

## SAP sampling procedure

To enable sampling to be as accurate, reliable and efficient as possible it is important to follow some simple steps to maximise value.

It is very important to conduct sampling early in the week to ensure adequate time for freight to the lab – we strongly suggest that this be done on MONDAY or TUESDAY so that samples arrive mid to late week at the lab. This will avoid samples being caught in the post over weekend.

EXPRESS AIR FREIGHT is preferred.

### Collection procedure

1. Locate the desired area you wish to sample, typically a representative area of the paddock is preferred. Keep in mind soil types, known problem areas or different fertiliser rates.
2. Within this area follow a repeatable transect that you are happy with and can replicate.
3. At the first point cut the plant at the base just above the soil line (ensure no contamination with soil). Continue this for five consecutive plants within the row. Then move along your transect and collect another five consecutive plants. DO NOT TARGET very good or poor growth - keep sampling at random so as to not unduly influence the results.
4. Collect plant parts as such:
  - Early tiller to first node on main stem – collect all above ground material.
  - Post first node on mainstem – only collect the bottom 10 cm of the plant (i.e. cut the tops off).
5. Collect enough plant material to fill a medium sized zip lock bag (50-100 plants).
6. Mark, GPS or define landmarks so that the same location can be targeted next time.

**Benefits of SAP testing**  
Testing of plant stem nutrient levels provides a quick accurate assessment of the crops current nutritional status, allowing identification of yield limiting nutrient factors before visual deficiency symptoms appear. SAP testing has a faster turnaround time than leaf tests, allowing for a more timely and accurate decision making process.

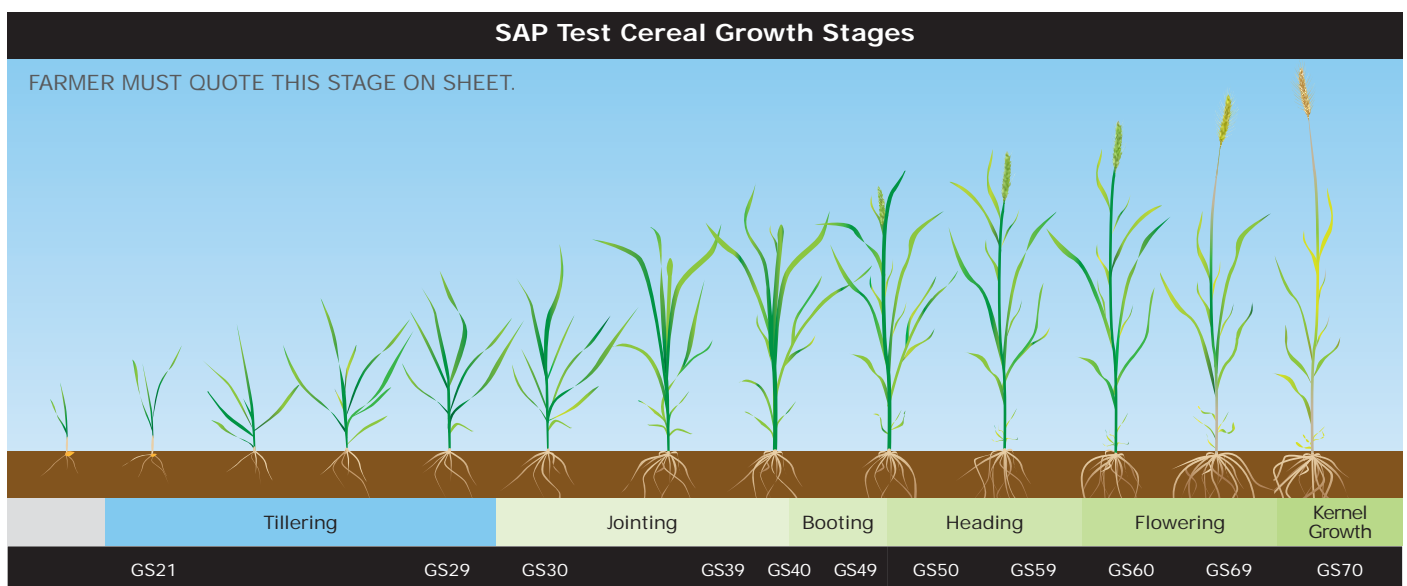
### Equipment required:

- ✓ Zip lock plastic bags.
- ✓ Permanent pen.
- ✓ Scissors.
- ✓ Stanley knife.
- ✓ GPS (optional) to mark sample location.
- ✓ Rubber gloves (prevents contamination of sample).
- ✗ Do not use paper bags.

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7. Try to collect samples mid morning if possible. If repeating a sample in the same paddock try to do so under similar circumstances as the previous sample. Avoid sampling if it is raining.
8. Label sample bags in permanent marker with the following details:
  - Business Name, Farm, Paddock, Date, Crop type, Growth stage.
9. Growth stage is important. It is critical to the lab and to enable accurate interpretation of data. See Figure 1 for correct labelling of growth stage for SAP samples.
10. Fill out a submission form with applicable details.
11. The standard test desired by BioNutrient Solutions is FSAP. Please tick the box in the TEST REQUIRED column of the SUBMISSION FORM supplied with this sampling information sheet.
12. Send Sample to:  
Australian Perry Agriculture Laboratory,  
489 The Parade,  
PO Box 327,  
Magill, S.A. 5072.

Figure 1



**Sampling:** From crop stage 1.3 - 2.6 whole plants to be collected. From stage 2.6 onwards the bottom 100mm of each plant should be collected only. 50-100 plants per sample.

