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Idaho Potato Cyst Nematode Cooperative Program Update



MAY 2008

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

Moving Hay and Straw from PCN Regulated Fields

PCN Program Facts (Through 04/29/08)

Date of Detection	4/19/06
Positive Fields (Total)	8
'06 Production Fields Surveyed	282
'07 Production Fields Surveyed	876
'08 Production Fields Surveyed	69
'06 Seed Fields Surveyed	491
'07 Seed Fields Surveyed	237
'06 Facilities Surveyed	56
'07 Facilities Surveyed	2
'06 Samples Collected	38,719
'07 Samples Collected	54,455
'08 Samples Collected	14,506
Compliance Agreements	111

Movement of hay and straw originating from Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN) regulated fields is affected by the Federal Interim Rule for PCN (Federal Register Vol. 72, No. 176, pages 51975-51988) and the Idaho State Rule for PCN (IDAPA 02, Title 06, Chapter 10).

These rules prohibit the movement of soil adhering to articles, such as hay and straw bales, from regulated fields.

Hay and straw bales cannot be reconditioned or cleaned to remove soil, unlike the available cleaning option of pressure washing and steam sanitizing to remove or devitalize soil from farm and construction equipment.

In order to allow the movement of hay and straw bales from regulated fields, measures can be taken to prevent soil contamination. Storage of bales on hard surfaces, imper-

meable surfaces, or in grassy areas can prevent contamination with soil and facilitate movement. Bales with soil adhering to them will not be allowed to move from regulated fields. Hay and straw bales are to be inspected by PCN Program personnel to declare them free of soil and to allow their movement from the regulated field with the issuance of a Plant Protection and Quarantine certificate.

PCN Program Background

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.

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Hours of Operation:

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