



MEDIA SAMPLE INSTRUCTIONS

SAMPLING

1. Sample media every 2 to 4 weeks during crop production at the same time interval after feeding or watering.
2. Send 1 ½ - 2 cups of media in a J. R. Peters sample bag or in a plastic bag if you do not have enough sampling bags.
3. For containerized crops, we recommend a composite sample from 8 or more containers, consisting of core samples or pie-shaped wedges collected from the root zone. For raised or ground beds, take a composite sample from 8 or more points in the area to be tested, consisting of core samples through the root zone. Specifics based on irrigation/fertilization method follow.

Water Soluble Fertilizers (WSF)

Top watering - scrape away ½-1" of media surface before sampling.

Drip irrigation - sample from under drip emitters.

Subirrigation - scrape away ½-1" of media surface. In order to assess surface salt accumulation you may wish to test this area in addition to a sample from the root zone.

Controlled Release Fertilizers (CRF)

Top-dressed - remove CRF and top ½-1" of media surface before sampling.

Dibbled – avoid disrupting the fertilizer when sampling.

Incorporated – ship medium samples in rigid containers to prevent damage to coated fertilizer prills. Attempting to remove prills may result in crushed prills, which may inflate test results.

4. Unused media – first fill pot(s) with media, water in thoroughly, and wait 1 to 3 days before sampling.
5. Be sure to identify each sample container with a unique I.D. code and complete a sample questionnaire (see below).
6. Do not send live plants (unless specifically instructed by our technical staff). Single plants may not be representative of the entire crop. Sending live plants may result in sample processing delays. In addition, sampling fees will be charged if you require the lab to take samples from live potted plants.

GENERAL

1. This kit contains materials for submitting two samples. The cost for each individual sample is \$36.00 in U.S. Funds. If you mail two samples the amount of your payment would be \$72.00. **Please enclose, with the samples, a check made payable to J.R. Peters, Inc.** Visa and MasterCard are also accepted, please include card type and number, name and expiration date.
2. **It is important that each sample container be clearly marked with a unique Identification Number or Code assigned by YOU.** This will allow faster identification and processing of samples. Please limit each code to a maximum of 20 characters. Sample I.D. code can consist of all numeric characters, all alpha characters, or a combination of both. Examples:

#365-02	#4-Sept.02	GHS#2 IMP. SAMPLE 3	MUM SOIL 001
HOUSE 3 GERANIUMS	NEW MIX 047A	GOOD POINTS MEDIA	BAD POINTS MEDIA
3. **All sample information, including your sample I.D. code, should be provided on the enclosed sample questionnaire. A separate questionnaire should be completed for each sample. Please answer all questions.** These questionnaires were designed to aid us in the analysis and evaluation of your growing practices. This information will be stored in our computer system to help us when providing you with technical assistance. Lack of this information will reduce our ability to serve you.
4. If you wish to receive your sample results via email, be sure to include your email address on the questionnaire. This information will also enable the lab to email you a notification that your samples have been received.
5. After completing the questionnaire, place it, along with your sample and check, in the envelope provided and mail to J. R. Peters Laboratory, 6656 Grant Way, Allentown, PA 18106. To save on shipping costs feel free to send several envelopes together in a box and send to the same address noted above.
6. Use a reputable carrier for shipping samples to the lab. We recommend UPS or express carriers to minimize delays and damage to samples. If RUSH sample processing is needed it is important to contact the lab in advance of sample shipment.
7. If you have any questions call 1-866-522-5752, or 610-395-7104, or email jrplab@jrpeters.com.