

Cabbage Sampling & Growth Stages

Timing: Begin sampling at stage 1.5 (early vegetative growth) and continue into stage 4.5 (Mid head development).

Sample volume: 20 petioles.

Sampling: Collect 1 leaf per plant. Select the youngest fully expanded leaf (YFEL), usually the tallest leaf in young plants. Return to the same representative sampling area for subsequent samples. Strip the leaf matter away leaving the petiole and midrib for analysis.

Primary Stage	Secondary Stage	Description	Comments
1		<i>Leaf development</i>	
	1.5		5th true leaf unfolded
	1.8		8th true leaf unfolded
4		<i>Development of harvestable vegetative plant part</i>	
	4.1	Early head development	Heads begin to form: the two youngest leaves do not unfold
	4.3		30% of the expected head size reached
	4.5	Mid head development	50% of the expected head size reached
	4.7	Late head development	70% of the expected head size reached
	4.9	Peak harvest	Typical size, form and firmness reached

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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