



TECHNICAL NOTE

SAMPLING GUIDE FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUE TESTING

What To Test For?

A variety of methods have been developed covering pesticides with different chemical properties. For example, suites for acidic herbicides such as 2,4-D, or a dithiocarbamate suite for fungicides such as thiram or mancozeb. A list of the compounds in each suite can be found on our website. If the compound of interest is not listed in these suites please contact us.

Before you start

It's important to take a few moments to plan your sampling strategy. The accuracy of the final results are very much dependent on how well the sample is taken and how representative it is of the whole crop. Take individual or small sample quantities from separate bins and/or different parts of the bins if taking from the packhouse. If samples are to be taken from the field then follow a diagonal to diagonal transect across the orchard or sampling region.

Sample kits are available on request, please see our contact details below. The kit consists of a sample bag, analysis request form and a pre-paid return courier bag.

Size of sample

The number of units to be taken per sample will depend on the sample size as summarized below.

For Large size samples e.g. Pumpkin and squash	Take 5 units per sample
For Medium size samples e.g. Onions and Apples	Take 10-15 units per sample
For Small size samples e.g. Kiwifruit and Avocado	Take 15-20 units per sample
For Very Small size samples e.g. Berryfruit and Asparagus	Take 500g-1kg

Sampling Method

Samples should be taken with minimal handling and placed directly into a plastic bag and ends tied firmly.

The bags should be clearly labelled by writing directly onto the bag or onto a tag using a permanent marker pen. Wrap samples in bubble-wrap, or line the courier bag with bubble-wrap.

Write sample details onto the sample submission form and enclose with samples. These forms are available electronically from the website.

Send to the Laboratory

Place sample bags and the completed submission form in the courier bag provided, and courier them to Hill Laboratories as soon as possible. The address can be found in the top right hand corner of the sample submission form.

The samples can be held at 4°C for **no more than 48 hours**.

Try to avoid Friday deliveries if possible, however we do staff our sample reception area on Saturday mornings.

Contact Details

For further information about any of the above tests please contact our Client Service Managers.

FnB.CSM@hill-labs.co.nz or phone 07 857 0636.