

# SOIL, PLANT AND PEST CENTER

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F 870

## Insect and Plant Disease Information Sheet

### Customer Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cash     Check OR  Credit Card

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Sample Information

#### INSECT AND PLANT DISEASE DIAGNOSIS

Check tests desired (X) and enter information for each sample submitted.

**Analysis Desired**    Plant Problem Identification \$15    Insect Identification \$15    Golf Course Problem Diagnosis \$30    Endophyte Test \$15

<b>Name of Plant</b> _____	<b>Year Planted</b> _____	<b>Location:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Yard/Garden <input type="checkbox"/> Orchard <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Course <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Bed <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Parts Affected</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Roots <input type="checkbox"/> Stem <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves <input type="checkbox"/> Flowers <input type="checkbox"/> Fruits	<b>Distribution</b> <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> In Rows <input type="checkbox"/> Scattered <input type="checkbox"/> In Spots <input type="checkbox"/> Certain Variety <input type="checkbox"/> In Low Areas <input type="checkbox"/> In High Areas <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<b>Appearance</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Wilted <input type="checkbox"/> Stunted <input type="checkbox"/> Yellowed <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf Spot <input type="checkbox"/> Dead Leaf Area <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Distortions <input type="checkbox"/> Dead Plants <input type="checkbox"/> Leaf Mottle/Mosaic
<b>% of Total Infected</b> Acres _____ Plants _____ Sq. Ft. _____		

**Describe Problem:** *Include symptoms, weather or soil conditions, possible causes and other information that may be helpful in diagnosing the problem.*

**Chemicals Used:** *Name, date, rate and method of application.*

Plant/weed Identification offered only through Distance Diagnostics. Please contact your county Extension Agent for more information.

- A. Determine total costs for all tests and services marked. Make check payable to **The University of Tennessee** or pay online by following link on our web site SoilPlantPestCenter.
- B. Mailing address: **Soil, Plant and Pest Center**  
5201 Marchant Drive  
Nashville, TN 37211-5112
- C. Samples cannot be processed until payment is received or arrangements are made.



## **Instructions for Collecting, Preparing and Mailing Plant Disease and Insect Specimens**

1. GIVE COMPLETE INFORMATION on reverse side. Visit <http://soilplantandpest.utk.edu> or your County Extension Agent 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 (s) cold. Mail packages to arrive on weekdays (Monday thru Friday) rather than during a weekend or holiday.
4. Protect specimen (s) 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 AND PAYMENT CANNOT BE DIAGNOSED.

### **Instructions for submitting Fescue Endophyte specimens**

1. June through October is the best season of the year to collect tall fescue for endophyte analysis.
2. Send tall fescue only! If you are unsure of the identity of the grass, ask your local Extension agent for help.
3. A mature fescue plant is composed of a number of shoots called tillers. Collect one tiller from at least 30 fescue plants scattered throughout the pasture.
4. Cut the tiller at ground level; do not remove leaves from the tiller (shoot). DO NOT send soil or roots.
5. Place tillers in a plastic bag and ship to the Soil, Plant and Pest Center.

### **Instructions for submitting Golf Course samples**

1. When the disease is active, collect a cup-cutter sized plug (4" diameter) that is 3 - 4 inches deep from the edge of the patch or affected area.
2. Wrap the plug in newspaper or paper towels and secure with tape.
3. Ship overnight or bring immediately to the Center.
4. There is a \$30 charge for each plug submitted for disease identification.
5. Collect samples prior to fungicide applications.

Programs in agriculture and natural resources,  
4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences,  
and resource development.  
University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.  
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.