



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

Cooperative Extension Service

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Florida Extension Plant Disease Clinic
Building 78, Mowry Road
P.O. Box 110830, University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611-0830
Phone: (352)392-1795 Fax: (352)392- 3438



PLANT DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC FORM

Please Print - Fill-in ALL relevant data; maintain office copy; submit original copy with specimen.
See reverse side for submission instructions.

DATE _____ / _____ / _____

Grower address

Submitted by (if different)

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____
City/Zip _____
County _____
Phone No. () _____
FAX No. () _____

FAX/MAIL Results To: Grower Submitter

Commercial Grower Consultant Home Grower Research

\$20.00 PER SAMPLE

PLANT AND VARIETY _____

General Plant Appearance: wilted spotted yellowed abnormal growth stunted mosaic other _____

Part(s) of Plant Affected and Symptom(s) Expressed

G ROOTS: apparently normal poor growth discolored rotted stubby galls or swelling other _____

G TRUNK, G STEM or G BRANCH: galls or swellings cankers discolored internally dieback rotted

abnormal pattern or number wilted other _____

G LEAVES: spotted blighted yellowed mosaic wilted galls or swelling rotted other _____

G FLOWERS or G FRUIT: spotted blighted rotted discolored mosaic distorted other _____

G OTHER (specify) _____

Type Planting:

Prevalence:

Symptoms Appeared:

Recently Applied

Field Grove/orchard
 Interior Landscape
 Forest Nursery
 Garden Greenhouse
 Other _____

Entire Planting
 Localized area
 Scattered area

(In Past)
 Days _____
 Weeks _____
 Months _____

Chemicals:
Fertilizer _____
Pesticide _____

EMAIL ADDRESS

COUNTY AGENT SIGNATURE (optional)

The Florida Extension Plant Disease Clinic (FEPDC) is a service provided to any Florida resident by the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), University of Florida in conjunction with the Cooperative Extension Service. The FEPDC is open from 8-12:00 am and 1-5:00 pm Monday-Friday (except for state holidays) and is located on the University of Florida campus at Gainesville. Submit sample and payment payable to:

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\$20.00 per sample

The primary role of the FEPDC is to determine if the plant dysfunction involves an infectious causal agent, e.g. fungus, bacterium or virus. This is done by associating causal agents with symptomatic plant tissue. The FEPDC does not routinely test water or soil for plant disease causal agents.

It is FEPDC policy that:

1. All plant samples should originate within the geographical boundaries of the State of Florida or be accompanied by appropriate USDA/DACS plant importation permits.
2. Plant samples must be adequate in quality and quantity and be accompanied by a completed Plant Disease Diagnostic Form (#2901) or equivalent information. Obtaining the appropriate sample before submission will save both time and shipping expense. NOTE: FEPDC staff reserve the right to immediately discard any sample not meeting the submission criteria listed below.
3. Samples can be submitted to the FEPDC in either of the following manners:
Mail or deliver samples directly from grower (e.g. homeowner, farmer, nurseryman, etc.) to the FEPDC. Samples must be accompanied by payment to insure timely release of disease determinations and recommendations. Clientele can arrange for monthly invoicing by contacting FEPDC staff if Clinic usage is five (5) or more times per month. Sample charges may vary.
4. Samples are processed on a first come first served basis in most cases.
5. Plant disease determinations and associated control options are direct mailed or sent by FAX. Results of these samples are electronically mailed to the county faculty in the county of sample origin to keep them informed of plant disease problems in their county of responsibility. Exceptions to these procedures are made for research and service samples for university personnel who can receive either an electronic mail response or hard copy mail directly from the FEPDC. No recommendations will be sent without complete identification and crop situation.

GENERAL SAMPLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Submit generous amounts of plant material representing a range of symptoms.
2. Don't add water or pack a sample that is wet.
3. Keep samples refrigerated after collection until they are submitted. After collecting good samples, do not ruin them by allowing them to bake in the sun or on the back seat of a car prior to submission.
4. Do not mix samples in the same submission bag. Moisture from root samples will contribute to the decay of foliage samples if they are mixed together.
5. Plant disease identification procedures do not utilize soil or water. Excess soil can be hand shaken from root systems but leave enough soil to keep roots at field moisture levels.
6. Please mark sample packages with a "Warning" if sample has thorns or spines.
7. All samples must be accompanied with a completed Plant Disease Diagnostic Form. These are available at all county Extension offices. Give complete information on the form and keep the form separate from the sample. Limit sample information to one (1) sample per form. You are encouraged to include any other pertinent information in addition to that on the form.
8. Remember to note recent pesticide history on the Plant Disease Diagnostic Form accompanying the sample (last three weeks).
9. Samples arriving from sites in Florida that are 2 days or less mailing time from Gainesville, can be sealed in plastic bags for shipping.
10. Samples arriving from distances greater than 2 days mailing time from Gainesville should be packed tightly in a box with dry paper. Do not seal in plastic because of the likelihood of sample deterioration during the mailing period. Do not add moisture.
11. Mail samples early in the week to avoid the weekend layover in the post office.
12. For emergency samples, use overnight courier services or US overnight mail.
13. See guidelines for specific type of plant dysfunction. (Sample Collection and Submission PP/PPP1).

SERVICES NOT PROVIDED

Presently, the FEPDC does not routinely provide the following services to clientele:

1. Pesticide residue determinations in or on plants and soil.
2. Soil nutrient levels, soluble salts, soil pH, or plant tissue analysis for macro or minor elements.
3. Speciation of all pathogens isolated from plant disease samples.
4. Microbe identification from non-plant samples.
5. Toxic plant identifications and mycotoxin analysis.

SERVICES PROVIDED UPON SPECIAL REQUEST

The following procedures are available upon specific request and only after discussion with FEPDC staff. These procedures are both time-consuming and more costly than the normal sample charge.

1. Pathogen determinations from water sources.
2. Pathogen determinations from soil or growing media by baiting or culturing methods.
3. Laboratory verification of the phytoplasma responsible for lethal yellowing disease of palms by PCR methods.
4. Accurate diagnosis of the subspecies of the fungus responsible for Fusarium wilt of Phoenix palms (*Fusarium oxysporum f.sp. canariensis*) by DNA hybridization and PCR methods.
5. Identification of specific plant viruses, e.g. tomato mottle or tomato yellow leaf curl virus by DNA hybridization and PCR methods.
6. Special indexing or research projects by contract.