	In check		Coastal sand		
			Blanket peat		
			Raised peat		
			Fen peat		
			Fen/Marl		

*EXPLANATION OF SITE FERTILITY

Class A: *Fields and ornamental ground*. These are areas, which have been in intensive agricultural use up to relatively recent times, so that they carry characteristic agricultural vegetation (pasture grasses and herbaceous plants, often with high proportion of rushes. They are among the most fertile site types.

Class B: *Furze or whin*. These are sites that were once enclosed by banks, walls or ditches. This indicates that at one time they were considered sufficiently fertile to justify bringing them under agricultural use, and were probably cultivated. The class would include all long-abandoned agricultural land (indicated by the presence of Ulex or bracken). It might also be extended, on the basis of local knowledge, and experience, to include unenclosed areas on mineral soils derived from parent materials of shale, mica-schist or granitic origin.

Class C: *Rough pasture, with or without cropping rock*. These are areas of unenclosed ground, which have never been cultivated or brought under any form of intensive agricultural use. Sites to include are those on unenclosed land, usually upland or bogland, carrying typical unimproved heath land or peat land vegetation.

Class X: *Woodland*. Sites to be included are coniferous, broadleaved and mixed woodland.

LABORATORY TESTS: TICK THE TEST THAT YOU REQUIRE ON YOUR FOLIAGE SAMPLE

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Nitrogen, Phosphorus & Potassium, e.g. for the purpose of determining growth problems and preparing fertiliser prescriptions. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium & Magnesium, e.g. for nutrient assessment of Christmas Trees. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium, Magnesium & Trace elements, e.g. for nursery plant production. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SEND DETAILS TO: Site Studies Laboratory,
Newtownmountkennedy,
Co. Wicklow.
Tel 01-2819493, Fax: 01-2810465

or

Dept. of Environmental Resource Management,
UCD, Belfield,
Dublin 2,
Tel 01-706 7721