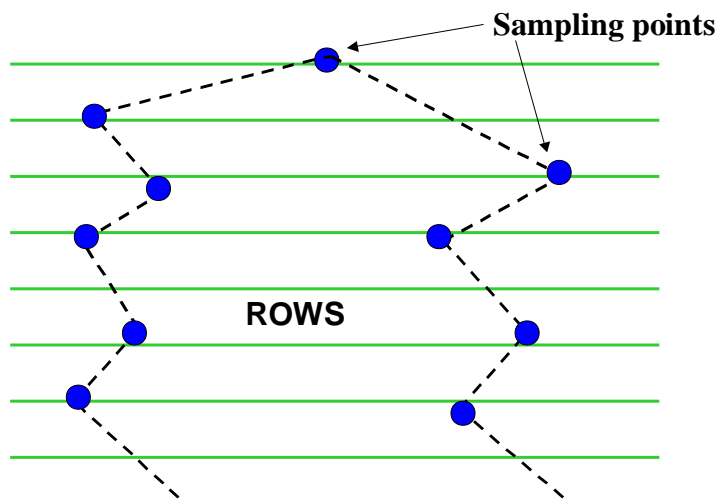


Technical Note

Potato Tuber Sampling Protocol

General notes

In designing your sampling plan, try to select tubers of the same variety and rootstock along the sampling path whilst excluding diseased or otherwise abnormal tubers. Do not sample fields within 3-5 days after being sprayed with pesticides or foliar nutrients. A typical random sampling pattern is shown below:



Sampling instructions:

(a) For field sampled tubers

Send tubers as early as possible with a target weight of between 30-50g per tuber though this will vary with variety. For each individual sample, select 20 plants along the sampling path and take two tubers per plant to give a total of around 40 tubers. Remove any soil particulates by washing in water and blot dry with a paper towel. Place in a sample bag, label the bag and submit these for chemical analysis. The contents of the bag represent a single sample.

Each individual sample should contain around 40 tubers with a weight range of between 30-50g per tuber. This will reduce proportionately to a maximum of 20 for fully mature tubers.

(b) For other investigative applications (e.g. breakdown in storage etc)

The laboratory requires at least 100g fresh weight for each individual sample. This can be in the form of single or multiple tubers.

Note –The sampling and analysis of individual tubers may lead to some variability, as they may not be fully representative of the collection being investigated.

For all applications, the characterisation and measurement of elemental levels of N, S, P, K, Ca, Mg, Cu, Zn, Mn, Fe, B, Na, Mo can determined and reported on a fresh weight basis (usually mg/100g) using established laboratory techniques. Please contact the laboratory for further details.

For further information contact Phosyn Analytical or your local agronomist or consultant.

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