

POTATO UPDATE

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Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center

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NEW !!!

The **2015 IPM Guidelines for Insects and Mites in Idaho, Oregon and Washington Potatoes** are now available online. Visit the NW Potato Research IPM page <http://www.nwpotatoresearch.com/IPM-Home.cfm> and/or <http://www.nwpotatoresearch.com/IPMStuff/PDFs/NorthwestInsectGuidelines.pdf>.

Update from the Basin

This week I had many phone calls regarding thrips presence in potatoes. Thrips are minute, slender bodied insects with wings that look like thin rods lined with long hairs. Thrips feed on potato leaves by rasping plant cells and sucking out their contents. Make sure to use a hand lens or magnifying glass for detection and identification. Populations of thrips are low in the early spring and build up over time and can become very dense. Since they are small, they are difficult to see. Their excrement can be easily spotted (see picture).



Monitoring for thrips is important because catching a population building up early can aid in their control. **There are no established thresholds or scouting techniques for thrips in potatoes for the Basin.** Yellow sticky cards, beating sheet/tray techniques detect thrips, but it is unclear how accurately this sampling can estimate population size.

Something to keep in mind, **it is unclear how significant thrips damage can be on potatoes; however, growers commonly treat for the pest.** Determining insect presence, damage and yield lost, if any, is important. Very few products list thrips under their labels: spinoteram (Group 23); spinosad (group 23); tolfenpyrad (group 21A); and some package mixes. Check here

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<http://insect.pnwhandbooks.org/vegetable/irish-potato/pesticide-tables-potato> for more details....*Silvia Rondon, Extension Entomologist.*

Extension Plant Pathology Diagnostic Lab Update

This week, 3467 Potato psyllids were tested for '*Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum*' (Lso), the bacterial pathogen responsible for zebra chip disease of potato tubers, thus bringing the annual total up to 5932 psyllids. Two insect submissions, one trap consisting of 29 psyllids and one trap consisting of 3 psyllids, tested positive for Lso. Among plant submissions, a few cases of black leg, tuber soft rot, verticillium wilt, and *Potato virus Y* were diagnosed.*Bryce Robinson, Robert Cating, and Ken Frost*

Late Blight Alert

From Dennis Johnson: "Late blight is known to be present in two fields in block 1 and one field east of Mathews Corner. Late blight has not been observed to have increased in these fields this last week. These infections likely originated during the rain that we had the end of May. Fungicide applications should be made every 5 to 7 day in fields with late blight and fields adjacent to those with late blight. Fields from north of Pasco to Basin City should be treated on a 7 to 10 day schedule. Monitor fields frequently for late throughout the Basin, and be aware of weather forecasts for major rain events. Apply a late blight fungicide before any major rainfall. Be careful not to overwater fields. Potato plants generally shut down and stop translocating water as temperature increase above 90 F. Extra water under these conditions add to tuber rot problems and potentially more late blight."

No late blight samples have been diagnosed by the lab in Hermiston this season. If you have questions about late blight or would like to submit a sample, please contact the lab at 541-567-8321.

....*Bryce Robinson, Robert Cating, and Ken Frost*

LATE BLIGHT HOTLINESponsored by Syngenta

[Oregon State University](http://www.oregonstate.edu): 1-800-705-3377

[University of Idaho](http://www.uidaho.edu): 1-800-791-7195

[Washington State University](http://www.wsu.edu): 1-800-984-7400

Thanks to the Oregon Potato Commission for sponsoring our trapping and extension efforts, and **the USDA-NIFA Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops Program**. Also, special thanks to Anderson geographic & consulting for sponsoring our interactive map.



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Insect Trap Report

Area Pest Alert, Umatilla & Morrow County. Traps are collected on Thursdays. Please note: "-1" value means no data

TRAP	PTW	BLH	OLH	PP	OP	GPA	PA	OA
1	13	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
2	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	1	2	50	12	61	0	0	0
5	3	0	67	0	9	0	0	0
6	0	0	43	16	2	0	0	0
7	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	4	198	0	3	0	0	0
9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
10	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	2	6	2	0	0	0	0
12	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	7	14	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	14	9	0	0	0	0	0
15	15	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	0	4	2	0	2	0	0
17	1	47	7	4	0	0	0	0
18	0	16	5	1	0	0	0	0
19	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0
20	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0
21	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
22	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
23	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0
24	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
26	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
27	3	7	18	0	1	0	0	0
28	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
29	0	0	50	1	1	1	0	0
30	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
31	4	3	13	0	0	0	0	0
32	1	25	11	0	0	0	0	0
33	0	48	20	0	0	0	0	0
34	57	6	3	0	0	0	0	0
35	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	-1	14	2	0	0	0	0	0

PTW: Potato Tuberworms

BLH: Beet Leafhoppers

OLH: Other Leafhoppers

PP: Potato Psyllids

GPA: Green Peach Aphids

PA: Potato Aphids

OA: Other Aphids

OP: Other Potato Psyllids