



Colorado Potato Beetle Shipping Guidelines

The samples you are providing will be used to study the genetic structure of Colorado potato beetle populations from all over the world. To do that, we will study differences in the DNA of the insects. It is then crucial to preserve the quality of the DNA. The process described below aims to do that but also to make shipping across the border easy.

1. - Collection of the Colorado potato beetles

- ✿ Adults or large (4th instars) larvae can be used.
- ✿ A sample should be 20 to 50 individuals.
- ✿ Collect one sample per field. Fields should be at least 10km apart.
- ✿ Fill the collection form for each sample. Make sure the location of the field is well defined so that we can find it on a map.

2. - Preparation of the samples

- ✿ Put the living beetles from each field into vials. Be careful not to overcrowd each vial; approximately one beetle for every 3ml of vial space works well. For example a 30ml vial should have around 10 beetles.
- ✿ Fill each vial with the highest concentration of ethanol available (preferably 95-100%).
- ✿ Leave the insects in ethanol for 48 hours. If the concentration of ethanol was lower than 95%, change the ethanol after 24 hours and leave for another 24 hours.
- ✿ Drain the ethanol but do not dry completely the insects. There will be a small quantity of ethanol left in the vial.



3. - Shipping of the samples

- ✿ Beetles should be shipped as soon as possible after the ethanol has been removed. Keep the samples (without ethanol) in a freezer if possible.
- ✿ If possible, transfer the insect to a plastic vial.
- ✿ Each vial should be labeled and correspond to the sample number on the collection data form.
- ✿ Put the plastic vials in a plastic bag and then in a padded envelope.
- ✿ Put the collection data form in the envelope.
- ✿ Seal the envelope and address it to Dr. Yvan Pelletier, Potato Research Centre, 850 Lincoln Rd., Fredericton, NB, Canada, E3B 4Z7
- ✿ The content should be identified as "Dead insects (Colorado potato beetle) for research" and with no commercial value.



Thanks you for your help!

