How to Submit Samples

Commercial Growers: If you suspect downy mildew, please have it confirmed either through Dr. Mary Hausbeck’s Lab or through Dr. Jan Byrne at MSU Diagnostic Services. To better understand this downy mildew, Dr. Hausbeck’s Lab is collecting suspected downy mildew infected plants for laboratory confirmation. If a sample cannot be sent to the Lab, please call and perhaps arrangements can be arranged to facilitate sending it to us or picking it up.

Homeowners: If you suspect downy mildew in your cucumbers, watermelon, or cantaloupe, please send an electronic picture to a Michigan State University Extension Agent (see list below) so that we can determine whether the problem is likely to be downy mildew. If the sample resembles downy mildew and your county has not yet has had a documented downy mildew occurrence, we will arrange to receive the sample for laboratory confirmation. If your cucumber, watermelon, or cantaloupe has a disease that is not likely to be downy mildew, please submit your sample to Dr. Jan Byrne at MSU Diagnostics Services (see website below for information and fees).

Vegetable Extension Educators:
Ron Goldy (goldy@msu.edu), Southwest Michigan Research & Extension Center, Berrien County
Hal Hudson (hudsonh@msu.edu), Tuscola County
Terry McLean (mclean@mcsu.edu), Genesee County
Ben Phillips (phill406@msu.edu), Saginaw County
Fred Springborn (springb2@msu.edu), Montcalm County
Ben Werling (werlingb@msu.edu), Kent, Mason, Muskegon, Newago, Oceana, Ottawa Counties

- Prepare the sample: Gather at least 4-5 diseased leaves and enclose them in a ziplock plastic bag. Place in a padded envelope, box, etc.
- Include information: name, phone number, address, crop. If sending to MSU Diagnostic Services, include information on a submittal form and see website for fees (forms and fees are available at http://www.pestid.msu.edu/).
- Send the sample: Deliver in person or by a priority/express delivery service. Do not ship samples on a Friday, as the labs are closed over the weekend.

Dr. Mary Hausbeck’s Lab
(517) 355-4576
612 Wilson Road, 140 Plant Biology Lab
East Lansing, MI 48824
Dr. Hausbeck’s webpage can be found at the website below:
http://www.veggies.msu.edu/

Dr. Jan Byrne
MSU Diagnostic Services
(517) 355-3504
578 Wilson Road, 101 Center for Integrated Plant Systems
East Lansing, MI 48824
http://www.pestid.msu.edu/
NOTE: see website for information, forms and fees