

DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY | 2024
SERVICES PRICE LIST

Crop Health Services



AGRICULTURE VICTORIA



General Enquiries

Office hours: 9:00am – 5:00pm

Sample Reception

Phone: 03 9032 7323

Fax: 03 9032 7604

Email: chs.reception@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Address

AgriBio – Crop Health Services (CHS)
SAMPLE RECEPTION – MAIN LOADING DOCK
5 Ring Rd, La Trobe University Campus,
Bundoora, Victoria, 3083

Website

deeca.vic.gov.au

agriculture.vic.gov.au

Specimen Submission Forms

agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/services/diagnostic-services

Email

Email correspondence and electronic submission of request forms to: chs.reception@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Exotic Plant Pest Hotline

1800 084 881 (business hours)

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01.

GENERAL LABORATORY INFORMATION

02



1. General Laboratory Information

1.1 Quality Assurance and Standards

Crop Health Services is accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) against the International Standard ISO 17025 – Testing accreditation.

Crop Health Services obtained NATA accreditation status in July 2014 and regularly undergoes both internal and external audits which continually assess the laboratory services, and provides ongoing assurance of our quality systems, improvement processes, quality control and technical competence.

Crop Health Services offers a broad range of certified tests within the disciplines of plant virology, nematology and entomology services and issues NATA endorsed reports for tests performed within the scope of accreditation. Non-certified test results are identified as such on NATA reports or issued on unendorsed reports.

1.2 Victoria's plant pest and disease diagnostic service

Crop Health Services (CHS) is the plant pest and disease diagnostics service operated by the Victorian Government. It is located at AgriBio (Centre for AgriBiosciences), La Trobe University, Bundoora, and is dedicated specifically to providing diagnostic services across the range of plant industries.

CHS is a leading diagnostic service that supports surveillance, market access, accreditation, export, diagnostic and emergency activities for plant pests and diseases in Victoria and interstate.

Testing performed by CHS helps protect Victorian and Australian plant industries against emerging diseases, providing a vital safeguard against biosecurity threats. It also helps to facilitate domestic and international trade. The service provides rapid and reliable diagnoses for plant industries; expert technical advice to assist incursion response, containment, eradication and market access (Pest Status Reports); expert advice on Import Risk Assessments and Industry Biosecurity Plans; and technical expert representation on national committees and working groups (for example, National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostics Network (NPBDN), Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostics (SPHD) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).



1.3 Professional Staff and Expertise

CHS provides diagnostic services for a full range of crops including fruit, vegetables, field crops ornamental plants, turf, and pastures. Our highly skilled specialist plant pathologists and entomologists are supported by the Agricultural Scientific Collections (Plant Pest and Pathogen Reference Collections), which house one of Australia's largest collections of agriculturally significant insects, nematodes, fungi, and plant bacteria.

Our experienced and qualified diagnosticians and research scientists operate with technologically advanced methodologies, state-of-the-art equipment, and offer flexible approaches to meet client needs.

CHS provides a critical service in the diagnosis and management of Exotic Plant Pest (EPP) incursions, with the resources of our laboratories required to be always emergency-ready.

1.3.1 In-Field Sample Collection

Please contact CHS reception for advice on sample collection as different hosts and their pests and pathogens may have specific sampling requirements.

Timing of sample collection

- If samples will be mailed or couriered to Crop Health Services, plan to undertake sample collection from Monday to Wednesday to ensure samples reach the laboratory by the weekend.
- If samples are hand delivered, they can be collected on any day but should arrive at sample reception no later than 4:00 pm. on any weekday of the same week.

1.4 Independence

As a State Government Laboratory, submitters are assured of independent advice and services.





02.

LABORATORY TESTING INFORMATION

2. Laboratory Testing Information

2.1 Scope of Diagnostic Examinations

Crop Health Services offers a wide range of tests and procedures for the diagnosis of plant pests and diseases. We specialise in pests and diseases of temperate crops including grapevines, fruits, vegetables, grain and cereal diseases, nursery ornamentals and mushrooms. We can also test for postharvest disorders.

We can undertake testing of imported seed for regulated quarantine pests as required by our Australian quarantine agency. We can assist with export testing for a range of crops and associated produce.

Our virology laboratory offers high throughput potato virus testing; and bulk testing for vegetable, grapevine and berry, stone and pome fruit viruses.

Our nematology laboratory offers the only Potato Cyst Nematode testing service in Victoria and is endorsed by the State's Biosecurity Division. In addition to general nematode testing, CHS specialises in turf nematodes affecting golf courses, greens and lawns; and pre-planting nematode assessments for orchardists and vegetable growers.

Our entomology service specialises in agricultural pest and beneficial invertebrates, e.g. Tephritid flies, pests of European honeybees, mites, phylloxera, ants, leafhoppers, and aphids.

2.2 Daily Testing Schedule

Submitters are reminded that the tests offered are not conducted each day. Please contact Specimen Reception for further information. If specific tests are required urgently, please contact Specimen Reception, as rescheduling of tests may be possible to meet specific client requirements. An additional fee may be levied for out-of-schedule analysis.

2.3 Turnaround Time

Submitters are advised that the turnaround time between receipt of samples and reporting of final results can vary considerably depending on the type of analysis required, the day and time of receipt of specimens, where confirmatory testing is required and whether analysis is completed at this or another laboratory.

Upon receipt of samples the laboratory sends a confirmation of receipt report to submitter which includes information on the analyses to be undertaken

Submitters are encouraged to allow enough time for completion of testing and reporting, particularly when required for export shipment or for planting windows for imported seed. Please clearly indicate the export date on submission forms to assist with timely analysis and reporting.

2.4 Reporting

Interim Report: This report is provided within 3 working days of receiving a sample. The Interim Report will provide a preliminary diagnosis (if possible), the date the sample was received, the tests to be carried out and their costs, and the approximate time it will take to provide a Final Report. If a client wishes to cancel the tests recommended by CHS they have 24 hours, from the time they receive the Interim Report, to do so. In this situation, a minimum fee may apply.

Final Report: This can take between one day and 2-6 weeks, depending on the sample and the tests to be carried out. The Interim Report will state how long the diagnosis will take.

2.5 Delays in Analysis

The laboratory will inform the submitter if a situation arises that compromises turnaround time.

2.6 High Throughput Testing

To ensure we have adequate reagents and resources for high throughput testing, please contact the laboratory within a minimum of 15 working days before the date of receipt of samples at the laboratory.

2.7 Dispatch of samples to the laboratory

It is the responsibility of the sender to pay courier charges and ensure adherence to packaging standards of material dispatched to the laboratory.

Samples for testing can be sent by courier or post or dropped in person at the following address:

Crop Health Services – AgriBio
SPECIMEN RECEPTION – MAIN LOADING DOCK
5 Ring Rd, La Trobe University Campus,
Bundoora, Victoria, 3083

Please note;

- Detailed sample collection guidelines and sample submission forms are available.
- A fees list is available.
- Bulk testing and routine monitoring services can be offered at reduced rates.
- Fees are subject to annual change.

2.8 Weekend Services

A surcharge will be levied where the submitter requires the laboratory to conduct testing or report results on weekends and public holidays. Please contact Sample Reception if this service is required.

2.9 Cancellation Fee

A Cancellation fee of \$30.25 (inc GST) will be charged for cancellation of sample testing where the accession has been generated, but testing has not yet been initiated.

A higher cancellation fee will be charged for samples cancelled after testing has commenced. The fee is determined by the amount of testing that has been completed when the cancellation was requested.

2.10 Emergency plant, pests and diseases

Information on invasive plants, plant pest and diseases can be found at;

<http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds>

2.11 Abbreviations

ELISA	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
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PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
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POA	Price on Application
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03.

BUSINESS TERMS

AgriBio

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3. Business Terms

3.1 Payment for Services

Submitters are advised that payment for services is required within 30 days of the invoice date. Interest may be charged on overdue accounts.

3.2 Overdue Accounts

Persistent overdue account holders will be asked for full outstanding payments including payment for current received samples before analysis is instigated.

3.3 Price Increases

The laboratory reserves the right to increase published prices if circumstances beyond our control result in significant cost increases. Any alterations will be confirmed prior to any testing commencing.

Tests and Charges

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Miscellaneous		
Code	Description	Price (incl. GST)
361	Consultancy	POA
363	Courier-Express Post	\$34.65

Bacteriology		
Code	Description	Price (incl. GST)
793	Initial Bacterial Biochemical Identification	\$294.53
788	Additional Bacterial Biochemical Identification	\$191.73
795	Initial Bacterial Identification by Culture	\$248.33
789	Additional Bacterial Identification by Culture	\$124.74
786	Initial Bacterial Identification from Seed	\$433.13
787	Additional Bacterial Identification from Seed	\$202.13
962	Tuber processing Ralstonia or Soft rots	\$346.50
963	Additional Tuber processing Ralstonia or Soft rots	\$115.50
794	Molecular Identification by Sequencing	POA
957	Initial Pest Status Report (x 30 mins)	\$99.73
959	Additional Pest Status Report (x 15 mins)	\$49.87
791	Initial Molecular Identification by Sequencing (Priority)	POA
964	Additional Molecular Identification by Sequencing (Priority)	POA
951	Bacteriology Consultancy	POA

Entomology

Code	Description	Price (incl. GST)
381	Morphological ID (x 30 mins)	\$132.83
380	Phylloxera Identification (x 30 mins)	\$132.83
386	Phylloxera Genotyping	\$832.35
379	Fruit Fly Examination (x 30 mins)	\$132.83
267	Invertebrate Identification by Sequencing (Sanger)	\$300.30
952	Entomology Consultancy	POA
824	Fruit Fly Identification by Sequencing (Sanger)	\$300.30
956	Pest Status Report (x 30 mins)	\$133.88
966	Invertebrate Identification by LAMP	\$133.40
967	Invertebrate Identification by qPCR	\$224.07
968	Invertebrate Identification by Metabarcoding (min 40 samples)	POA
969	Invertebrate Identification by Sequencing (Nanopore)	POA

Nematology

Code	Description	Price (incl. GST)
113	Initial Nematode Extraction and Identification	\$203.28
970	Additional Nematode Extraction and Identification	\$115.50
102	Initial Potato Cyst Nematode Count	\$103.95
971	Additional Potato Cyst Nematode Count	\$80.85
265	Initial Potato Cyst Nematode Cyst Viability	\$114.35
263	PCR - Molecular Identification	\$235.20
264	Nematode Identification by Sequencing	\$96.56
368	Nematode Identification by Sequencing (Priority)	\$224.07
953	Nematode Consultancy	POA

Mycology		
Code	Description	Price (incl. GST)
972	Initial Fungal Identification by Baiting	\$192.89
973	Additional Fungal Identification by Baiting	\$119.70
974	Initial Fungal Identification by Culture	\$289.80
975	Additional Fungal Identification by Culture	\$189.00
976	Initial Fungal Identification from Seed sample	\$509.25
977	Additional Fungal Identification from Seed	\$330.75
978	Initial Microscopic Examination (x 15 mins)	\$88.20
979	Additional Microscopic Examination (x 15 mins)	\$44.38
980	Initial pH and EC in Soil or Water	\$85.05
981	Additional pH and EC in Soil or Water	\$47.25
961	Initial Molecular Identification by Sequencing (Priority)	\$224.07
960	Additional Molecular Identification by Sequencing (Priority)	\$97.66
955	Mycology Consultancy	POA
983	Pest Status Report (x 15 mins)	\$49.87
982	Pest Status Report (x 30 mins)	\$133.40

Reference Collections		
Code	Description	Price (incl. GST)
294	Consultation	POA
163	Initial Preparation and Supply of Culture	\$235.62
984	Additional Preparation and Supply of Culture	\$105.00

*** Note:**

- * Place dead/alive insects and/or plant material in a strong plastic container (or sealed Ziplock bag if hand-delivering to lab), within a piece of tissue paper to absorb excess moisture.
- * Place the container/Ziplock bag in a cool place out of the sun and keep refrigerated until sending it to the laboratory.
- * Send the sample to the laboratory ASAP. ** Avoid posting on Friday unless using same day delivery.

Virology		
Code	Description	Price (incl. GST)
954	Virology Consultancy	POA
373	Bulk ELISA	POA
374	Bulk PCR	POA
289	ELISA First Test (1 to 5 viruses)	\$99.54– \$143.20
287	ELISA Additional Test	POA
364	ELISA Additional, No Extraction	POA
288	PCR First Test (1 to 8 viruses)	\$111.00– \$360.00
286	PCR Additional Test	POA
365	PCR Additional, No Extraction	POA
269	Initial Herbaceous Indicator Testing	\$217.35
986	Additional Herbaceous Indicator Testing	\$108.15
370	Initial Identification by Cloning & Sequencing	\$591.15
389	Molecular Identification by Sequencing	\$96.56
390	Initial Molecular Identification by Sequencing (Priority)	\$224.07
987	Additional Molecular Identification by Sequencing (Priority)	\$97.66

*** Note:**

Please contact chs.diagnostics@agriculture.vic.gov.au if you require a special quote for large volume testing.



WORLD RECOGNISED
ACCREDITATION

Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025
Testing Accreditation No.14477

