

**Plant Pathology**  
**Extension Plant Disease Clinic**  
 Bldg 78 Mowry Rd / PO Box 110830  
 Gainesville, FL 32611-0830  
 Carrie L. Harmon, Plant Pathologist  
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 Phone (352) 392-1795  
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Clinic Staff Only:  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PDC #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 pmt: \_\_\_\_\_

**Plant Disease Diagnosis Form (#2901)**

**Please Print-** fill in **ALL** relevant data; maintain office copy; submit original copy with specimen. See reverse side for submission instructions.

<b>Submitter Information:</b>	<b>Check all that apply:</b>	<b>Client Information:</b>
Name or reference ID: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Commercial</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Company: _____	(grower, consultant, pest control)	_____
Address: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Homeowner</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
City/Zip: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>UF Extension or</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Phone No. _____	<u>Research</u>	_____
Fax No.: _____		_____
Email: _____		_____

<b>Information requested:</b> (Check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Problem ID</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Control Recommendations</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Preliminary Report</b> (email only)
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Preferred contact method	Choose one:	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mail reply to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fax reply to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Email reply to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bill to:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Submitter</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Submitter</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Submitter</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Submitter</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Client</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Client</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Client</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Client</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>PAID -check enclosed</b>	<b>\$30 per sample, make check to        University of Florida - FEPDC</b>
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County of Sample Origin: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Sample Taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Sent to Lab: \_\_\_\_\_

**Plant and Site Information**

**Plant & Variety/Cultivar:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Planting Type:**  Field  Interior  Forest  Garden  Grove/Orchard  Landscape  Nursery  Greenhouse  Other:

**Exposure:**  Full sun  Partial shade  Full shade  Windy  Protected Irrigation frequency \_\_\_\_\_

**Recent construction activities:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recently Applied Chemicals:**  Pesticide  Fertilizer What/When applied: \_\_\_\_\_

**Soil type:**  Sandy  Clay  Silt  Loam  Organic Soil pH \_\_\_\_\_ (acid/basic)

**Size of planting:** \_\_\_\_\_ **% Plants Affected:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date symptoms first noticed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**General Plant Appearance:**  wilted  spotted  yellowed  abnormal growth  stunted  mosaic  other:

**Prevalence:**  Entire Planting  Localized Area  Scattered Area **Degree of Damage:**  Heavy  Medium  Light

**Describe the problem. Include symptoms, plant parts affected, pattern of occurrence, etc. Attach separate sheets if necessary.**

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The Florida Extension Plant Disease Clinic (FEPDC) is a service provided to any Florida resident by the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), University of Florida in conjunction with the Cooperative Extension Service. The FEPDC is open from 8:00am-5:00pm Monday-Friday (except state holidays) and is located on the University of Florida campus at Gainesville. Submit sample and payment payable to:

University of Florida-FEPDC  
78 Mowry Road  
PO Box 110830  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0830

Phone (352) 392-1795  
Fax (352) 392-3438  
email [pdcc@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:pdcc@ifas.ufl.edu)  
website: <http://plantpath.ifas.ufl.edu/pdc/>

### **\$30.00 PER SAMPLE**

The primary role of the FEPDC is to determine if the plant dysfunction involves an infectious causal agent, e.g. fungus, bacterium or virus. This is done by associating causal agents with symptomatic plant tissue.

It is the FEPDC policy that:

- 1) All plant samples should originate within the geographical boundaries of the continental US; the PDC cannot accept international samples at this time.
- 2) Plant samples must be adequate in the quality and quantity with a completed Plant Disease Diagnostic Form (#2901) or equivalent information. Obtaining the appropriate sample before submission will save both time and shipping expense. NOTE: FEPDC staff reserve the right to immediately discard any sample not meeting the submission criteria listed below.
- 3) Samples can be submitted to the FEPDC in either the following manners:  
Mail or deliver samples directly from the grower (e.g. homeowner, farmer, nursery, etc.) to the FEPDC. Samples must be accompanied by payment to ensure timely release of disease determinations and recommendations. Clientele can arrange for monthly invoicing by contacting FEPDC staff. Sample charges may vary based on tests performed.
- 4) Samples are processed on a first come, first served basis in most cases, with priority given to commercial and regulatory samples.
- 5) Plant disease determinations and associated control options are emailed, faxed, or direct mailed to the person(s) specified on the form. If none are indicated, the submitter &/or person who pays for the sample will receive the results. Results of these samples can be electronically sent to the county faculty in the county of sample origin to keep them informed of plant disease problems in their county of responsibility. No recommendations will be sent without complete identification and crop situation.

#### **GENERAL SAMPLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- 1) Submit generous amounts of plant material representing a range of symptoms.
- 2) Do not add water or pack a sample that is wet.
- 3) Keep samples refrigerated after collection until they are submitted. After collecting good samples, do not ruin them by allowing them to bake in the sun or on the back seat of a car prior to submission.
- 4) Do not mix samples in the same submission bag. Moisture from root samples will contribute to the decay of foliage samples if they are mixed together.
- 5) Plant disease identification procedures do not utilize soil or water. Excess soil can be hand shaken from root systems but leave enough soil to keep roots at field moisture levels.
- 6) Please mark sample packages with "Warning" if sample has thorns or spines.
- 7) All samples must be accompanied with a completed Plant Disease Diagnostic Form. These are available at all county extension offices and online on our website. Give complete information on the form and **KEEP THE FORM SEPARATE FROM THE SAMPLE**. Limit sample information to one (1) sample per form. You are encouraged to include any other pertinent information in addition to that on the form.
- 8) Remember to note recent pesticide history on the Plant Disease Diagnostic Form accompanying the sample (last three weeks).
- 9) Samples arriving from sites in Florida that are 2 days or less mailing time from Gainesville can be sealed in plastic bags for shipping.
- 10) Samples arriving from distances greater than 2 days mailing time from Gainesville should be packed tightly in a box with dry paper. Do not seal in plastic because the likelihood of sample deterioration during the mailing period. Do not add moisture.
- 11) Mail samples early in the week to avoid the weekend layover in the post office. Avoid shipping samples so they arrive on Fridays or Mondays as this will delay the processing of your sample.
- 12) For emergency samples, use overnight courier services or US Overnight mail.
- 13) See guidelines for specific types of plant dysfunction on our website (Plant Sample Submission and Diagnoses RFSR007).
- 14) A list of the types of diagnostic procedures the PDC staff can perform and their associated prices can be found on the PDC website.

#### **SERVICES NOT PROVIDED**

Presently, the FEPDC does not routinely provide the following service to clientele:

- 1) Pesticide residue determinations in or on plants and soil.
- 2) Soil nutrient levels, soluble salts, or plant tissue analysis for macro or minor elements.
- 3) Speciation on all pathogens isolated from plant disease samples.
- 4) Microbe identification from non-plant samples.
- 5) Toxic plant identifications and mycotoxin analysis.

#### **SERVICES PROVIDED UPON SPECIAL REQUEST**

The following procedures are available upon specific request and only after discussion with FEPDC staff. These procedures are both time-consuming and more costly than normal sample charge

- 1) Pathogen determinations from water sources.
- 2) Pathogen determinations from soil or growing media by baiting or culturing methods.
- 3) Laboratory verification of the phytoplasma responsible for lethal yellowing disease of palms by DNA hybridization and PCR methods.
- 4) Accurate diagnosis of the subspecies of fungus responsible for Fusarium wilt of Phoenix palms (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *canariensis*) by PCR methods and the fungus species of *Phytophthora ramorum* (Sudden Oak Death) by PCR methods.