

Pineapple Sampling & Growth Stages

Timing: Begin sampling at 3 months, then every 2-3 months until fertiliser applications are finished.

Sample volume: 20 - 30 leaves, depending on size.

Sampling: Take the youngest fully expanded leaf - usually the fourth or fifth leaf out from the centre of the crown (also the leaf that appears the tallest inside the crown). Retain the bottom part of the leaf (10-15cm) for analysis.

Primary Stage	Secondary Stage	Description	Comments
1	<i>Leaf development</i>		
	1.3	<i>Vegetative</i>	3rd true leaf unfolds.
	1.9		9 or more true leaves unfolded.
5	<i>Inflorescence emergence</i>		
	5.1		Inflorescence or flower buds visible.
	5.5		First individual flowers visible (still closed).
	5.9		First flower petals visible.
6	<i>Flowering</i>		
	6.1		Beginning of flowering: 10% of flowers open.
	6.5		Full flowering: 50% of flowers open, first petals may be fallen.
	6.9		End of flowering: fruit set visible.
7	<i>Development of fruit</i>		
	7.1		Fruit has reached 10% of final size.
	7.5		Fruit has reached 50% of final size.
	7.9		Nearly all fruit have reached final size.
8	<i>Ripening of fruit</i>		
	8.1		Beginning of ripening or fruit colouration.
	8.5		Advanced ripening or fruit colouration.
	8.9	<i>Harvest</i>	Fully ripe: fruit shows fully ripe colour, beginning of fruit abscission.

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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