



CROP GUIDE - Walnut

Sampling Notes

KB Item: 3505v4

Walnuts require a well-drained soil with similar climatic requirements to apples. Soil testing provides information on nutrient supply, however as trees develop deep root systems, greater emphasis should be placed on leaf test results in established orchards.

Leaf

Sampling Time: December - January.

Plant Part: Leaf with petiole.

Collect From: Terminal leaflet of basal leaves from shoots of average vigour.

Quantity per Sample: 2-3 representative leaves from each of 30 trees.

Recommended Tests: Basic Plant (BP).

Comments: Leaves should be selected from trees of the same age, cultivar, management regime and grown in the same soil type.



Soil

Sampling Time: Prior to crop establishment and annually at any time of the year, although autumn to early winter is recommended.

Core Depth: 15cm.

Collect From: From the drip zone of the trees.

Quantity per Sample: 12-20 cores.

Recommended Tests: Basic Soil (BS), Available Nitrogen (AN).

Comments: Separate samples should be taken from blocks that differ in age, cultivar types, tree performance, soil types, topography and fertiliser history.



Comments

The nitrogen and phosphorus requirement of walnuts is quite high. Deficiency will reduce tree growth, delay tree maturity and reduce production.

Boron deficiency in spring may result in poor pollination of flowers. Symptoms may appear as yellowing of new leaves or distorted shoot growth.

Soils should be free draining down to 2 metres to avoid root-rot and blight problems.

References

Reuter, D. J. and Robinson, J. B. (Eds) 1997. Plant analysis. An interpretation manual. Second edition.
Baxter, P and Jones, C. 1985. Growing fruit & nuts in New Zealand. David bateman Ltd.

Disclaimer

Normal Range levels shown as histograms in test reports relate specifically to the sampling procedure provided in this crop guide. The Normal Range levels in test reports and Comments provided in this Crop Guide are the most up to date available, but may be altered without notification. Such alterations are implemented immediately in the laboratory histogram reports. It is recommended that a consultant or crop specialist be involved with interpretations and recommendations.