

RISCover[®] Sampling



This leaflet explains how, and when to take a sample of a nutrient solution from hydroponic growing system. RISCover[®] is the tool to monitor plant diseases during the season. The way samples are taken, is of great importance in the interpretation of the results.

1. Preparation

- ❑ make the decision how many samples should be taken from the cultivated area. Main factors are:
 - method of fertilization, the number is related to the number of fertilizer tanks/valves
 - number of crops, substrates or greenhouse compartments
- ❑ have this number of bottles ready for collecting the sample
- ❑ we require 150 ml of nutrient solutions per sample in the Blgg new green bottles (they are sterile).
- ❑ use a *sterile* water sampler and latex gloves.

2a. How? – from the slab/substrate


- ❑ RISCover[®] samples should be taken near to the roots, where root exudates can be present. Here the eventual fungi nourishes.
 - ❑ Preferably don't sample from the drain put.
 - ❑ make sure that the sample represents the whole greenhouse. 
- The number of sub-samples should be a minimum of 40 places, 5 ml per sub-sample (best done by selecting 8 rows, with each row 5 pick up points).



Fig. 1 RISCover[®] Sampling



Fig. 2. Sampler, but wear gloves

- ❑ Regular sampling should always be done in the same way/from the same location.
- ❑ dispatch sampling syringes normally with the garbage, carefully wrapped

2b. How? – from the roots

- ❑ If the substrate is too dry to take a SLAB sample, sample the roots, e.g. in coir fibre or perlite.



- ❑ Wear sterile gloves.
- ❑ Sample in a special bottle (see photo).
- ❑ Use a disinfected pincet (with alcohol).
- ❑ Collect 20, 2 cm-pieces of root.
- ❑ Fill up the bottle with TAP water
- ❑ label the samples as ROOTS.



Sampling bottles

- ❑ do not take samples in areas where the crop differs from the general view, unless it is to discover growing problems.
- ❑ store the sample in a cool place (4°C) until the moment they are sent.

3. When?

- ❑ take the samples when the plants have had already some irrigations
- ❑ take samples between two irrigations, fix the time of sampling at e.g. 11 o'clock, when plants are most active.
- ❑ take new samples at the same time of the day as the previous samples.



Important

The way the sample is taken, in combination with the information that is presented with the sample, Blgg laboratory advisors are able to prepare the advice. Please indicate if plant disease symptoms occur.



Shipping



Samples can be sent to Blgg. We recommend to use a courier and the sampling bottle wrapped in cooling pads or use a cooling element. Ship samples directly after sampling.

Correct sampling is crucial for your crops and:

Blgg laboratories
Zuidweg 42
2671 MN Naaldwijk
The Netherlands

T: +31-174626624
F: +31-174620065
E: GJK@blgg.nl
I: www.blgg.com