



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

# Idaho Potato Cyst Nematode Cooperative Program Update



NOVEMBER , 2007

USDA/APHIS Plant Protection & Quarantine  
Idaho State Department of Agriculture

## Background

### PCN Program Facts

(Through 11/09/07)

Date of Detection	4/19/06
Positive Fields (Total)	7
Fields Treated	7
Acres treated	917
'06 Production Fields Surveyed	282
'07 Production Fields Surveyed	827
'06 Seed Fields Surveyed	491
'07 Seed Fields Surveyed	237
'06 Facilities Surveyed	56
'07 Facilities Surveyed	2
'06 Samples Collected	>35,346
'07 Samples Collected	26,304
Compliance Agreements	107

### Situation Summary

On April 19, 2006, officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) announced the detection of potato cyst nematode (PCN), *Globodera pallida*, a major pest of potato crops. This was the first detection of the pest in the United States.

### Agricultural Threat

Potatoes and tomatoes are the principal economically significant crops attacked by PCN. At high population levels, PCN will greatly reduce potato yields.



Potato Cyst Nematode

The goals of APHIS and ISDA in the Potato Cyst Nematode Response and Recovery Program are to:

- Prevent the spread of PCN
- Delimit the current infestation
- Eradicate the infestation
- Restore lost foreign markets
- Preserve current markets.

### Control Measures

APHIS and ISDA have implemented a regulatory program designed to prevent the pest's spread to other fields. The program defines restrictions on the movement of plants and soil, required sanitation procedures for equipment and limitations on planting.

APHIS and ISDA scientists have developed a PCN pest eradication program including soil sampling, soil treatments, planting and managed cultivation to ensure the continued vitality of agriculture in Idaho.

### CONTACT US:

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Regulatory Office  
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### Hours of Operation:

Monday through Friday  
8:00am-4:30pm

## Statewide Survey

The PCN Program is soliciting participation in a statewide survey. This survey, part of an ongoing delimiting survey for PCN, helps meet the program's objective of restoring foreign markets and maintaining current markets by using testing data to show that most Idaho growing areas are free of PCN.

The goal is to survey 10 percent of commercial potato acreage in each county yearly. In addition, the program seeks to survey 100 percent of seed potato acreage in each county annually.

The Program is seeking volunteers, particularly in those counties where we have not yet met our goals for '07 to sign up for survey.

The survey protocol for statewide survey is to collect three 5 pound soil samples per acre from 10 percent of a field's perimeter. For example, from a 100-acre field, program staff would collect 3 samples per acre from 10 acres of the field's border.

All samples collected are sent to an approved laboratory for diagnostic testing. Results are released only to the owners and/or operators of the field.

PCN infestations may be associated with patches of poor growth. Affected potato plants may exhibit yellowing, wilting, or death of foliage, but these symptoms have not been noted in Idaho.

**If you have questions please call the PCN Program Office at 208-522-2431.**