



BIG LAKES COUNTY POLICY

TITLE: Virulent Blackleg	
POLICY NUMBER: ASB Policy 02	
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Agricultural Pests Act	
APPROVED BY COUNCIL: August 11, 1993	
EFFECTIVE DATE: August 11, 1993	REVISED DATE: February 23, 2005, July 13, 2011, November 27, 2019

POLICY STATEMENT

Big Lakes County recognizes that Virulent Blackleg of Canola is a declared pest under the Agricultural Pests Act and the negative impact that virulent blackleg of canola can have on the agricultural practices within the County. For this reason, Big Lakes County has created a policy to guide the inspection, prevention and control of this disease.

POLICY

1. Inspection

- a) Upon the recommendation of the Agricultural Fieldman, Council shall appoint individuals to serve as "inspectors" under the Agricultural Pests Act for the purposes of this and other pest related policies.
- b) The Agricultural Fieldman shall schedule annual inspection of Canola fields within the County. The Agricultural Fieldman shall use the steps outlined in the current Peace Regional ASB Guidelines for Clubroot of Canola 2.1 to direct inspections, to avoid concurrent pest infestation transference. Inspections shall be done in conjunction with the annual Clubroot Survey.
- c) The Agricultural Fieldman shall establish biosecurity protocols to be followed by inspectors while conducting inspections. Protocols shall be designed to minimize Clubroot spore transferal between fields by inspectors and shall follow current Best Management Practices for the detection of Virulent Blackleg as recognized by the Province of Alberta
- d) A minimum of 50 fields shall be surveyed for Virulent Blackleg annually, in a minimum of 25 townships.

2. Prevention

To assist producers in preventing blackleg infestations, the Agricultural Fieldman shall ensure producers are informed of symptoms of virulent blackleg, and through increased knowledge, encourage their cooperation for survey sampling and inspection purposes.

3. Control of Virulent Blackleg



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As blackleg resistant canola varieties are readily available, in the event that the survey indicates blackleg infestation, the Agricultural Fieldman, shall do the following:

- a) Canola stubble will be tested at approved labs to identify the race of blackleg in the field, the landowner will be informed and encouraged to source canola seed resistant to that race. This canola variety will be rotated annually, for resistance stewardship.
- b) The Landowner will be encouraged to adopt a longer rotation to reduce risk of blackleg and manage brassicae species in the field in subsequent years.

Reeve

Chief Administrative Officer

Nov 27, 2019

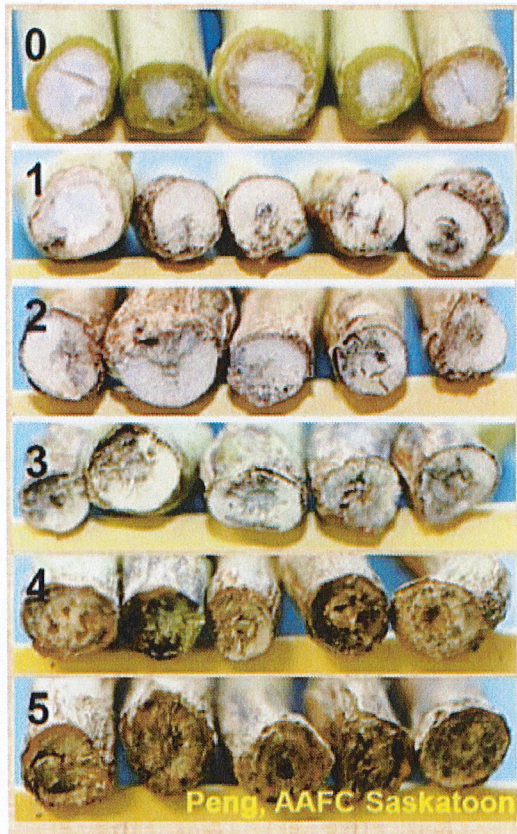
Date of Final Signature



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BLACKLEG FIELD RATING SCALE

Score blackleg for each clipped tap root using the following scale



No diseased tissue visible in the cross section.




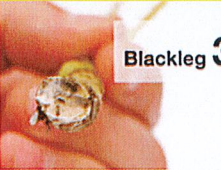
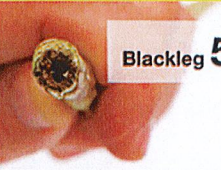
Diseased tissue occupies 25% or less of cross section.

Diseased tissue occupies 26-50% of cross section.

Diseased tissue occupies 51-75% of cross section.

Diseased tissue occupies 75% or more of cross section.

Diseased tissue occupies 100% of cross section, with significant constriction of affected tissues; tissues dry and brittle; plant dead.

Severity Ratings					
0	1	2	3	4	5
					
Blackleg 0	Blackleg 1	Blackleg 2	Blackleg 3	Blackleg 4	Blackleg 5
No disease visible in cross section	Diseased tissue occupies 25% or less of cross section	Diseased tissue occupies 26-50% of cross section	Diseased tissue occupies 51-75% of cross section	Diseased tissue occupies over 75% of cross section. Plant is not dead	Diseased tissue occupies 100% of cross section. Tissue dry and black
Yield Loss 0	Yield Loss 17%	Yield Loss 34%	Yield Loss 52%	Yield Loss 65%	Yield Loss 85%