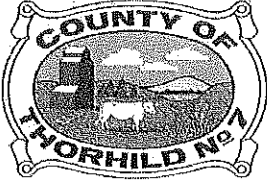


TITLE POLICY 813 – CONTROL OF CLUBROOT DISEASE IN CANOLA/COLE CROPS			
PRESENTER: CINDY OLCHOWY		AGENDA NO.:	
DEPARTMENT: Ag. & C. S.		DATE: May 11, 2010	
CLEARANCES:		ATTACHMENTS:	
APPROVAL Cindy Olchowy <i>Cindy Olchowy</i> <u>May 5/10</u> _____ <u>5/5/10</u> Department Head Date County Manager Date			

SUMMARY OF HISTORY/DISCUSSION & FUNDING:

Clubroot was designated a Pest under the Agricultural Pests Act in 2007.

The Clubroot Management Committee has developed the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan, which details best management practices and roles and responsibilities of the committee, provincial and municipal governments, landowners, industry, operators.

To support this Plan, a local Clubroot Policy has been established, through consultation with Alberta Agriculture staff and municipal colleagues with established policies.

Recommendation:

County Council recognize the Agricultural Pests Act and Regulations in relation to Clubroot, accept the Policy as information and continue to work with agricultural producers and industry to promote the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan and Best Management Practices.

**COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7
POLICY STATEMENT**

SECTION: 800

POLICY NO.: 813

SUBJECT: CONTROL OF CLUBROOT DISEASE

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

REVIEWED & APPROVED BY COUNCIL:

PURPOSE AND INTENT: TO PREVENT AND CONTROL THE CLUBROOT DISEASE IN CANOLA/COLE CROPS IN THE COUNTY OF THORHILD NO. 7.

POLICY STATEMENT: TO PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND SPREAD OF CLUBROOT, DESIGNATED A PEST UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL PEST ACT, AND FOLLOW THE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES SET OUT BY THE ALBERTA CLUBROOT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

PROCEDURE:

1. Random field inspections may be conducted by the Agricultural Fieldman or by any other qualified inspector(s) appointed under the Agricultural Pest Act.
2. Inspections will occur annually, on selected fields where canola, mustard, and cole crops have been grown, as per Schedule "A", Inspection Procedure. Additional fields, at the discretion of the Agricultural Service Board may be completed if positive survey results have been found.
3. Clubroot survey method, reporting form, and calculation of disease incident will follow standard protocols provided by the Alberta Clubroot Management Committee.

4. All suspect positive survey results of clubroot will be confirmed by a laboratory test.
5. When land is verified positive for clubroot, an inspector will notify, personally and in writing with a Notification, persons owning the property or engaged in the growing, transporting or processing of any crop that may be affected by the infestation. The notification will prohibit the growth of canola, mustard, or cole crops for a period of 3 years, after which a clubroot resistant variety may be grown (1 in 4 years allowable rotation interval). Annual inspections will be conducted for this 4 year period to ensure compliance.
6. The owner or occupants of the land who are disturbing the soil are responsible to follow the guidelines set out under the Best Management Plan, attached as Schedule "B", to reduce the spread of the disease with the movement of soil and equipment.
7. Specific land locations, positively identified with clubroot, will not be made available to other landowners, occupants and other parties with genuine interest, unless the inspector considers such notification necessary or advisable with a view of preventing the spread of or controlling the infestation, in accordance with Section 10 of the Alberta Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation. General areas, with positively identified clubroot will be posted in the municipal office for reference.
8. Awareness and education will be provided to landowners/occupants regarding the spread of the disease.

The Agricultural Service Board shall review this policy on an annual basis.

SCHEDULE "A"

Inspection Procedure

Steps before entering lands:

- ✓ *County of Thorhild employee identification card*
- ✓ *Province of Alberta Agricultural Pest Act*
- ✓ *County of Thorhild map*
- ✓ *Clubroot Inspection Reports*
- ✓ *County of Thorhild Club Root Policies*
- ✓ *Sample bags or containers*
- ✓ *Proper Personal Protective Equipment*
- ✓ *Garbage bags/container*
- ✓ *GPS*
- ✓ *Mileage log*

Field Inspections:

Preliminary

1. The Inspector, Agricultural Fieldman, along with the Director of Agriculture Services, will establish and follow a plan of action for the season, in accordance with budget and time constraints.
2. The inspector will check all prohibited parcels of land from the previous year's notifications to ensure that canola is not grown.
3. The inspector will inspect selected fields of canola within the County of Thorhild.

Inspection:

1. Inspections will be carried out, in accordance with provision under the Alberta Pests Act, Section 17(2):
An inspector may, for the purpose of carrying out the inspector's duties;
 - (a) Enter at any reasonable hour on any land to inspect the land or any buildings, property or livestock on the land,

- (b) Take specimens of a pest or nuisance and of any matter or thing that contains or is suspected of containing a pest or nuisance.
2. When possible and practical, contact will be made with landowner(s) and or occupants of the lands.
 3. Upon entering a field, park vehicle in an approach or off to the side of the road in a safe location. DO NOT drive or park in the field.
 4. Locate and verify field on County map. Record location on map and inspection report.
 5. Before entering field, the inspector will wear disposable protective equipment to stop the transfer of soil from one site to another.
 6. Visually assess the field for suspect infection of club root, (premature ripening, yellowing or browning of plants) in crops.
 7. The crop shall be walked in a pre-determined pattern. (W pattern), marked by GPS. Areas of potential contamination such as field entrances, slough (low areas), water runs should be examined. A minimum of 6 plants should be pulled in this travel pattern to give a good representation of the crop.
 8. When clubroot galls are found upon the plant root, the inspector shall take a tissue sample of the plant roots. This sample is to be bagged, recorded, and marked with the field reference.
 9. Key factors are:
 - Completion of the report on site.
 - Sample bag marked with reference number consisting with the report number.
 - Detailed map of the area that the infection was found
 - Any other details pertaining to the inspection.
 10. When leaving the field protective clothing shall be removed and contained in the garbage bags supplied, and properly disposed of.
 11. All suspect plant tissue samples are then to be taken within 48 hours to an appropriate lab for verification of clubroot.