Soil, Plant, and Pest Center
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615-832-5850 | SoilLab@Tennessee.edu
SoilLab.Tennessee.edu
facebook.com/SoilPlantPestCenter

Plant Disease or Insect Identification Sheet

Customer Information

Group / Billing ID:_____*(Extension, Co-Op, Company)*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City:_____**State:**____**Zip:**_____

County (Sample is from) _____**†**

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Payment Information *– SPPC USE*

Amount Paid: $_____ **Date paid:**_____

Cash **Billed:**_____

Check#_____ **CC Approval #:**_____

Receipt#_____

IRIS DOC#:_____

payment may also be made on-line using a payment link at: ag.Tennessee.edu/spp

Analysis Desired

Sample ID	**Plant Disease ($15)**	**Insect ID ($15)**	**Golf Course ($30)**	**Endophyte Test ($15)**	**Lab #** *(SPPC USE ONLY)*
	☐	☐	☐	☐	

NOTE: Plant / Weed ID available through distance diagnosis only. Please contact your county agent for more details.

Name of Plant:_____ **Year Planted:**_____ **Percent of Total Infected:**_____

Describe Location:_____

Parts Affected	**Distribution**		**Appearance**	
☐ Roots	☐ General	☐ In Rows	☐ Wilted	☐ Stunted
☐ Leaves	☐ Scattered	☐ In Spots	☐ Yellowed	☐ Leaf Spot
☐ Stem	☐ Certain Varieties	☐ In Low area	☐ Dead Leaf Area	☐ Plant Distortions
☐ Flower	☐ In High Areas	☐ Other	☐ Dead plant	☐ Leaf Mottle/Mosaic

Describe Problem: *(symptoms, weather, soil conditions, possible causes or other potentially helpful information)*
SPPC cannot confirm herbicide damage. Please contact TN Dept. of Agriculture for herbicide drift cases.

Chemicals Used: *(Name, date, rate, and method of application)*

Diagnosis: *(SPPC USE)*

Please visit **Sampling Instruction Sheet.** Samples may be **shipped to or dropped off** at address above. Please **protect submission sheet** and payment from samples**,** and have them **easily found** in shipping box. Please make checks out to **University of Tennessee**.

†The University of Tennessee collects and summarizes sample data for research and extension education purposes. By submitting this sample you, or your agent, agree to this action.

Instructions for Collecting, Preparing, and Mailing Samples

Plant Disease Specimens

1. Give complete information on submission sheet.
2. **Send generous amounts** of material. Enclose plant material in **plastic bags**; **Do not add water** to any sample; **Do not mix several host species** in a single bag; **avoid loose soil**.
3. Send specimens immediately after collecting. If holdover periods are encountered, keep specimen (s) cold. Mail packages to arrive on weekdays (Monday thru Friday) rather than during a weekend or holiday.
4. If general decline or dying of plants is observed, send whole plants showing early symptoms, with roots and adjacent soil intact. **Dig up carefully**. If a field crop, send several plants. **Dead plants are useless** for examination.
5. When not possible to send whole plants, always send generous samples of above-ground portions (showing early symptoms), at least a pint of soil and a good handful of feeder roots. This especially applies to large ornamentals, shrubbery, evergreens and small trees. Be sure to enclose all materials in plastic bags.
6. When localized infections, such as cankers, leaf spots and rots, are involved, send specimens representing early and moderate stages of disease. For cankers, include healthy portions from above and below disease area.
7. Dead plants, material that is dry or decomposing on arrival and specimens arriving without necessary information and payment cannot be processed.

Insect Samples

1. Samples used to be preserved in alcohol, but that is a shipping hazard. County offices have or can order propylene glycol vials from the Center for safe shipping. **Please contact your county office** for these safe shipping vials.
2. Place sample in vial, and **protect vial** by placing newspaper around vial. Place vial in a padded envelope or sturdy box for shipping.

Fescue Endophyte Specimens

1. **June through October** is the best season of the year to collect tall fescue for endophyte analysis.
2. Send **tall fescue only.** If you are unsure of the identity of the grass, ask your local Extension agent for help.
3. A mature fescue plant is composed of a number of shoots called tillers. Collect **one tiller from at least 30 fescue plants** scattered throughout the pasture.
4. Cut the tiller at ground level; do not remove leaves from the tiller (shoot). **Do not send soil or roots**.
5. Place tillers in a plastic bag and ship to the Soil, Plant and Pest Center.

Golf Course Samples

1. When the disease is active, collect a cup-cutter sized plug (4" diameter) that is 3 - 4 inches deep from the edge of the patch or affected area.
2. Wrap the plug in newspaper or paper towels and secure with tape.
3. Ship overnight or bring immediately to the Center.
4. There is a $30 charge for each plug submitted for disease identification.
5. Collect samples **prior to fungicide** applications.