

PLANT TISSUE TESTING + SOIL TESTING

MAY / 2024 Cropland Analytics Newsletter

Dear Farmers and Growers,

As stewards of the land, you are constantly striving to optimize your farming practices, enhance crop performance, and ensure the sustainability of your operations. In this pursuit, one invaluable tool stands out: TISSUE TESTING.

NIP THE PROBLEM IN THE BUD: Testing both plants and soil for nutrient deficiencies can protect crop quality and yield before it becomes a problem.

- It is crucial for gaining a comprehensive understanding of the nutrient dynamics within your crops and soil.
- **SOIL TESTING** provides valuable information about the nutrient availability in the soil, while **TISSUE TESTING** evaluates the actual nutrient uptake by the plants.



- By comparing soil nutrient levels with plant tissue nutrient concentrations, you can assess how effectively your crops are utilizing the available nutrients.
- Overall, combining soil and tissue testing provides a comprehensive approach to nutrient management, enabling you to make informed decisions and optimize crop performance. It's important to coordinate both types of testing to ensure that your nutrient management practices are effective and sustainable in the long term.

**TO LEARN MORE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CROPLANDANALYTICS.COM
OR EMAIL US AT INFO@CROPLANDANALYTICS.COM**

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1. Sampling Techniques for Specific Crops

CROP	CROP GROWTH STAGE	PLANT PART TO SAMPLE
Corn	Seeding stage or prior to tasseling or from tasseling to silking	All leaf parts
Wheat/Barley/Oats	Prior to flowering	4 upper leaves and flag leaf (the final leaf to emerge from a cereal plant before flowering)
Alfalfa/Clover	Prior to flowering	Leaves from top 6 inches
Soybeans	At first flowering	Upper fully-developed leaves (3 leaflets + stem)
canola	Prior to seed set	Fully developed leaves from top of plant
Cereal Grains (including rice)	Seeding stage or prior to heading	All the above-ground portion Four uppermost blades from top of plant
Peas	Before or during initial flowering	Leaves from the third node down from the top of the plant
Potato	Before or during early bloom	Third to sixth leaf from growing tip

2. Common mistakes of taking field crop tissue samples

- Corn silk has begun to turn brown
- Soybean is in full flower
- Cereals and grasses are at flowering