

Beetroot Sampling & Growth Stages

Timing: Commence sampling at stage 1.9, sample fortnightly until stage 3.6. Alternatively sample 1 week prior to intended fertiliser applications.

Sample volume: Minimum of 30 leaves.

Sampling: Take the first fully expanded leaf, usually the fourth or fifth leaf out from the growing point of the plant. Discard the leaf blades and retain the petiole (leaf stalk) for analysis.

Primary Stage	Secondary Stage	Description	Comments
1		<i>Leaf development</i>	
	1.4	Vegetative stages	4 leaves (2nd pair of leaves unfolded).
	1.9		9 and more leaves unfolded.
3		<i>Rosette Growth</i>	
	3.3	Crop cover	Leaves cover 30% of the ground.
	3.6		Leaves cover 60% of the ground.
	3.9		Complete cover leaves cover 90% of the ground.
4		<i>Development of harvestable plant parts</i>	
	4.9		Beetroot has reached harvestable size

Growth Stage numbering system is in accordance to the extended BBCH, a uniform coding of phenologically similar growth stages for all plant species

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