

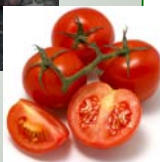
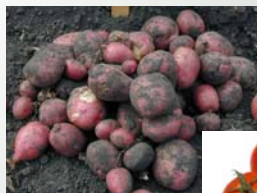
LATE BLIGHT OF POTATO & TOMATO

Primary Hosts

- ◆ Potato
- ◆ Tomato

Secondary Hosts:

- ◆ Eggplant
- ◆ Pepper
- ◆ Petunia
- ◆ Solanaceous weeds
 - ◆ Nightshade
 - ◆ Wild tomato
 - ◆ etc.



Potato leaf lesion



Lesions on tomato leaves

SYMPTOMS

Dark, water-soaked lesions (spots)

Lesions are not contained by leaf veins

Lesions may have a yellow edge

Lesions become brown & brittle within a couple of days

Disease develops rapidly under warm & wet/humid conditions

Plant foliage may die back rapidly

Tomato fruit & potato tuber rot may have reddish-brown lesions

Rot can penetrate the skins of tomato fruit & tubers - causes rot & discoloration of the internal flesh



Tomato & potato rot



Potato foliage

HOW THE DISEASE SPREADS

ONLY overwinters & survives on LIVING plant tissue (seed potatoes, volunteers, potato cull piles, living plants, etc.) [**Applies to Prairies**]

Spreads by spores (sporangia) between plants in fields by rain or water splash or short distances in soil water

Spores may be carried long distances (100+km) on wind or in storm fronts

Disease may spread from diseased to healthy tomato fruit & potato tubers in storage & between potato seed pieces

HOW TO PREVENT / MANAGE

Avoid introducing the disease - only plant healthy tubers & tomato transplants
- Grow resistant tomato varieties

Scout for infection early, regularly and thoroughly

Rigorously cull out all infected or suspect material

Do not leave infected plant material in the open - bag, bury or compost (covered) or freeze all material

Top kill or remove tops of infected potatoes to reduce risk of spread to tubers

For more information on the management of late blight, visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca — FAQs