



Potato Progress

Research and Extension for Washington's Potato Industry

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Monitor Insecticide to be Phased Out by Bayer

The following information was received from Bayer CropScience yesterday.

Bayer CropScience LP is committed to providing solutions for the producer. As we continue bringing new innovations to market, our existing products are reviewed for fit within the company strategy. After much analysis consistent with this process, Bayer CropScience has decided to exit the Di-Syston insecticide and Monitor insecticide businesses in the United States.

Please note the following, effective immediately:

- Monitor: Bayer CropScience's final production of Monitor will occur in 2009. Distributors will be provided with an allocation based on previous purchase history.
- Once purchased from Bayer CropScience, there is no time limitation by which distributors are required to sell Di-Syston or Monitor to retailers or growers (EPA 1991 Existing Stock Policy.)
- Once purchased from distributors or retailers, there is no time limitation by which growers are required to use Di-Syston or Monitor (EPA 1991 Existing Stock Policy.)

We recognize that both Di-Syston and Monitor have been valuable pest management tools. Bayer CropScience has the following options as replacement alternatives:

- Monitor: Admire Pro, Baythroid XL, Leverage, Movento, Provado and Trimax Pro may provide comparable solutions.

Your support of Di-Syston insecticide and Monitor insecticide throughout the years has been very much appreciated, and we look forward to providing future solutions for the producer. If your members have any questions, they should contact their local Bayer CropScience representative.

Sincerely,

Allen Scarborough, Ph.D.
Manager of Industry Relations

2009 Commercial Seed Lot Trial Information

Mark Pavek 509-335-6861, Zach Holden 509-335-3452

Tim Waters 509-545-3511 (Benton/Franklin County WSU Extension)

Carrie Huffman Wohleb 509-754-2011 (Grant/Adams County WSU Extension)

Commercial potato seed samples are requested for the 2009 Washington Seed Lot Trial. Two to three hundred whole (single drop) seed is an acceptable sample size, or 50 lbs of 4 oz single drop seed. This seed should not be treated with insecticide or fungicide. Seed tubers need to be uniformly small (not larger than 4 oz) because no seed cutting is done and a cup-type planter is used. A sample that represents the entire seed lot received is most desirable. Sampling the first (or last) 300 seed from the truck is not likely to provide a representative sample of the lot. Sample tags may be obtained by calling the Potato Commission at 509-765-8845.

Your assistance with collection and drop off of seed samples is needed. Seed samples may be taken to the WSU Othello Research Unit (509-488-3191); located on Booker Road ¼ mile south from State Highway 26 and about five miles east of Othello. For sample pickup and any questions regarding the seed lot trials please call:

South Basin: Tim Waters (509-545-3511), Mark Pavek (509-335-6861), or Zach Holden (509-335-3452).

North Basin: Carrie Huffman Wohleb (509-754-2011), Mark Pavek (509-335-6861), or Zach Holden (509-335-3452).

In the North Basin, one seed "drop-off" has been established. It is located at Qualls Ag Labs (Mick Qualls, 509-787-4210 ext 16) on the corner of Dodson Road and Road 4; come to front office between 8 am and 5 pm. Please call the numbers below to arrange additional pickup sites. Samples will be picked up at **2:00 pm the day before each planting date** (below) to be included. Growers planting in early March should drop their samples off at the Othello Research Center or store the samples and call the numbers below for pickup. For all alternative pickup locations or questions please call Mark Pavek at 509-335-6861 or Zach Holden at 509-335-3452.

The remaining seed lot planting dates for 2009 are:

3rd April 21

4th (Late) May 5

This year's virus reading of the seed lots will take place on June 9 and 23.

The 2009 Potato Field Day is scheduled for Friday June 26.

Trapping Survey Update, IPM Supplies Reminder

The potato commission has an ongoing commitment to helping Washington's potato growers adopt and expand IPM practices. Three projects that the commission has undertaken toward this end in recent years are the aphid population survey conducted by Keith Pike at WSU, the beet leafhopper/tuberworm trapping survey, and the free trapping supplies for WA growers.

New Insect Monitoring Project

The commission has decided to combine and dramatically modify the aphid and leafhopper/tuberworm projects this year. There will be a unified project managed by Carrie Wohleb - WSU Grant/Adams Extension, with help from Tim Waters - WSU Franklin/Benton Extension, and Andy Jensen at the commission. This project will cover the Columbia Basin from north to south, and will track populations of aphids, beet leafhoppers, tuberworm, and will watch for potato psyllid. Data will be presented on the Web, in this newsletter, and perhaps by other communication means. Watch coming editions of *Potato Progress* and the commission website (www.potatoes.com) for more information on this new project.

Insect Trapping Supplies

These insect monitoring efforts funded by the commission are meant to present a regional snapshot of insect populations and locations in the Columbia Basin. To efficiently manage insects in particular fields, it is important that each field be monitored. Toward this end, the commission is once again offering free supplies to WA growers for trapping leafhoppers and tuberworm. The available supplies are pictured below.

To receive supplies for trapping these insects, simply call the commission office, or send an email to ajensen@potatoes.com specifying how many fields you need to monitor and/or how many traps you need. For help with insect identification or any other aspect of insect monitoring, call (509-765-8845) or email Andy Jensen at the commission office.



New Publication Features Energy on the Farm

Clean Energy Farming, a free 16-page bulletin published by SARE Outreach, features innovative farmers who are increasing profits by implementing energy efficient farming practices and producing and using renewable energy. The bulletin is filled with stories of producers and researchers working together to demonstrate how clean energy practices are quickly becoming core to the operations of farmers and ranchers across America.

Clean Energy Farming is the latest of a series of publications that feature the most creative research funded by the USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program. Preview or download the entire publication at: www.sare.org/publications/energy.htm. To order print copies, visit www.sare.org/Webstore, call 301-504-5411, or e-mail tech@sare.org. Agricultural educators may place orders for print copies in quantity at no cost.

Insects and Other "Bugs" in Potato Tubers or Seed

Since the arrival of tuberworm in the Columbia Basin, I (Andy Jensen) have been working to learn about all the insects that invade potato tubers. Several species of flies, beetles, and the like have already been seen and photographed, but I would like your help. If you find potato tubers **or seed pieces** that have maggots, worms, or other "bugs" in them, I'd like to have a sample. Just give me a call at 509-760-4859 or drop me an e-mail at ajensen@potatoes.com.

Pest/Disease/Beneficial Organisms Information Cards

As many of you know, the commission has been producing laminated pest management information cards during the past few years. Each time a new one is produced, it is mailed to our mailing list of Washington growers. Fourteen cards have been produced to date, with several more to come as photos, other information, and creativity permit. The fourteen cards are listed below. Contact the commission for help if you are missing any of these cards, which are free to Washington potato growers (and available at \$5 each to others).

Insect/Mite Pests

1. Beet Leafhopper/Purple Top
2. Aphids
3. Tuberworm
4. Leaf stippling Pests: Spider Mites and Thrips
5. True Bugs: Stink Bugs and Lygus Bugs
6. Wireworms

Diseases

9. Late Blight
10. Pink Rot and Pythium Leak
11. Rhizoctonia Canker and Black Scurf
12. White Mold
13. Tuber Blemish Diseases: Silver Scurf and Black Dot
14. Bacterial Diseases: Aerial Stem Rot and Blackleg

Beneficial Organisms

7. Predators: Big-Eyed Bugs and Damsel Bugs
8. Predators: Ground Beetles