

Plant/Weed Identification Form



Plant Diagnostic Clinic

28 Mumford Hall
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211

For lab use only

Lab No. _____

Condition on arrival

Excellent Good Fair Poor

Check: \$ _____ No. _____ Date _____

Cash: \$ _____ Amount due: \$ _____

Contact us: 573-882-3019

Fax: 573-884-4288

Email: plantclinic@missouri.edu

<http://plantclinic.missouri.edu/>

Mail reply to: Submitter	Client	Charge: \$15 per sample	Make check payable to the University of Missouri. Please use a separate form for each sample.
Fax reply to: Submitter	Client		
Email reply to: Submitter	Client		
Send bill to: Submitter	Client		

Submitted by: _____	Submitted for (client): _____
Business name: _____	Business name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City/state/ZIP: _____	City/state/ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____	Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____

Information about submitter/client		Submitter	Client	Submitter	Client	Submitter	Client
Submitter	Client		Farmer/grower		Landscaper		Consultant
	Extension educator		Dealer/industry rep		Garden center		Other
	Homeowner		Lawn/tree care company		Nursery		

Please provide the following information about your sample. The Plant Diagnostic Clinic will make every effort to identify your sample and provide pertinent, useful and interesting information.

County where collected _____	Amount of area infested _____
Date collected _____	Weed coverage
Location of plant or weed and other surrounding crops or plants	Less than 1 percent
Cultivated field, crop _____	1 – 5 percent
Pasture, forage type _____	6 – 30 percent
Hay field, type _____	31 – 66 percent
Lawn, grass type _____	67 – 100 percent
Garden, type (flower, herb, etc.) _____	Habitat
Roadside, right of way, etc. _____	Bottom land
Other (pond, forest, etc.) _____	Upland
Occurred previously? No Yes	Well-drained
If yes, when? _____	Poorly drained

Please check one:

Identification only

Identification and control information requested

Use this space to provide additional information, such as whether the plant is a tree, shrub or woody vine. Is toxicity suspected? Is edibility or forage value of interest to you with this plant? Email photos to plantclinic@missouri.edu.

Identification and recommendations

Name of plant For lab use only

Common: _____ Scientific: _____

Comments concerning plant:

Suggested control:

Date sent: _____ Signature _____

See reverse side of form for instructions on collecting and mailing samples

Plant/weed identification

- Do not send a dead plant.
- Do not ship a wet plant, and do not include wet paper towels. Excess moisture can promote microbial growth or plant decay.
- Place plant samples in a plastic bag within the packing container; shopping bags work well for this. Tie the handles together to enclose the sample.
- Do not send fleshy samples (mushrooms, fruit, etc.) in plastic bags. These types of samples need to “breathe.”
- Send samples as soon as possible after collection. It is best to ship a sample early in the week to avoid having the sample sit at a shipping facility over the weekend.

Collection

- **For herbaceous plants (plants with green or soft-tissue stems that die back each year) or grasses:** The entire plant should be dug, not pulled, from the soil so that the roots or a representative portion remain relatively intact to a depth of approximately 4–5 inches. If rhizomes, bulbs or tubers are present, include these with the basal portion of the plant. If the plant is flowering or fruiting (seeding), send a portion of this part of the plant. Tall plants can be folded once or twice, or cut into shorter lengths for shipping purposes.
- **For woody plants such as trees, shrubs or woody vines:** It is necessary to have an end portion of a leafy branch with at least five leaves or buds if collected in fall or winter. Include flowers or fruit if they are present. Fresh or dried leaves or fruit found beneath the tree, shrub or vine known to come from the same plant are also valuable. If thorns are present, be sure they are included in the samples. If the plant is a woody vine, include a portion of the vine bearing representative leaves, tendrils (if present) that wrap around plants or other supports, and flowers or fruits (seeds), if present.
- Leaves of dicots or so-called broad-leafed plants may be of two types: simple or compound. It is therefore inadvisable to send for identification what appears to be a single leaf. As a rule, unless it is unusually distinctive or from a common plant, it does not provide enough information for accurate identification.

Packing and shipping

- Place the sample in a sturdy container to avoid crushing during transit.
- Use crumpled paper as padding around the sample.
- Place the submission form inside the package. If there is moisture in your sample, enclose the submission form inside separate plastic bag.
- No padding is necessary if you drop off a sample at the Plant Diagnostic Clinic, but please have sample and submission form in a container to avoid potential mix-ups.
- Mail as soon after collection as possible. Mail early in the week to avoid weekend delay.
- If you collect a sample on the weekend, keep it cool until you are able to ship it. If the sample is herbaceous, not woody, keep it moist until shipping. Damp paper towels work well for this.
- When shipping, confirm with your carrier that there are no restrictions on the type of sample you are sending.

Notes

- Drop-off hours are: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- There is a 30-minute parking spot located behind Mumford Hall. The clinic is located in the basement. If no one is in the office, please leave the sample and submission form together on the desk beside office door.
- Include a submission form for each sample being sent. If sending multiple samples, place each sample in a separate plastic bag, and be sure to include a separate submission form for **each** sample included in the package.
- Use a pencil to fill out the submission form to avoid any ink smears from moisture in the package.

Submit samples to:

Plant Diagnostic Clinic
28 Mumford Hall
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211
