Plant Diagnostic Clinic Ready For The 2013 Season

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URBANA, ILL.

After the extra early season last year, now we are in the midst of an extra late one. Samples have been slowly appearing this spring here at the Clinic in our 38th year of operation. The unusually cool wet weather has kept many out of the field and landscapes. The University of Illinois Plant Clinic began year-round operation in the fall of 2011, when we moved from our facility on St. Mary's Road to our new location in Jonathan Baldwin Turner Hall on the south end of the Urbana campus. With the new phone system at the U of I we actually have voice mail too. During the winter our hours are reduced, but, we resumed regular business hours, 8am-12pm and 1pm-4:30pm on Monday April 29th, 2013.

Plant Clinic services include plant and insect identification, diagnosis of disease, insect, weed and chemical injury (chemical injury on field crops only), nematode assays, and help with nutrient related problems, as well as recommendations involving these diagnoses. Microscopic examinations, laboratory culturing, virus assays, and nematode assays are some of the techniques used in the clinic. Many samples can be diagnosed within a day or two. Should culturing be necessary, isolates may not be ready to make a final reading for as much as two weeks. Nematode processing also requires about 1-2 weeks depending on the procedure. We send your final diagnoses and invoices to you through both the US mail and email. If you provide your email address on the sample form you will get your information earlier.

Please refer to our website http://web.extension.illinois.edu/plantclinic/ for additional details on sampling, sample forms, fees and services offered. If you have questions about what, where, or how to sample call us at 217-333-0519 during operational hours. Whenever submitting a sample, provide as much information as possible on the pattern of injury in the planting, the pattern on individual affected plants, and details describing how symptoms have changed over time to cause you concern.

Our fees vary depending on the procedure necessary. General diagnosis including culturing is $15, ELISA and immunostrip testing is $25, Nematode analysis for SCN or PWN is $20, Specialty Nematode testing (such as corn) is $40. Please include payment with the sample for diagnosis to be initiated. Checks should be made payable to the University of Illinois or to the Plant Clinic. Companies can setup an account, call and we will accommodate you. Call if uncertain of which test is needed or how to send a sample.

Sending a sample thru US mail or Overnight delivery service address packages to:
University of Illinois Plant Clinic
1102 S. Goodwin, S-417 Turner Hall
Urbana, IL 61801

Drop off a sample:

You can also drop off a sample at S-417 Turner Hall. Park in the metered lot F 28 on the east side of Turner or at the ACES library metered lot on the west side of Turner. Come in the South door. Take the elevator located in the SE corner of the building. Turn left when exiting the elevator; we are located along the SE corridor of the 4th floor. Please use the green drop box located just outside S-417 if we are temporarily out of the office.

Social Media:

We have a lot of ways to keep you up to date on what is happening at the Plant Clinic and about other plant and pest issues. Follow the U of I Plant Clinic on Facebook, http://www.facebook.com/UofIPlantClinic or, follow U of I Plant Clinic's Stephanie Porter on Twitter: http://twitter.com/skporter or, check out our Illini Plant and Pest podcasts http://web.extension.illinois.edu/podcasts/plantandpest/ or, follow the U of I Plant Clinic on Blogger http://universityofillinoisplantclinic.blogspot.com Δ

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One of the Diagnostic labs at the University of Illinois Plant Clinic