



Policy No.: 6300.06

Topic: <p style="text-align: center;">Clubroot of Canola</p>	Effective Date: October 28, 2008
	Approved By: RES 905-10-28-08
Subject Area: Agricultural Services	Date of Next Review: October 2013
	Date(s) Revised:

Policy Statement:

Yellowhead County Agricultural Services shall carry out the requirements of the Agricultural Pests Acts of Alberta RSA 2000. Clubroot of Canola was named as a declared pest under the Act in 2007 and under this Act, municipalities shall take active measures to prevent the establishment of, or control or destroy Clubroot in the municipality.

Purpose:

To clarify responsibilities and provide direction to Yellowhead County Staff and Yellowhead County ratepayers and landowners to prevent the introduction and minimize the impacts of Clubroot in Yellowhead County.

Principles:

To minimize the impact of Clubroot on Yellowhead County's primary producers and to specify the steps that will be taken if Clubroot is discovered on lands inspected in Yellowhead County.

Council Guidelines:

1. Provide support and resources to the Agriculture Service Board in carrying out their duties.
2. Council understands the importance of Agricultural Pest Control and will appoint inspectors under the Agricultural Pests Act to implement this policy within Yellowhead County.
3. Council will establish an independent committee to hear and determine appeals received by the municipality against notices issued by an inspector under the Act.

Managerial Guidelines:**Information and Awareness:**

1. Yellowhead County Agricultural Services staff will increase the awareness of Clubroot and provide information to its residents and all other stakeholders who may potentially spread this disease.
2. In order to better understand how the disease is introduced and spread, Yellowhead County will continue to gather as much information about Clubroot for its residents.
3. Agricultural Services will notify and educate all other Yellowhead County departments who may directly or indirectly be affected or who could potentially spread this disease through normal business.

Inspection and Identification:

1. Random Canola field inspections will be conducted by the Agricultural Fieldman or by other inspectors appointed under the Agricultural Pests Act by Yellowhead County Council.
2. Inspectors will follow a standardized procedure set out by Agricultural Services administration on proper sampling techniques and protocol for entering upon land.
3. When land is verified positive for Clubroot the landowner will be notified in writing with a notice under the Agricultural Pests Act.
4. The landowner of the infected lands is responsible for notifying any occupant, new owner or any person with an interest in the land of the presence of Clubroot.
5. The notice will prohibit the growth of Canola and any other member of the Brassicaceae family for a period of 4 years. Under no circumstance will these crops be permitted to be grown.
6. Any land for which the notice is issued then sown to such a crop within the 4 growing seasons will be destroyed by the county. Canola is permitted to be grown in the 5th growing season.
7. A person who has an interest in land as an owner or occupant and feels personally aggrieved by a notice issued by an inspector under Section 12 of the Agricultural Pests Act may appeal to the local authority of Yellowhead County within ten days of the Notice.
8. The Agricultural Service Board will be notified of the presence of Clubroot in Yellowhead County.
9. The owner or occupants of the land for which a notice is issued, and whom are disturbing the soil will have the responsibility to follow the best management guidelines that are laid out in the "Alberta Clubroot Management Plan" that is set out by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development to reduce the spread of the disease with the movement of soil and equipment.
10. If landowners are concerned about the cleanliness or disinfection of any equipment, it will be their responsibility to ensure the cleanliness of the equipment to their standards prior to entering onto their land.
11. The Director of Corporate Services shall as soon as practical serve a demand for payment of the expenses incurred by the municipality on the owner of the land in the manner prescribed in the Agricultural Pests Act. An additional 10% administration fee, to a maximum of \$250, will be levied against the landowner in addition to the cost of the enforcement.

Cross Reference to Other Policies and Bylaws: None.



Mayor Gerald Soroka

October 28, 2008

Date

Chief Administrative Officer Jack Ramme

October 28, 2008

Date
