

## Petal Test

### *Sample collection instructions*

In case of **Sclerotinia**- Check your fields periodically to anticipate sampling time.

*Soil sample:* Collect two to three cups of top-soil next to the high-risk plants or from the canopy trial.

*Petal sample:* At the early bloom of the canola plants, the petals should be sampled. Early bloom stage can be determined at 4-6 days after first flowering, or the crop is at 20% bloom stage, or there are about 15 flowers open on the main stem.

The ideal time to collect is between noon and 5 pm. Do not collect before 8 am, or while it is raining, or at least 2-3 hours after a light rain and 4-5 hours after a heavy rain.

Collect samples at 8 sites per field. These sites should be at least 50 paces apart. Collect 16 petals per site placing two petals in each of the eight tubes/container cups.

1. Using sterile forceps gently pull off the petals, use the disinfectant/sterile wipes to clean the forceps in between petals.
2. Caution not to tear the petals or take other flower parts along with them. As you pick them off place two petals in each tube.
3. Continue in this manner until all eight tubes/container cups are filled with two petals each.
4. Continue onto your second site in the field and repeat the petal collecting process.
5. Continue to do this throughout your field until all eight sites have been completed.
6. Label each sample container cup/bags with location and serial number to differentiate each sample.
7. Transfer all the container cup/bags into the kit box and complete the submission form provided in the kit.
8. Ship the collected samples and completed submission form using the addressed envelope provided in the kit.