

AVOCADO ROOT ROT (PHYTOPHTHORA CINNAMOMI)

Procedure for Avocado Root Rot Sampling

The analysis of these samples is most useful in evaluating the presence of avocado root rot when samples are collected at the times and from the root zone areas as specified below.

When To Sample

Avocado root rot thrives in the warmer months of the year. Samples should be collected in the months of May through October.

How To Sample

Take a shovel full of soil from all four sides of the tree one foot (1') inside the skirt (drip-line) of the tree to be evaluated. Make certain that the soil contains avocado feeder roots. Collect approximately 1/2 cup of feeder roots and the associated rhizosphere soil from each side. Each sample should contain two cups soil volume of feeder roots and rhizosphere soil. Place samples in a plastic zip-lock bag and keep cool (approximately 55 - 65°F). Be sure to decontaminate your hands, feet and sampling tools using a 10% rubbing alcohol solution between samples and after sampling.

Labeling, Packaging and Shipping

All phytophthora samples should be labeled with your sample description (location), crop and date sampled. Each tree or area sampled should also be identified for later reference if needed. Be sure to include your name and address. Also, your telephone number should be provided to allow the laboratory staff to contact you in the event of questions.

Samples should be kept cool (55 - 65°F), if possible. Ship fresh samples as soon as possible in a cooler or cardboard box by U.S. Mail, UPS, Greyhound, etc., or you may drop them off at one of our convenient locations listed below.

When in doubt

If you have any questions or require assistance relating to the above, please visit www.fglinc.com or call Fruit Growers Laboratory's Agronomic Services.

