

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

POTATO UPDATE

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Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center

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2121 South 1st Street, Hermiston, Oregon 97838, T 541-567-8321 | F 541-567-2240 | <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/hermiston/index>

Silvia I. Rondon, Extension Entomologist Specialist • Ruben Marchosky, Faculty Research Assistant • Jordan Eggers, Plant Path Lab Manager

Insect Trap Report

Area Pest Alert Serving Umatilla & Morrow County

Traps are collected on Thursdays.

TRAP	PTW	BLH	OLH	PA	GPA	OA
1	8	4	7	0	0	0
2	0	1	4	0	0	0
3	0	0	4	0	0	0
4	2	1	2	0	0	0
5	0	0	17	0	0	0
6	0	0	1	0	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	2	0	11	0	0	0
12	0	0	1	0	0	0
13	3	0	0	0	0	0
14	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	12	1	0	0	0	0
17	8	27	8	0	0	0
18	0	2	2	0	0	0
19	19	17	5	0	0	0
20	4	1	2	0	0	0
21	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	0	0	18	0	0	0
23	0	0	2	0	0	0
24	1	0	4	0	0	0
25	1	0	1	0	0	0
26	67	0	2	0	0	0
27	1	0	1	0	0	0
28	0	0	3	0	0	0
29	0	0	6	0	0	0
30	1	0	3	0	0	0
31	0	0	11	0	0	0
32	0	12	5	0	0	0
33	1	0	33	0	0	0
34	82	1	4	0	0	0

PTW: Potato Tuberworm

BLH: Beet Leafhopper

OLH: Other Leafhopper

PA: Potato Aphid

GPA: Green Peach Aphid

OA: Other Aphid

From BLH yellow sticky cards located outside potato circles.

TRAP	PP	OP
1	0	4
2	0	1
3	0	3
4	0	3
5	0	2
6	0	4
7	0	1
8	0	1
9	0	0
10	0	0
11	0	0
12	0	3
13	0	1
14	0	6
15	0	0
16	0	0
17	0	0
18	0	2
19	0	0
20	0	4
21	0	0
22	0	1
23	0	0
24	0	9
25	0	0
26	0	2
27	0	1
28	1	0
29	0	2
30	0	5
31	0	4
32	0	1
33	0	3
34	0	18

PP: Potato Psyllid

OP: Other Psyllids

From DVAC (5-10 feet from the edge of the field; 5 minutes)*.

TRAP	PP	OP
1		
2	1	0
3		
4		
5	0	0
6		
7		
8	0	0
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15	0	0
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25	0	0
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
31		
32		
33		
34	2	0

PP: Potato Psyllid

OP: Other Psyllids

* selected sites were sampled

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Pest observations in the Lower Columbia Basin the Week of August 6

Potato psyllids

In the lower Columbia Basin, we are conducting intensive sampling (D-vacuum sampling and looking at over 1,000 leaves per week under a microscope) and we are still finding low numbers of psyllids. Despite regional low numbers, we have seen an increase in numbers of potato psyllids in the past few weeks. Keep in mind that harvesting is already underway and psyllids will be moving to the field next door as vines decline. Scientists with USDA are working on identifying the sex attractant for possible use in monitoring.

In sentinel plots, established in the area for monitoring first arrival of psyllids (small isolated plots, no insecticides applied at planting), psyllid populations are low in Hermiston, Patterson, and Moxee, but high in Prosser. This data suggests that there are differences in regional distribution. We also observed very high natural enemy activity. Minute pirate bug seems to be an aggressive “potato psyllid egg feeder” (personal observation).

By the way, psyllid populations in Nebraska and Colorado have exploded in the last week. In Nebraska over 1,000 adults from 5 sticky cards were collected last week.

This week the trapping program for Union and Baker Counties picked up few more potato psyllids. This week, no psyllids were found in the Klamath area. It is important to remember that the psyllid has to carry the bacterium to cause the disease.

Many potato growers in the Columbia Basin have initiated a foliar insecticide program to control potato psyllids. Growers waiting for first detection of potato psyllids in their fields before beginning an insecticide program should be scouting their fields very carefully. However, this is very risky and is not the recommended method to determine insecticide applications. Potato psyllids are tiny and difficult to see, plus **potato psyllids are not always found in traps even though they are present in the field.** No ZC symptomatic volunteer potatoes were found in recent surveys of fields that had heavy ZC infections in 2011, however plants from infected seed from those fields are still alive in the screen houses at HAREC so infected volunteers may be alive and could be potential sources of the bacterium to feeding potato psyllids

Remember to rotate insecticides between different groups. For more information about chemical control options go to <http://www.potatoes.com>. Updated information about insecticide applications can be found at (<http://oregonstate.edu/dept/hermiston/trap-reports>).

If you have noticed any suspect areas in your production fields and want to have the plants examined to determine if ZC is present or not and contact HAREC.

Potato tuberworm

2004-2005 was the last time we heard about the potato tuberworm causing severe problems. All summer and winter months in those years, extension entomologists around the Pacific Northwest did nothing but answering phone calls, emails, etc regarding tuberworm issues. We sure hope this year won't be a tuberworm year again (check this week's data). As harvest is underway, be mindful of the precautions you have to take to keep your crop safe. For information about this pest, visit

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/pnw/pnw594.pdf> .

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Mites and thrips

Scattered infestations of two-spotted spider mites in some potato fields across eastern Oregon.

Your extension agent....*Silvia Rondon, Extension Entomologist Specialist, OSU-HAREC Irrigated Agricultural Entomology Program*

Plant Pathology Lab Potato Disease Update

Late blight has been reported in Franklin County south of Basin City, WA. Potato fields between Pasco and Basin City should be on a 7 day fungicide application schedule until harvest. Fields elsewhere in the basin should be on a 10 day schedule until harvest. Late blight must be managed on a regional basis, therefore it is very important to report late blight when it is found. Late blight can be reported by contacting the OSU HAREC Plant Pathology Lab (jordan.egggers@oregonstate.edu) or your local extension agent....Jordan Eggers, HAREC Plant Pathology Lab Manager