

## Information about Sampling and Shipping Samples

Improper sampling and/or improper shipping of samples may distort the test result. Sampling is thus an important aspect of accredited test procedures as well as with regard to the RAL quality assurance procedures. If you yourself carry out the sampling by self-monitoring, please observe the following:

- Make sure that the sampling utensils (shovels, boring sticks, scoops, buckets) and the surface are clean.
- Remove the subsamples from different depths and make sure that the sampling holes are evenly distributed. Do not remove any material from the surface, as the surface moisture is not representative. Half of the samples should be taken from deep layers. The number of sampling holes depends on the size of the sample volume to be examined. For compost heaps, for example, samples should be removed from at least eight places.
- Mix the samples well in a clean container or on a broom-cleaned surface, remove the necessary sampling volume from the mixture and fill it into solid plastic bags or firmly sealable plastic bottles. Please do not use glass jars (risk of breakage during transport), and only fill the containers up to max. 75%
- Required sample volume

Test parameters	Compost	Ferment residues
Package RAL GZ	12-13 l	4 l
Foreign matter/rocks	At least 4 l	At least 2 l
Weed seeds test	At least 4 l	At least 1 l
Degree of rotting	At least 3 l	
Plant tolerance test	At least 3 l	
Volumetric weight	At least 1 l	At least 1 l
Salinity	At least 0,5 l	At least 0,25 l

- Affix a label to the bag/container with the following information:
  - Plant/material
  - Batch name and number
- Please ship the sample on the same day together with the contract for analysis/sampling protocol. In case of high outside temperatures, we recommend shipping the box with additional cold packs. Otherwise, the conversion processes taking place in the sample could lead to analytical values that deviate significantly from the actual values.
- Laboratory address:  
PLANCO-TEC GmbH  
Kohlenstraße 8  
D-37249 Neu-Eichenberg

PLANCO-TEC reserves the right to refuse processing if the samples received are improper and deficient.