RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

PLANT IDENTIFICATION SUBMISSION FORM

Plant Diagnostic Laboratory
Rutgers NJAES
PO Box 550
Milltown, NJ 08850-0550
www.njaes.rutgers.edu/services

Submitter _____
Address _____
_____
Zip _____ County _____
Phone # _____
Fax # _____
E-mail _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT:
☐ Bill me (commercial clients only)
☐ Cash ☐ Check or Money Order
☐ Credit Card
Credit Card No. ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard
Exp. Date ☐☐-☐☐ Zip Code _____
Signature:

Office Use Only
Lab # _____
Date _____
Received by _____
Chk# _____
Amt.

Descriptive Information - Your help in completing these items will aid laboratory staff in identification.

Plant Location (circle as many as appropriate):

(a) cropland (b) park (c) nursery (d) suburb (e) urban (f) road side (g) golf course (h) home landscape

(i) dry site (j) wet site (k) level area (l) slope (m) full sun (n) partial shade (o) deep shade (p) industrial landscape

Other: _____

Plant Description (circle as many as appropriate):

(a) tree (b) shrub (c) vine (d) herb (e) evergreen (f) deciduous (g) annual (h) perennial (i) native plant (j) introduced plant

Leaf Arrangement on Branch: (a) opposite (b) alternate (c) compound (d) simple

Flowers: Season or month in flower _____ **Fruit/Seed:** Season or month produced _____

Color: _____ Description: _____

Other description: _____ _____

Do You Need Other Information or Control/Removal Recommendations for This Plant? (a) Yes (b) No

Please specify _____

Agent/Submitter tentative identification _____

HOW TO SELECT AND SEND SPECIMENS FOR PLANT IDENTIFICATION TO THE RUTGERS PLANT DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

I. SAMPLING:

The ideal plant sample consists of the entire plant in flower or bearing seeds or fruit. Most plant taxonomic keys use flower and fruit characteristics for plant classification. The minimum sample for a woody plant consists of a shoot (twig), representing at least 2 years growth, preferably with leaves attached. The entire plant, including roots, is required for many herbaceous plants. Detached leaves are seldom adequate for identification.

The experienced plant taxonomist can often identify a plant at least to family or genus level from an incomplete sample. However, a reliable species level identification, when possible, requires a complete sample.

II. PACKING/SHIPPING:

a) Remove excess water or dew from the sample. Press the material between dry toweling or newspaper. **DO NOT** wrap plant material in plastic or seal in a plastic bag. Wrap each specimen separately.

b) Select a strong container, such as a corrugated box or mailing tube, that will not crush in transit.

c) Mail samples early in the week. Samples mailed on Thursday or Friday generally remain in the post office over the weekend where high temperatures can stimulate decay.

d) Complete and enclose this sample submission form and the **appropriate payment (see below) for each sample to be analyzed.** Make checks or money orders payable to **Rutgers, The State University.** See reverse for credit card payment. (Fees are subject to change.)

III. PAYMENT: All fees are per sample.

In-state.....$40
Out-of-state.....$95

IV. MAILING ADDRESS: Be sure to use appropriate address to help ensure timely delivery.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE only:
Plant Diagnostic Laboratory
Rutgers NJAES
PO Box 550
Milltown, NJ 08850-0550

Physical address for
OTHER DELIVERY SERVICES only:
Plant Diagnostic Laboratory
Rutgers NJAES
Ralph Geiger Turfgrass Education Center
20 Indyk-Engel Way
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. 062408