



GUIDELINE 2.1 CLUBROOT OF CANOLA

Department: Crop Diseases

Date Approved: July 17th, 2015

Rescinds: NA

PRASB Res. No: 2015-07-08

OBJECTIVE:

To provide direction for the Peace Region to reduce the impact of Clubroot of Canola

PURPOSE:

Establishing a minimum standard in the Peace Region municipal programs and policies in dealing with Clubroot of Canola

DEFINITIONS:

For the purposes of this Guideline, the following definitions shall apply:

- a. Agricultural Township – an area as defined by Alberta Township System, that contains a field currently in agricultural production.
- b. *Agricultural Pest Act* - the *Agricultural Pest Act of Alberta* (R.S.A. 2000, Chapter A-8) and the *Agricultural Pest Regulation* (184/2001).
- c. Field – a plot of land capable of growing a crop susceptible to Clubroot.
- d. Municipal Policy – policy established by each of the Peace Region Municipalities.
- e. Pest Inspector – Agricultural Fieldman or Pest inspector employed by the Municipality.
- f. Reported Field - any field for which a complaint is received as having any symptoms or signs of Clubroot of Canola.

AUTHORITY:

Clubroot of Canola is a pest under the Agricultural Pests Act of Alberta.

The Agricultural Pests Act requires the municipality to "take active measures to prevent the establishment of, or control or destroy pests in the municipality" (Sec. 6)

The municipality shall appoint Pest Inspector(s) under the Act who are authorized to

- enter onto land and inspect for pests; and may
- issue notice specifying measures required to control the pest or prevent the pest from establishing.

GUIDELINES:

1. Each Municipality shall have a Clubroot Policy and a Foreign Equipment Cleaning Policy (or section within the Clubroot Policy) in place.
2. Inspectors will inspect a minimum of 1 field per every agricultural township for Clubroot of Canola in the Municipality each year. An attempt will be made to ensure the canola fields inspected are spread as equally as possible throughout the Municipality.
3. Priorities for inspected fields may include:
 - i) Symptoms are noticed through other inspections (i.e. weed inspections)
 - ii) The possibility that infected equipment was utilized (i.e. equipment was imported from outside the Peace Region)
 - iii) Canola grown in short rotation, especially if grown in succession
 - iv) Reported Fields

AWARENESS:

The stakeholders will have access to information as the Region will:

1. Maintain information handouts and annually print information in various media;
2. Inform municipally-based construction and earth moving companies of Municipal Policy and concerns and request that local equipment be used;
3. Have Regional Agricultural Service Board members act as ambassadors to inform producers and industry on Clubroot of Canola;
4. Advocate that all seed (of a host crop) should be of a resistant variety and this should become mandatory when the disease has been found in the immediate area.
5. Advocate longer rotations between host crops.
6. Inform all Peace Region Agricultural Fieldmen when Clubroot is confirmed within a municipality.

ENFORCEMENT:

When Clubroot of Canola is found within the boundaries of any Peace Region municipality, the landowner will be encouraged to adopt the following measures:

1. Harvest the crop with the total crop being sold or fed, but not sold or kept for seed;
2. Store future seed and crop on site until ground is less prone to contaminate vehicles, i.e. frozen or dry ground;

3. Tarp any loads being transported from the infested land;
4. Clean any crop residue and soil from all equipment and implements before taking it off the infested land (*following the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan*);
5. Seed an area to grass around field approaches so equipment and vehicles can be parked and cleaned while minimizing contamination;

When Clubroot of Canola is found within the boundaries of any Peace Region municipality, the Municipality should consider adopting the following measures:

1. The Pest Inspector shall ensure that the operating producer follows the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan and Municipal Policy
2. The Pest Inspector shall issue a Notice that should contain the following
 - i. Seed a non-host crop and /or perform summer-fallow, for 3 or more consecutive years from initial infestation;
 - ii. Store the crop on site until it can be removed from the field while minimizing contamination of other areas (i.e. moving the crop while the ground is frozen).
 - iii. Clean any crop residue and sterilize (*following the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan*) all equipment and implements before taking them off the infested land.
 - iv. For the 3 or more consecutive crop years from initial detection, the Field is to be inspected annually by the Pest Inspector.
 - v. Following the expiry of the Pest Notice, the landowner may return to a Clubroot tolerant variety of canola.
 - vi. If an infected field is re-seeded to a host crop prior to the expiry of the Pest Notice, the crop will be destroyed as per the Agricultural Pest Act.
 - vii. Seed an area to grass around field approaches so equipment and vehicles can be parked and cleaned while minimizing contamination.



Peace Regional Chair



Peace Regional Vice-Chair



Director of Peace Region AAFF