

HLB Laboratory:

Procedure for Sampling and Shipping Plant Material

Please follow the instructions below to submit citrus samples to be screened for the presence of *Candidatus Liberobacter asiaticus*, the causal agent of HLB.

1. Collect *leaves with stems intact* from live branches with fully expanded leaves. Samples should be collected from symptomatic branches if present.
2. Submit a *minimum of 10 leaves*. Please do not submit fruit samples.
3. Place the sample into a re-sealable plastic bag (e.g., Zip-lock), squeeze the air from the bag and seal it.
4. Assign and record on the bag a *unique sample identification number* (Grower's sample ID).
5. Complete a corresponding **HLB Sample Submission Form**. Forms are available here. Please make sure the Sample Submission Form is complete, providing the exact sample location. We will not process samples lacking sample location and/or client information.
6. Place the form and the bagged sample into a second resealable bag. *Keep samples cool* (on ice) until shipment. Do not freeze the samples.
7. Samples should be *submitted in person* or *shipped overnight* either on the day collected or before noon the following day (samples will deteriorate if delayed in transit).

Please submit samples *Monday through Thursday* only to: HLB Lab
2685 SR 29 N
Immokalee, FL 34142
Phone: 239-658-3400
obatuman@ufl.edu

Additional Information

Sampling Procedure

Additional, detailed information about sampling procedures can be [found here](#).

Sample Results

Results will be submitted to the client in a timely manner. Results will be reported as positive, negative or inconclusive:

- A positive result indicates the presence of *Candidatus Liberobacter asiaticus* in the sample under our testing conditions.
- A negative result indicates that *Candidatus Liberobacter asiaticus* was NOT DETECTED in the sample under our testing conditions, but does not unequivocally indicate that the sample is free of *Candidatus Liberobacter asiaticus*. If an HLB sample result is negative, resubmission at a later time should be considered.
- An inconclusive result indicates that another sample should be resubmitted and retested.