

Sample Collection Instructions Compost Tea

Please read all the instructions before you begin.

Timing

AgPath cannot guarantee timely analysis for samples arriving just prior to weekends or public holidays.

- Samples should be collected and sent by Express Post or overnight courier between Monday and Wednesday.
- Do not send on a Thursday, Friday.
- Allow at least two days prior to a Victorian public holiday. This allows for samples to processed as soon as they are received. We must receive samples within 3 days to do Active Bacteria and Active Fungi assays.
- Report will be issued within 10 business days from receipt of sample. Payment must be received before report will be released.

Important

• If water moulds are suspected eg *Phytophthora* or *Pythium* or *Phytopythium*, then <u>DO NOT</u> refrigerate.

Instructions

- 1. Download **Compost Tea Sample Submission Form** from <u>agpath.com.au/submission-forms</u>. The form can be completed electronically or printed and handwritten.
- 2. Ensure tea is well aerated.
- 3. Take several small samples and mix them together in a separate container.
- 4. Mark a clean 1L plastic bottle (a water bottle is recommended) with your Sample ID and record it on the submission form.
- 5. Fill the bottle to approximately 500mL (½ tea and ½ air). This allows oxygen for microbes during transportation.
- 6. Record temperature and dissolved oxygen readings, also record how it smells.
- 7. Complete the sample information on the Submission Form with as many details as possible.
- 8. Pack your samples for transport. Ensure you include a completed Client Details form along with your Sample Submission Form.