

Cymbidium

Sampling Notes

Also known as Orchid. The nutritional status of this flower 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: Not specified.

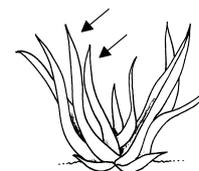
Plant Part: Recently matured 5th or 6th leaves, cut at the base of the leaves.

Collect From: -

Quantity per Sample: 20-30 leaves.

Recommended Tests: Basic Plant (BP).

Comments: Remove any white, hard tissue from the very base of the leaves. The sample should consist of green tissue only.



Media

Sampling Time: Prior to crop establishment.

Plant Part: 2-20cm.

Collect From: From the root zone of the plants.

Quantity per Sample: 0.5-1 litre.

Recommended Tests: Basic Media (BM).

Comments: Orchids are usually grown in coarse, relatively inert potting media, and are therefore grown essentially by hydroponics.

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.



Soil

Sampling Time: Prior to crop establishment.

Core Depth: 15cm.

Collect From: From the root zone of the plants.

Quantity per Sample: 12 - 20 cores.

Recommended Tests: Basic Soil (BS).

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

Most orchids are grown in soil-less media, usually with good drainage characteristics.

The normal range leaf levels are based on samples analysed by MAF during 1979 and 1980, with slight modifications based on data obtained through this laboratory.

References

Dorofaeff, F.D. 1980. Orchids cymbidiums: Nutrient testing of leaves. Horticultural Produce & Practice 193. MAF (NZ).

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.
