

Instructions for Collecting, Preparing and Mailing Specimens:

1. GIVE COMPLETE INFORMATION on form. See SP370D, "Plant and Pest Diagnostic Center," for more information.
2. SEND GENEROUS AMOUNTS of material; ENCLOSE plant material IN PLASTIC BAGS; NEVER ADD WATER to any sample; NEVER mix several host species in a single bag; AVOID LOOSE SOIL.
3. SEND specimens IMMEDIATELY after collecting. If holdover periods are encountered, keep specimen cold. Mail packages to arrive on weekdays (Monday through Friday) rather than during weekend.
4. Protect specimens from being crushed in the mail. Place insects in a vial of alcohol and send in a mailing tube.
5. If general decline or dying of plants is observed, send WHOLE PLANTS showing EARLY SYMPTOMS, with roots and adjacent soil intact. DIG UP CAREFULLY. If a field crop, send several plants. DEAD PLANTS ARE USELESS for examination.
6. When not possible to send whole plants, always send generous samples of above-ground portions (showing early symptoms), at least a PINT of SOIL, and a good handful of FEEDER ROOTS. This especially applies to large ornamentals, shrubbery, evergreens and small trees. Be sure to enclose all materials in plastic bags.
7. When localized infections, such as cankers, leaf spots and rots, are involved, send specimens representing early and moderate stages of disease. For cankers, include healthy portions from above and below disease area.
8. DEAD PLANTS, material that is DRY or DECOMPOSING on arrival and specimens arriving WITHOUT NECESSARY INFORMATION CANNOT BE DIAGNOSED.
9. Specimens should be mailed to:

Plant and Pest Diagnostic Center
5201 Marchant Drive
Nashville, TN 37211-5112

NOTE:

For deliveries other than USPS use same address, but change zip code to 37220