

EAL PLANT LEAF SAMPLING GUIDE

Crop	Time of Year/ Growth Stage	Plant Part	No. of Leaves
Avocado	Summer Flush- Late April-May	Leaves- recently expanded, mature and healthy. Non-fruiting terminals approx. 4-5 months old	20 leaves
Banana-Sth Qld, NSW	Active growth from medium sized suckers	Strips 20cm wide from each side of midrib from the centre section of the third fully emerged leaf.	6 plants 2 per plant
Citrus	February – March in Qld – leaves are 5-7 months old.	Healthy, mature leaves from middle of non-fruiting terminals of previous spring flush	50 leaves
Coffee	Rapid Vegetative growth (Sept-Dec) or after harvesting	3 rd or 4 th pair of leaves from tip of actively growing and bearing branches	10 trees 4 per tree
Custard Apple	Late February to early March after 2 nd major flush.	Youngest mature leaf (4 th or 5 th leaf back from growing point), from non-fruiting shoots only.	20 leaves
Mango-S/E QLD	August – September	Latest mature leaves just prior to flowering	30 leaves
Macadamia	September-November, just before peak of Spring flush.	6-7 month old mature leaves from 2 nd whorl of current season's growth, from non-flushing terminals.	40 leaves
Olives	Jan.	Fully expanded basal to mid-shoot leaves.	10 trees 4 per tree
Peach and Nectarine	Mid-summer, or within 2 weeks after harvest.	Mature leaves from mid-portion of shoot, current season's terminal growth.	80 leaves
Pecan	Shell hardening to early kernel development (February in NSW)	Pairs of leaflets from midway along youngest fully expanded leaf on fruiting wood. Select leaflets from branches up to 2m above the ground.	50 leaves

Note:

1. Leaf should not be collected after recent foliar fertilizer or fungicide usage
2. Paper bags are best for leaf sample collection
3. If crop problems: collection of leaves from problem plants and comparison with leaves collected from good plants is an easy solution to locating deficiencies/ toxicities.
4. Reference: Reuter D.J. & Robinson J.B. 1986 Plant Analysis An Interpretation Manual. Inkata Press