

# HOW TO TAKE SAMPLES | KVH SAMPLING GUIDE



Because every situation is different and sampling can be complex, always contact KVH first - you can make a report and upload photos online at [kvh.org.nz](https://kvh.org.nz). We'll assess what you're seeing, direct the right sampling approach, and might be able to cover the testing costs. Together, we can stop the spread of biosecurity risks and safeguard our orchards.

## STEP 1: CHECK

Before you collect your sample, contact KVH. You can make an online report anytime at [kvh.org.nz](https://kvh.org.nz) or contact the team at [info@kvh.org.nz](mailto:info@kvh.org.nz) or 0800 665 825.

We'll talk through what you're seeing and confirm whether sampling or testing are needed and organise any movement permissions required.

Have photos and background information ready to share, like cultivar; vine age; symptom distribution; and details about recent spraying or challenging weather conditions.

## TRUNK & GRAFT SAMPLES

For trunk, graft union, or vine base symptoms, collect tissue that includes both healthy and affected wood. This is the most common and useful sample type.

For root symptoms, collect infected roots with some healthy tissue included. Avoid very rotten roots and include soil where advised.

## POTENTIALLY PSA?

There remain orchards and regions free from PsA. If you suspect new spread of the disease the same checking, collecting, and couriering advice applies.

Fill in the applicable PsA submission form at [kvh.org.nz](https://kvh.org.nz) and send your sample away. KVH covers the cost of testing from the South Island, and from "Not Detected" orchards in the North Island. Other cases may be approved individually.

## STEP 2: COLLECT

Collect your sample in dry conditions. Wear disposable gloves and avoid touching plant material with bare hands.

Trunk, cane, and root samples should include tissue at the interface between diseased and healthy tissue. Don't collect samples from completely dead plants.

Record the KPIN, collection date, block, row, and bay position on your sample bag or container. Use a clean new bag for each sample.

## NURSERY & SOIL SAMPLES

For nursery samples, follow KVH advice after contacting us. Small seedlings may be sent whole.

Larger plants may require targeted samples instead. Avoid dead or severely rotted material.

For soil samples, collect up to one litre from around affected vines. Roots can be included if present.

## DIFFERENT LABS SPECIALISE IN DIFFERENT TYPES OF SAMPLE TESTING AND KVH WILL GUIDE YOU AS TO WHICH TO USE

**Plant Diagnostics** — Plants, roots, soil

[SUBMISSION FORM HERE →](#)

**MPI Plant Health Lab (PHEL)** — Plants, roots, soil

[SUBMISSION FORM HERE →](#)

**Hill Laboratories** — Plants, leaves, PsA testing

[SUBMISSION FORM HERE →](#)

## STEP 3: COURIER

Complete the lab form recording details of all samples collected. Double bag your samples and pack them in a transport bag or box, with the completed lab form.

Courier them the same day if possible and preferably early in the week or refrigerate - do not freeze.

If multiple specimens are being sent, ensure each one is clearly labelled, and keep tracking records. Maintain tool hygiene and apply wound protectants to cut surfaces.

## SAMPLING IS QUICK & SIMPLE

Although sampling isn't one-size-fits-all, this is a guide to what you're likely to be asked to do for each type of sample.

See visual examples of how to take different types of samples in our video, available at [kvh.org.nz](https://kvh.org.nz) and on our YouTube channel.

[▶ WATCH OUR SAMPLING VIDEO](#)

## MOVEMENT PERMISSION APPLICATIONS

[DOWNLOAD FORM HERE →](#)