



TRIFOLIATE (POST CUTTING) *	EARLY BUD	LATE BUD	FLOWERING	SEEDING (P & P)
<b>RECOMMENDED SAMPLING INTERVALS</b>				

\* Samples prior to Early Bud can be of the whole plant.

### **Alfalfa Leaf Sampling Instructions:**

1. Sample New Leaves and Old Leaves *SEPARATELY* and place into *individually labeled bags*.
  - a. New = newest **recently-mature growth** from the top of the plant or stalk.
  - b. Old = oldest **still-viable growth** from the bottom of the plant or stalk.
2. Select a **representative field sample** of a new leaf and an old leaf from 20-30 plants of the same cultivar and growing conditions. Each representative sample (new and old) should **fill a 1qt plastic bag**.
3. **Remove petioles**, and all other non-leaf plant material from sample leaves.
4. Complete a [Sampling Label](#) (linked), including contact info, crop, cultivar, new/old leaf. Affix labels to the **outside** of each sealable plastic sample bag. **(Do not use paper bags or include paper in bags)**
5. Cold Packs and/or insulated packaging are recommended when shipping *leaf samples* in warm conditions. Wrap frozen cold-packs in paper to insulate them from direct contact with samples.
6. Mail samples to:

**Apical Crop Science**  
**1382 SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave Suite 4**  
**Canby, OR 97013**

### **Tips for best results:**

1. **Obtain optimal plant health** by conducting **2-5 Leaf Extract Analyses** throughout the growing season, most importantly Post-Cutting and Early Bud (sampling intervals listed in the table above).
2. Always sample at a consistent time of day, preferably prior to 10 am to ensure minimal transpiration - about two hours after sunrise is optimal. For indoor, sample within one hour of light cycle start.
3. Ensure samples are as clean as possible - dew, dirt, dust, and fertilizers can affect test accuracy.
  - o If samples are not clean, wash leaves with clean, non-chlorinated cold water.
4. Ensure samples are surface-dry (**not dried out**) before bagging - dew, rain, and condensation affect accuracy.
  - o If samples are not dry, please dry with paper towel or air dry to ensure leaves are not wet in sample bag.
  - o **Please do NOT leave paper towels (or anything that will dry out leaves) in bags with samples.**