

FOR INFORMATION  
DA-2006-30  
July 14, 2006

SUBJECT: Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN), *Globodera pallida*, Update

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

This memorandum provides an update regarding our ongoing efforts in response to the PCN, *Globodera pallida*, finds in Idaho.

On April 19, 2006, APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) announced the detection of PCN in a tare soil sample from an ISDA grading facility in eastern Idaho. The nematode cysts were detected during a routine Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) survey.

Following the April detection, APHIS and ISDA immediately placed regulatory restrictions on associated fields and facilities. In addition, traceback investigations and intensive survey strategies were implemented to identify the source of the PCN.

On June 13, 2006, soil samples collected from a 45-acre field in northern Bingham County tested positive for PCN based on morphological and DNA analyses. Production in the area is for fresh market and processed potatoes, not seed potatoes. As part of the investigation following the April detection, more than 4,800 samples, representing over 75 fields and facilities associated with the positive detection, have been collected and tested, and as part of these investigations, additional suspect fields were identified.

On July 12, 2006, a soil sample from another field within the same farming operation in northern Bingham County also tested positive for PCN. Confirmation was made based on morphological and DNA analyses. The two positive fields are approximately 0.5 miles apart.

APHIS and ISDA continue to implement a rigorous detection and delimiting survey of adjacent and associated fields and facilities. A statewide survey of commercial and seed potato production systems will be conducted during the current and future years. Regulatory plans are being developed. Additionally, best management practices for field and facilities sanitation are being developed for statewide distribution.

For addition information, please contact Osama El-Lissy, PPQ Emergency and Domestic Program at (301) 734-5459.

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