

SECTION: ASB

POLICY TITLE: Control of Clubroot Disease

POLICY NUMBER: 1-24

Purpose:

To establish a policy pursuant to the Alberta Pest Control Act, being Chapter A-8 2000 in controlling or eradicating Clubroot Disease in Kneehill County. If Clubroot has been found within Kneehill County it should be assumed all properties are at risk.

Policy Statement:

Referencing Bylaw 1570 this policy recognizes that Clubroot is a serious pest problem and supports the principle to control the spread of Clubroot which has been declared a pest under the Alberta Agriculture Pests Act. Under the Pest Control Act it is the responsibility of a local authority to prevent the establishment of, or to control or destroy pests in a municipality.

Definitions In this Policy

a) Landowner and/or Occupant – the registered name on title and/or the person responsible for agricultural production on the land.

Policy Guidelines:

1. Random field inspections will be conducted by the Agricultural Fieldman and/or by any other inspectors as appointed by Kneehill County.
2. Inspectors will follow procedures set out by the Agricultural Fieldman on proper sampling techniques and protocol for entering upon land. Best Management Practices will be followed to ensure inspections do not become a source of spreading the disease. The Agricultural Fieldman will maintain current Clubroot Inspection Guidelines for staff.
3. Positive identification of Clubroot shall be obtained by laboratory testing.
4. When land is verified positive for Clubroot the landowner and/or occupant will be notified in writing with a written legal notice in accordance with the Province of Alberta Agricultural Pests Act.
5. The notice will prohibit the growing of canola, mustard or any other crucifer crop for a period of:
 - 3 years if a Canadian Food Inspection Agency approved Clubroot resistant crop variety is planted, with proof of purchase disclosed to the Agricultural Fieldman.
 - 4 years if a non resistant variety is planted.

6. When an infection is found, the current crop may be harvested, but all residues from the crop must not leave the field.
7. Subsequent non host crops must be treated with a herbicide registered for control of cruciferous weeds, which may act as an alternate host.(Shepherds purse, Stinkweed, Flaxweed, Ball Mustard)
8. The owner and/or occupant of the land on which a notice has been issued who are disturbing the soil will be required to follow the Best Management Guidelines set out by Alberta Agriculture and Food in the Clubroot Management Plan (Agdex 140/638-1) to reduce the spread of the disease through the movement of soil and equipment.
9. A person who has an interest in the land, as an owner or occupant, and feels personally aggrieved by a notice issued by an inspector under Section 12 of the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act may appeal to the local authority of Kneehill County within ten days of the Notice.
10. If a host crop is sown on land that is known to be infected by Clubroot and a current notice has been issued on this property restricting the growth of host crops, the host crop shall be destroyed.
11. Survey results and legal locations of infested fields must be made available to land renters, landowners and other parties with a genuine commercial interest, under the provisions of the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act and the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (section 10). The method of information release shall be at the discretion of the municipal officer, and may be in the form of a map at the municipal office, verbal communication or other formats.
12. Land previously verified positive for Clubroot disease shall be inspected annually for compliance of the notice.
13. This policy shall be reviewed on an as needed basis by the Agricultural Service Board.

Approval Date	March 11, 2008	Approved by:	Regular Council	Motion #112/08
1. Amendment Date	August 17/2010		Regular Council	Motion #393/10
2. Amendment Date				
3. Amendment Date				