

PLANT TISSUE Sampling Guidelines

CELERY

Recommended timing

Most celery in California is transplanted. The first plant tissue samples should be obtained 2-4 weeks after transplanting. This allows the transplant to become established in its new environment, and will provide a better indication of plant nutrient status. In a direct-seeded crop, plant samples may be obtained after the celery has developed 3-4 true leaves. Subsequent samples may then be taken as frequently as desired.

Sampling

Select the most recently mature stalk. Select and retain the petiole stem portion directly above the joint to 1/3 the distance to the tip. Discard the tip. Separate petiole from the leafy portion immediately. Analyze petioles for $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$, $\text{PO}_4\text{-P}$ and K and leafy portions for all other nutrients. An adequate sample size is usually obtained from 30-60 plants depending on size.

Preferred analyses

Petioles/leaflets – Test codes 1155 or 1156.

