

Instructions for Coring Tubers-Bacterial Ringrot Sampling



- Count approximately 200 tuber subsamples (+/-10) from the overall sample and place into a large pail lined with a clean garbage bag. Total sample size is 10 tubers per acre, **unless otherwise specified by the customer.**
- Disinfect coring tool by immersing in rubbing alcohol and then carefully flaming the tool with lighter or match. For safety, keep the tip of the tool pointed down until the flame goes out. Wait until the flame is completely out before starting to core.
- Cores must be taken at the stolon attachment site and must be **conical** or **semi-spherical** in shape, approximately 1 cm in diameter at the top and 1 cm deep (see pictures above). Include as much of the vascular ring radiating from the stolon attachment as possible.
- When subsample is complete, disinfect the corer as before with rubbing alcohol and flaming. Disinfect between each 200 tuber subsample. Remove the used garbage bag from the pail and line it with a clean bag for the next sample.
- Cored tubers can be saved until all testing is completed. Or, cored tubers can be discarded in the dumpster.
- Place 200 cores of a subsample in a Ziploc bag while processing the sample. Label the Ziploc bag with the farm name, generation, field number, acreage, and variety. Include any other pertinent or identifying information.
- Bring the samples into the lab as soon as possible. If you are unable to do so, store cored samples in the refrigerator for up to a week or place in freezer. Do not freeze them if you plan to mail them.