

FOR INFORMATION/ACTION
DA-2006-39
August 28, 2006

SUBJECT: Federal Domestic Quarantine Order for Potato Cyst Nematode *Globodera pallida* (PCN); Interstate Movement Restrictions and Detection Survey

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

On April 19, 2006, APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) announced the detection of *Globodera pallida*, the potato cyst nematode (PCN) in a tare soil sample from an ISDA grading facility in eastern Idaho. The nematode cysts were detected during a routine Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey.

Following the April detection, APHIS and ISDA immediately placed regulatory restrictions on associated fields and facilities. In addition, traceback investigations and intensive survey strategies were implemented to identify the source of the PCN. As a result, two fields located in Bingham County, Idaho, have been determined to contain PCN; with one field being the likely source for the positive sample. Cysts from the two fields were officially confirmed to be PCN by APHIS-PPQ on June 12 and July 13, 2006, respectively. APHIS and ISDA continue to conduct detection and delimiting surveys of all fields adjacent to or otherwise potentially infested with PCN. A robust survey of fields where potatoes have been grown will be implemented throughout the State of Idaho.

This is the first detection of PCN in the United States. PCN is a major pest of potato crops in cool-temperate areas. PCN has a very narrow host range, which includes potatoes, tomatoes, eggplant, and some weeds. It is difficult to detect easily moved-in soil, by farm machinery, and commodities with attached soil. This detection is important as potatoes are a significant trade commodity, both interstate and internationally. Some countries have already taken action to restrict the importation of potatoes from the United States due to the detection of this pest. These restrictions could have an economic impact on the \$4 billion dollar potato industry of the United States.

In order to prevent the dissemination of PCN, *Globodera pallida*, to other areas in the United States, we are establishing restrictions on the interstate movement of certain regulated articles from Idaho as described in this Federal Order. This action is effective immediately.

For further information, please contact Osama El-Lissy, Director, PPQ, Invasive Species and Pest Management at (301) 734-8247 or David McNeal, State Plant Health Director, Idaho, at (208) 522-2432.

/s/ Paul R. Eggert for

Richard L. Dunkle
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Enclosure

