

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PLANT SAMPLES

This form provides the necessary information for submitting samples to the Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab. The manner in which samples are collected, preserved, and submitted ensures a proper identification in a timely and efficient way. Materials needed for submission of samples include:

- UF NFREC plant sample submission form
- A Ziploc bag for the form and a plastic bag for the plant sample
- Paper towel
- A box or some kind of shipping container

PREPARING PLANT SAMPLES FOR SUBMISSION

1. Submit generous amounts of plant material representing a range of symptoms. Do not submit samples that are dry, too far gone or dead plant material as they are not good for diagnosis.
2. Keep samples refrigerated after collection until they are submitted.
3. **Turf samples** should be collected near the margin of the affected area so that a range of diseased and healthy tissue is included. Two cup cutters plugs are usually sufficient. Send at least 1 or 2 pictures of overall symptoms as seen in a landscape, yard or golf course green. Pictures can be printed or e-mail to the diagnostician. Wrap samples in newspaper or paper towel before being sealed in a plastic bag.
4. For suspected **virus** problems (*Rose rosette virus* - RRV, *Tomato yellow leaf curl virus* - TYLCV, *Cucurbit leaf crumple virus* - CLCrV, or others), please send not only leaves but also some lower stems or better yet include the whole plant whenever possible.

HOW TO PACK AND MAIL PLANT SAMPLES

1. Write down as much information as possible on the sample submission form.
2. Place the sample submission form inside the Ziploc bag. The bag will protect the form from damage.
3. Do not mix two or more different plant samples in the same plastic bag.
4. Place the plant material inside another plastic bag, do not add any extra moisture. If sample is wet wrap it with paper towel.
5. Place both, form and plant sample inside a box.
6. Mail samples early in the week to avoid the weekend layover in the post office.
7. For suspected virus problems, please send samples FedEx overnight or UPS next day services.