

Soil, Plant, and Water Analysis Laboratory
 Stephen F. Austin State University
 P.O. BOX 13025
 Nacogdoches, TX 75962
 936-468-4500

Sample Form Forage/Plant Tissue 2025



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SEE PROPER SAMPLING TECHNIQUES ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET

LAB ID (do not use)	Your Sample Name	Test	Forage	Type of Sample	Indicate maturity, days since last cutting / fertilization, special problems, deficiency symptoms, etc.	Livestock Being Fed this Forage:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Regular forage <input type="checkbox"/> Complete for. <input type="checkbox"/> Nitrates <input type="checkbox"/> Prussic acid <input type="checkbox"/> Plant tissue <input type="checkbox"/> Protein Only Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Alfalfa <input type="checkbox"/> Bahia <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal <input type="checkbox"/> Comm. Berm. Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresh Cut <input type="checkbox"/> Hay <input type="checkbox"/> Haylage <input type="checkbox"/> Silage <input type="checkbox"/> Plant tissue Other: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Beef <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy <input type="checkbox"/> Horse <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep/Goat Other: _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Nitrates <input type="checkbox"/> Prussic acid <input type="checkbox"/> Plant tissue <input type="checkbox"/> Protein Only Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Alfalfa <input type="checkbox"/> Bahia <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal <input type="checkbox"/> Com. Berm. Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresh Cut <input type="checkbox"/> Hay <input type="checkbox"/> Haylage <input type="checkbox"/> Silage <input type="checkbox"/> Plant tissue Other: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Beef <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy <input type="checkbox"/> Horse <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep/Goat Other: _____
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PROCEDURE FOR TAKING FORAGE SAMPLES

Forage or leaf tissue tests can be only as accurate as the samples on which they are made. Proper collection of forage or leaf tissue samples is extremely important. Chemical tests on poorly taken samples may actually be misleading.

1. **Sample different lots of hay separately.** Kind of hay, time of cutting, fertilizer rates (especially nitrogen), and weather conditions at harvest will influence nutritional values. It is more important to sample each kind of hay and each cutting than it is to sample hay that has or has not been rained on. If your different lots of hay are stored together and will be fed at the same time, then get hay from several bales from each lot and mix together to make one sample for analysis.
2. **Get hay from 10 to 12 bales per lot or cutting.** If possible, use a core sampling tool to get the sub-samples. Take the core from the end of small rectangular bales, and from the side of large round bales or other big packages. If the bale is stored in the open get your sample from far enough in the bale to avoid the spoiled outer layer.
3. **Mix the samples well** before placing in a plastic bag for mailing to the lab. If samples are wet or have a high moisture content, let them air dry in shaded area for at least 1 day before bagging and shipping. A quart size bag will hold enough hay for the laboratory analysis.
4. **If forage is collected from a pasture,** clip plants from a square foot area in about 10 different places in the pasture. These samples can be dried in the shade before mailing. About a quart sample is needed. A re-closable plastic quart size bag is ideal.
5. Sample **plant tissue** according to recommendations published in Plant Analysis Handbook by Bryson et al. (ISBN 978-1-878148-01-8) or extension publication: timing, number / location of leaves, number of plants.
6. **Mailing Instructions:** Place sample bags in a box and wrap securely. Unwrapped sample bags are often broken in the mail. Place forage sample information sheet and check or money order in an envelope inside the box of samples.

POSTAL MAILING ADDRESS:

Stephen F. Austin State University
Soil, Plant and Water Analysis Laboratory
Box 13025, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, TX 75962

UPS OR FEDEX MAILING ADDRESS:

1924 Wilson Drive, Room 122
SFASU Agriculture Building
Nacogdoches, TX 75964

LABORATORY LOCATION:

Agriculture Building, Room 122
1924 Wilson Drive, SFASU Campus

Telephone: (936) 468-4500
Fax: (936) 468-7242
sfasoilslab@sfasu.edu