

## RhizeBio Roots to Shoots™ Sampling Protocol

### Strawberry – Root (DNA) Microbiome Analysis

#### Sampling Overview

Collect root samples from treated and untreated areas across each plot or field. Use clean gloves and disinfected tools between sample zones to prevent cross-contamination.

Each sample should include root systems with 1mm adhering rhizosphere soil, placed in a labeled RhizeBio root bag.

#### Root Sample Collection Instructions

- Select average, healthy plants from each zone.
- Using a clean trowel or soil knife, dig 3 – 5 inches from the crown and 4 – 6 inches deep.
- Gently lift the root system with rhizosphere soil intact.
- Shake off loose bulk soil; do not wash roots.
- Clip foliage at the crown if needed; do not bag full canopy
- Place roots with adhering 1mm rhizosphere soil in a labeled root bag
- Sanitize tools between samples with 70% alcohol or bleach solution

Strawberry Rhizosphere Sampling Guide		
Growth Stage	Root Sample	Plants per Sample
Early Vegetative (Pre-Flowering)	Whole Root System	6 - 8
Flowering & Fruit Set	Whole Root System	5 - 6
Peak Fruit Production	Feeder roots	4 - 5
Late Season / Decline	Feeder roots	3 - 4

#### Labeling & Submittal

Use permanent marker to label each bag with:

- Field Name
- Sample Type (Soil, Root, Plant)
- Growth Stage
- Collection Date

Complete the RhizeBio Submittal Form with:

Required: Field name, sample reference, crop type, crop cultivar

## Storage & Shipping

Time Before Shipping	Storage Recommendation
<3 days	Store at room temperature or refrigerate
3 - 5 days	Refrigerate at 0-6°C (32-48°F)
>5 days	Use frozen ice packs to ship cool

Do not freeze.

Do not wash roots.

Ship promptly to ensure sample quality.

### Ship Samples To:

RhizeBio, Inc.

235 Tuckaseegee Road, Suite A

Mount Holly, NC 28120

### Contact:

[Support@rhizebio.com](mailto:Support@rhizebio.com)

919-351-2038