



Potato Progress

Research and Extension for Washington's Potato Industry
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Insect Monitoring Supplies Available Free to WA Growers

The potato commission has an ongoing commitment to helping Washington's potato growers adopt and expand IPM practices. In 2008 we will be offering leafhopper and tuberworm trapping supplies to Washington potato growers free of charge. The program will begin in April, and will provide interested growers with supplies for trapping **beet leafhoppers** through the month of July and for trapping **tuberworm moths** from July through October (as needed).

Beet leafhopper is the insect that transmits BLTVA, the phytoplasma that causes purple top throughout the Columbia Basin. The important time to watch for and possibly manage this insect is early in the growing season. Supplies provided for trapping this insect include yellow sticky cards with mounting stakes and clips, and a 4" magnifying glass for counting leafhoppers on the cards. The magnifying glass is necessary to making meaningful counts of beet leafhopper because this insect is small and is only one of many leafhopper species that will be caught on the yellow cards. The yellow sticky traps work simply because the yellow color is attractive to leafhoppers as they move about in their habitat. There is no technology available that limits our catch to only beet leafhopper. Therefore, we offer a leafhopper information card that should help with leafhopper identification. We will also offer personal instruction, on trap deployment and leafhopper counting, to those interested.



Tuberworm is the relatively new pest of potato foliage and tubers. It has so far reached damaging levels only in the Columbia Basin south of Othello, but it can occur and may sometimes cause damage throughout the Basin. It has not been detected west of the Cascades. This pest builds up to damaging levels later in the season, and so we will offer trapping supplies from July through October. Trapping supplies for this insect will include plastic reusable Delta traps, sticky liners for the traps, pheromone capsules to attract the male moths, and trap stands made of PVC conduit. Use of the magnifying glass mentioned above is also highly recommended for this trapping system, to aid identification of tuberworm on the trap cards. We recommend that all growers monitor for tuberworm moths regardless of location because the moth can and will move during the season. Trapping can alert the crop manager to the presence of the pest and give an indication as to whether treatment is necessary. It is an expensive proposition to be caught unaware of an infestation late in the season or after harvest.



New Book: Potato Health Management, Second Edition

This highly-anticipated manual tackles the hundreds of problems that affect the potato crop including weeds, insects, nematodes, fungi, bacteria, phytoplasmas, and viruses. The new edition is 30% larger than the first and contains more color photographs, which are now interspersed throughout the text. It includes timely new chapters on economics, home gardening, and organic production.

More than 40 experts from the fields of soil science, weed science, nematology, plant pathology, and entomology explain how to manage potato health from seed to storage by a holistic approach. The book provides the most current information on potato production practices, with an emphasis on pest and disease management. The knowledge base provided in this text can be integrated into a comprehensive management scheme in the context of today's agriculture.

Potato Health Management, Second Edition is easy to read and understand on two levels. Call-outs of important concepts give quick information to supplement the more-in-depth level of peer-reviewed information. Nearly every chapter includes a boxed briefing on an important concept, helpful test, diagnostic tip, or checklist, adding to your practical understanding of potato health management strategies. The information in each of the book's 23 chapters is essential to a successful, holistically managed potato health management program.

Cutting edge discussions and details on soil health, managing tubers during harvest and in storage, organic potato production, pesticide resistance management, pesticide application, management of diseases, insects and weeds affecting potato will enlighten commercial potato growers, field consultants and farm advisors, extension specialists, agriculture students, researchers and agribusiness professionals in all aspects of the potato industry.

To order, visit: <http://www.shopapspress.org/pohema2nded.html> or call: 1.800.328.7560.

Annual Basin Producers 2008 Pesticide Re-certification Day

January 22, TRAC in Pasco
January 23, ATEC-BBCC, Moses Lake
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., both locations

Organized by:

Columbia Basin Crop Consultants Association
Lower Columbia Basin Fieldmen Dealers
Association

For additional information:

509-754-2011 ext.413 or amcguire@wsu.edu

2008 Topics

- *Pesticide Drift
- *Sprayer Calibration, Maintenance and Technology
- *Chemigation
- *Pesticides and the Environment; Separating Hazards and Risk
- *Pesticide-Related Liability
- *Beneficial Insects of the Pacific Northwest