

CLIENT GUIDELINES

Field Sampling CA–LGMA Protocol

The information in this guideline is being provided to you as a resource to enable you to develop a sampling plan for your operation prior to sampling and sending your sample to PrimusLabs.com for analysis. This is not a complete procedure however, but it is based upon the requirements of California Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement protocol.

The analytical results for these samples are representative only of the actual sample sent to PrimusLabs.com (please see the Disclaimer of Warranties provided with the final approved results or on our web site – www.primuslabs.com).

General Information:

1. There are no requirements on the minimum or maximum number of acres that must be included in a sample.
2. If a field is traversed by a road, whether paved or unpaved, greater than 8 feet wide, then the field shall be treated as two separate fields and two samples must be taken.
3. All samples shall consist of 60 sub-samples, taken randomly throughout the entire plot to obtain a representative sample of the entire plot. At each of 15 spots in the field you will record the GPS coordinates (if required). After recording the coordinates, you will take 4 sub-samples within a 2 foot radius of that point. Essentially, take 1 sub-sample, turn 90° take the next sub-sample, etc. for all 4 sub-samples.
4. Each sub-sample shall consist of 10 – 15 grams (approximately 1- 2 leaves) such that the total is 600 – 900 grams (1-1/4 – 2 pounds) of the product.
5. New rubber gloves shall be used for each sample.

Sampling:

1. Put on a new pair of rubber gloves.
2. Enter the field within two to ten feet of the corner you have chosen as the start point. And proceed in a zigzag pattern through the field ensuring that the sample is representative of the entire field.
3. If required by your procedure, record the GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) coordinates.
4. Take the sub-samples as described above and place into the sample container.
5. After all sub-samples are collected, seal the sample container.
6. Ensure that each sample is properly identified.
7. Place the sample in a cooler with a sufficient number of gel ice packs to keep the sample cool, but not frozen, during transport to the laboratory. Freezing of the sample will invalidate the analysis.

Note: Use of water based ice should be avoided. However, if its use becomes necessary, double bag the sample and the ice to minimize the chance of cross-contamination.