

Instructions for Submitting Industrial Hemp Samples to the NCSU Plant Disease and Insect Clinic

Due to the high volume of incoming hemp samples, the NCSU PDIC is issuing these guidelines in an effort to streamline the process and continue to provide the quickest possible turnaround. Please adhere to the following instructions for submitting hemp samples to the clinic. ***The clinic reserves the right to turn away or dispose of incorrectly submitted hemp samples.***

Licenses

- the clinic will accept only samples with an associated valid NC hemp grower's license (provided by NCDA&CS upon application approval)
- the license holder must be included as a contact on the sample form

Valid ways to submit a license include the following:

- we will not accept licenses emailed or sent in after the sample is submitted
- the license can be presented at the door and photocopied by PDIC personnel
- a photocopy of the license can be submitted at the door or in the shipping package
- an electronic scan or image of the license can be attached to the online submission form.

Collecting Plant Material & Associated Insect Samples

Under 2 feet tall:

- one to three (1-3) plants showing various stages of the same symptoms - including roots and soil (when possible) - may be submitted; it is best to wrap the root ball(s) to prevent soil from contaminating the rest of the plant

Over 2 feet tall:

- we will not accept entire plants over 2 feet tall; the following portions should be collected:
 - roots and crown, separated and with soil attached (if possible), in a bag, plus
 - a few symptomatic branches including healthy portion showing the transition from healthy to dying areas
- for leaf spots, several symptomatic, live, fresh leaves should be submitted; do not add water, wet paper towels, etc. to the bag
- submit material from no more than two (2) plants for each sample; a sample should represent only one suspected issue on an individual host species.

Insect and mite samples:

- insects and mites may be sent in on plant material as described above or else collected into a small vial or container of alcohol and sent in alone (or in addition to plant material)
- some larger insects and arthropods may be identified from clear photographs submitted as an image only sample

For more information please contact us at 919-515-3619 or plantclinic@ces.ncsu.edu

See the following images for examples of best sample collection methods

Leaf spots only:



detached, fresh leaves submitted in a bag

Plants under 2 feet tall:



several entire small plants submitted

Plants over 2 feet tall:



a few branches showing transition zone from healthy to unhealthy, and stem base (a few inches above soil line) plus roots, each bagged separately; note that soil should be included with the stem base and roots