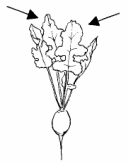
Crop Guide KB Item 3499v6

Swede

Sampling Notes

The nutritional status of this vegetable crop is monitored using soil tests and plant analysis. Monitoring regularly is important to help sustain optimum levels and avoid nutritional disorders. If disorders do occur, rapid diagnosis is necessary to assist correction.

Leaf



Sampling Time: Bulb development to when bulb is half grown.

Plant Part Youngest mature leaf.

Collect From: -

Quantity per Sample: 20 - 30 leaves.

Recommended Tests: Basic Plant (BP), Molybdenum (Mo).

Comments: To help diagnose an obvious problem, leaves showing the first signs of any deficiency should be collected as soon as abnormalities appear.
If sampling outside the normal sampling time it is useful to take a second sample of similar, healthy leaves from nearby unaffected plants for analysis as a comparative standard.

Soil

Sampling Time: Prior to crop establishment.

Core Depth 15cm.

Collect From: Randomly throughout the area to be planted.

Quantity per Sample: 12 - 20 cores.

Recommended Tests: Basic Soil (BS), Sulphur profile (S), Available Nitrogen (AN), Boron (B)

Comments: If a problem is suspected during the growing season, then a sample should be taken from the rooting zone immediately adjacent to the plant. Collecting a second sample from an unaffected area may help identify the cause of the problem.

Comments

Swedes have a lower fertility requirement than other brassica crops.

They are susceptible to boron deficiency, which manifests itself as multiple crowns and brown hearts.
Nitrogen deficiency will appear as a purple pink coloration in the foliage. This symptom can also be induced by other factors, such as cold weather, root damage from nematodes, drought stress and water logging.

Swedes are also prone to deficiencies of phosphorus, sulphur, potassium, copper and molybdenum.

Results for copper, zinc and manganese in leaves sprayed with fungicides will not be reliable due to adhering spray residues on the leaves.

Iron deficiency symptoms may exist even when leaf levels appear satisfactory. This may be due to the presence of physiologically inactive forms of iron within the tissue. Also, soil contamination of leaves growing near the ground may elevate total iron results.

References

Fertiliser recommendation for horticultural crops. HortResearch HortNET, 1997.

Blackmore, L.C; Searle, P.L and Daly, B.K. 1987. Methods for chemical analysis of soils. NZ Soil Bureau Scientific Report 80. NZ Soil Bureau, DSIR.

Weir, R.G. and Cresswell, G.C. 1995. Plant nutrient disorders 3. Vegetable crops. Inkata Press.

Scaife, A. and Turner, M. 1983. Diagnosis of mineral disorders in plants. Volume 2, Vegetables. MAFF/ARC London.

Disclaimer

Normal Range levels shown as histograms in test reports relate specifically to the sampling procedure provided in this crop guide. The Normal Range levels in test reports and Comments provided in this Crop Guide are the most up to date available, but may be altered without notification. Such alterations are implemented immediately in the laboratory histogram reports. It is recommended that a consultant or crop specialist be involved with interpretations and recommendations.