

# PLANT DISEASE CLINIC



Plant pathologists are frequently asked: "What is wrong with my plant?" Disease clinics can help resolve this question by trying to determine the cause of the problem.

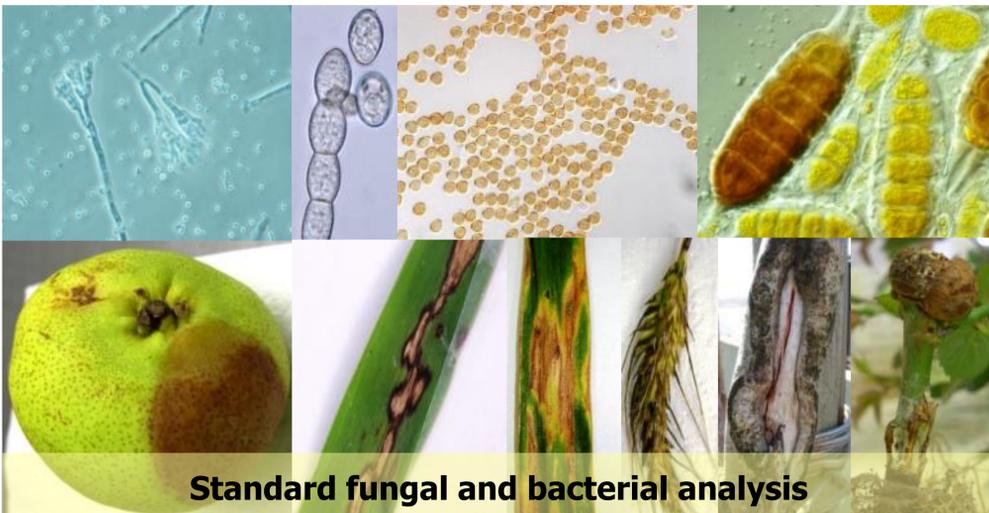
The aim of the clinic is to provide accurate diagnosis of plant problems, serve as an information source for commercial growers, and assist in the training of personnel and students in plant disease diagnosis.

## WHY SEND SAMPLES FOR ANALYSIS?

Disease diagnosis is a critical step for successful disease management. Several different diseases and/or plant health problems can cause similar symptoms, therefore accurate diagnosis is important. Through accurate diagnosis, chemical applications can be reduced. Newly introduced or evolved plant diseases can also be detected, whereafter early management strategies can be applied.

## SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CLINIC

- Standard fungal and bacterial analysis which include:
  - microscopic examination
  - moisture chamber incubation
  - isolations on various media for identifications up to genus level
- Specialised identification services which include:
  - *Ad hoc* requests from various industries (i.e. certification for SASGA, Potato viruses)
  - *Ralstonia solanacearum*, *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *michiganensis* using AGDIA™ Immunostrips
  - detection of *Pythium*, *Phytophthora* and *Phytophthora* spp.
  - molecular identification of fungi and bacteria
    - includes optimised multiplex PCR for i.e. *Agrobacterium*, *Ralstonia*, *FOL* and *FOC*
  - Vironostix, testing of viruses on various crops (Genetics Department)
  - SU-IPM, Insect services (Entomology Department)

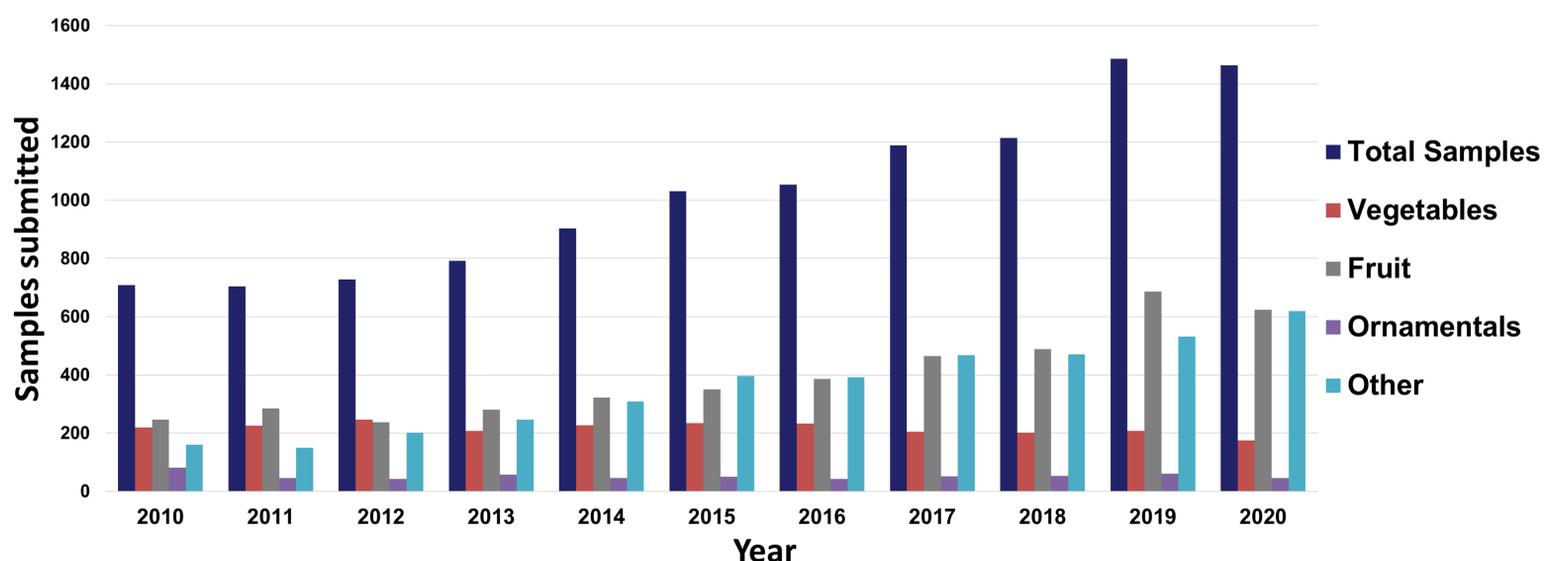


Standard fungal and bacterial analysis



Various specialised tests for *Ralstonia solanacearum*

## Samples analysed in the Plant Disease Clinic from 2010-2020



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