



Need to ID Weed Samples?

If you have weeds that you would like to have identified, you can bring them in, mail live samples, email a digital photograph of them, or request a farm visit. The most reliable method to determine proper ID is to work with live specimens, but digital photos can work in many cases. You will be notified as soon as the samples are identified. In some cases, samples may have to be sent to the UC Davis Herbarium for confirmation.

Below are the steps you should use when sending live plants or pictures of plants to have them identified:

Live Samples:

1. Collect plants representative of the infestation. For seedling plants, collect the entire plant (tops and roots). For mature plants, collect entire plant with flowers and/or seed heads.
2. Place the sample in a sealed plastic bag with moist paper towels and keep cool.
3. Include an index card with your name, phone number, date collected, location found, and approximate elevation.
4. Place the sample in an appropriate shipping container or large envelope.

Send or bring sample to:

UC Cooperative Extension
c/o John Roncoroni
1710 Soscol Avenue, Suite 4
Napa, CA 94559

Note: It is best to call my office (707) 253-4221 and make an appointment before sending or bringing in samples. Napa residents in the upvalley area and American Canyon residents can call toll free at (877) 279-3065.

Digital Pictures:

1. Take pictures of the entire plant in its natural environment (remove any other vegetation around it). Be sure to capture leaves, stems, roots, and flowers if possible. In many cases, you can remove the plant from the soil, brush or wash off the soil from the roots, and lay it on a white paper background.
2. Save the picture in a JPEG format with a clear resolution.
3. Email them to jaroncoroni@ucanr.edu.

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