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## PLANT TISSUE Sampling Guidelines

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### CORN

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FIELD CORN  
SILAGE CORN  
SWEET CORN

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#### Recommended timing

Corn may be sampled after it reaches 8 to 12 inches in height. It should have at least 4 fully expanded leaves (entire leaf sheath showing) visible at this point. Pre-tassel samples may be taken after the corn reaches 3 to 6 feet in height, and before the tassel becomes visible in the whorl. After the tassel emerges, just prior to silking and pollination, is usually the last recommended opportunity for sampling.

#### Sampling

Field/silage corn – When the corn is 8 to 12 inches in height, collect the entire above ground portion of 15 to 20 plants cut ½” above the soil line. For pre-tassel samples, collect the first fully developed leaf from the top (the leaf with the entire leaf sheath exposed just below the whorl). After tasseling, select whole leaf samples of the leaf opposite and just below the primary ear.

Sweet corn – For samples taken before tasseling, select the most recently mature leaf below the whorl. Separate the basal 4 to 5 inches of the midrib, and use for NO<sub>3</sub>-N, PO<sub>4</sub>-P, and K. Use the remainder of the leaf for all other nutrients. For samples taken after tasseling, select the leaf opposite and just below the primary ear. Again separate the midrib as described above.

#### Preferred analyses

Field/silage corn – Test code 1254.

Sweet corn – Test code 1254.

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