

Sampling instructions for the bryomonitoring study in New Brunswick

What to bring ?

- Printed sampling form (can be found [here](#))
- Pencil and permanent marker (Sharpie)
- Brown **paper** bag (lunch style)
- Procedure gloves (latex/nitrile)
- GPS or smart phone with geolocalisation
- Moss identification guide

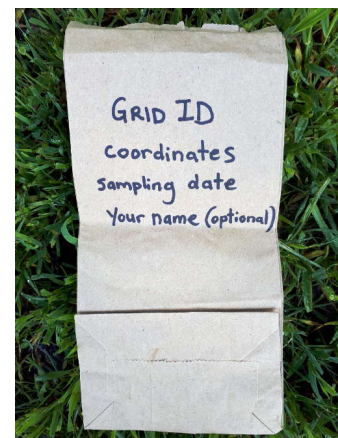
Select a site

- Sample in non-urban natural areas, or areas in recovery (forest clearings, abandoned fields, old roads)
- Sample at:
 - **+300 m** from highways, villages, industries (including intensive agriculture)
 - **+100 m** from secondary roads, houses
 - **+50 m** from trails
- Identify a relatively uniform area of about 50 x 50m.
- Choose mosses that are **more than 3 meters (10 feet) away from the cover of trees**
 - Target clearings or well exposed areas
 - Avoid harvesting under shrubs, near water sources, in wetlands (swamps) or near roads
- **IMPORTANT: RESPECT THE RULES IN EFFECT IN PARKS, NATURE RESERVES AND PRIVATE LANDS**

Sample the moss

Note: You can sample either or both species, but they must be placed in **separate** bags.

- Fill out the form with data, your name, site name and geographic coordinates
- Identify 5 separate locations containing the targeted foam within your 50 x 50 m site
- Prepare the paper bag by assigning a name to your site (unique name that must be the same as the one you will indicate on the field sheet), the **date** and **GPS coordinates**,
- **DO NOT TOUCH THE INSIDE OF THE BAG WITH YOUR BARE HANDS**
- Put on your gloves and open the bag
- Harvest the mosses by picking them up at the base of the stem, ideally 1 stem at a time, and remove the brownish part at the bottom and the debris (leaves, needles, soil, etc.)
- Harvest stems to fill half the bag using at least the 5 identified locations in your 50 x 50m.



Store your sample

- Once filled, close your bag by folding the edges a few times for transport
- **If the sample is wet**, open the bag to let the sample air dry. Once dry, if the bag is damaged, put it in another bag. **DO NOT TOUCH THE MOSS WITH YOUR BARE HANDS.**
- Store the dried sample in a paper bag, away from light and at room temperature.

Mail your sample

Place it in a large envelope and mail it to:

Mélanie Jean
Département de biologie, Université de Moncton
18 avenue Antonine-Maillet, Moncton N.-B.
E1A 3E9

It is possible to find other arrangements to send us your samples. Please contact us! A sample kit can be sent to you, contact melanie.jean@umoncton.ca.

Thank you for your interest in our project!