

Dahlia Virus Testing Instructions - 2017

Our ADS dahlia virus expert, Prof. Hanu Pappu at Washington State University, will again test the dahlias in our gardens for virus this year. The cost of the testing is being highly subsidized, again, by Jim Chuey through the Scheetz-Chuey Foundation. Your 2017 samples will fall into two categories that can be in the same box, but must be identified separately:

- 1) Plants grown from 2016 G1 tubers and
- 2) Other plants submitted in groups of 30 or more to be tested at \$10 each.

A separate submission form is required for each group. Please note that the submission forms are different for the two categories.

A portion of the sample preparation procedure at WSU has been automated; nevertheless please allow 2 weeks to receive the analysis results.

G1 Plants

G1 plants are those plants being grown from tubers that were harvested from plants that were tested in 2016 and found to be free of virus. Tubers and plants grown from those G1 tubers were available in a number of plant sales and auctions around the country. The G1 products should have been accompanied by an information form providing the identification of the parent dahlias. That parent identification is an essential part of the free testing effort and must be supplied with the samples to qualify for free testing. You must supply the name of the person who submitted the set of samples in 2016, the name of the cultivar tested, and, whenever possible, the 2016 sample number provided by the person who submitted the sample.

Please coordinate your sample gathering with your colleagues or your local society to achieve the minimum sample order size of 30 samples. That will facilitate the testing process at Professor Pappu's laboratory.

Samples from each plant should consist of about 15 sq. in. of leaf material and should not include the oldest leaves at the bottom of the plant. Pack samples individually in an **unsealed** Zip-Loc® bag along with a dry piece of paper towel and a sample tag printed from the "tag" file available [here](#).

The package of samples must reach Dr. Pappu's lab within 2 or 3 days of removal from your plants. Keep the samples in your refrigerator (not freezer) if you can't send them on the day you cut them.

Download and complete the *G1 Sample Submission Form* ([.docx](#) [.pdf](#)). Use multiple sheets as appropriate and continue the sample numbering on subsequent sheets. **All the fields in the table must be completed to qualify for free testing.**

Please help us as we try to improve our understanding of the relationships between viruses and the appearance of the foliage of our dahlias. Enter one of the following ratings for each of the samples you send for analysis: A for uniformly dark green foliage; B for subtle signs of yellowing along the veins in the leaves; C for some yellowing of the leaves away from the veins; D for yellow or brown spots or pattern on the leaves; or F for clear signs of virus like those in the brochure distributed with the 2015 June Bulletin and available [here](#) on the website.

Ship the samples, overnight or priority as appropriate, to Dr. H.R. Pappu/Y. Zhai, Department of Plant Pathology, 345 Johnson Hall, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164. Include the form with the submission and send a copy of the form to the ADS at virus-info@dahlia.org to help us keep track of the project.

All Other Plants

With the support of the Scheetz-Chuey Foundation and the cooperation of Professor Pappu, we can again provide the opportunity for all growers to send samples from their gardens to determine whether the plants have virus.

The minimum sample size is again 30 and the subsidized cost for the testing is \$10 per sample. Commercial growers or individuals with large gardens may want to submit the minimum sample order of 30 plants on their own. Clubs or groups of individuals also have the option to combine their orders to reach the minimum order of 30 plants.

Samples from each plant should consist of about 15 sq. in. of leaf material and should not include the oldest leaves at the bottom of the plant. Pack samples individually in an **unsealed** Zip-Loc® bag along with a dry piece of paper towel and a sample tag printed from the “tag” file available here ([.docx](#) [.pdf](#)).

The package of samples must reach Dr. Pappu’s lab within 2 or 3 days of removal from your plants. Keep the samples in your refrigerator (not freezer) if you can’t send them on the day you cut them.

Download and complete the *All Others Submission Form* ([.docx](#) [.pdf](#)). The minimum order size is 30 samples. For submissions greater than 40 samples, continue the sample numbering on a second sheet. **All the fields in the table must be completed to qualify for the subsidized testing rate of \$10 per sample.** Make checks payable to **WSU Clean Dahlia Center**.

Include the specific location of each plant in your garden so that you will be able to take appropriate action with that specific plant and its tubers after you get the test results.

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