

WESTLOCK COUNTY

POLICY TITLE: MANAGEMENT OF CLUBROOT

Purpose: A control measure to prevent the growth and spread of clubroot in canola and other susceptible crops. Clubroot, *Plasmodiophora brassicae*, is a serious soil borne disease of cruciferous crops and is a declared pest in Alberta.

POLICY STATEMENT AND GUIDELINES

1. Susceptible crops will be randomly inspected for the presence of clubroot each growing season.
2. Inspections may be conducted by an inspector appointed under the Agricultural Pest Act.
3. Inspectors will follow procedures set out by Agricultural Services administration on proper sampling techniques and protocol for entering upon land.
4. Positive identification of Clubroot shall be obtained by a laboratory test.
5. When land is verified positive for clubroot, the landowner will be notified in writing and an action plan developed to address the management of clubroot in the infected field.
6. If a susceptible crop is sown on the infected area of the property the following year, a notice will be issued for the year following that and that crop will be destroyed at the expense of the landowner. Eg (2008 clubroot found, management plan developed, 2009 canola sown regardless of recommendations, 2009 notice to destroy in 2010 if sown to canola. All infected parcels of land will be inspected yearly for 5 years to achieve compliance. Enforcement pending on compliance.
7. Producers who seed clubroot resistant varieties will be required to present proof of the resistant seed. Producers seeding clubroot resistant seed shall follow a 1 in 4 year rotation or greater as per the best management guidelines from Alberta Agriculture. These parcels of land will be inspected yearly for 4 years to achieve compliance. Enforcement pending on compliance.

8. The owner or occupants of the land who are disturbing the soil will have the responsibility to follow best management guidelines set out by Alberta Agriculture and Food to reduce the spread of the disease with the movement of soil and equipment.
9. The Agricultural Services Board will provide information and education to landowners regarding best management practices of the disease.
10. Each parcel that is subject to action by Westlock County for enforcement of the Clubroot Policy, shall be charged an additional \$250.00 administration fee.
11. This policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis.