



Guidance for the MPI Phytosanitary Official Assurance Programme for Potato Cyst Nematode and Potato Wart

Version 2

Title

Guidance Document: Guidance for the MPI Phytosanitary Official Assurance Programme for Potato Cyst Nematode and Potato Wart

About this document

This guidance document contains frequently asked questions about the operation of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) Phytosanitary Official Assurance Programme for Potato Cyst Nematode and Potato Wart. These questions and answers will be updated from time to time as new questions are asked and resolved.

Related Requirements

MPI Phytosanitary Official Assurance Programme for Potato Cyst Nematode and Potato Wart: Requirements for Growers, Packing and Storage Facility Operators, MPI approved Organisations, Exporters, and Independent Verification Agencies

Document history

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1 Purpose

- (1) This guidance document contains frequently asked questions on the operation of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) Phytosanitary Official Assurance Programme for Potato Cyst Nematode (*Globodera rostochiensis* and *Globodera pallida*) and Potato Wart (*Synchytrium endobioticum*).
- (2) These questions and answers will be updated from time to time as new questions are asked and resolved.

2 Frequently Asked Questions

- (1) **What is the difference between the new Potato OAP and the old compliance programme?**

All MPI Plant Export Compliance Programmes have undergone a name change and are now known as an MPI Official Assurance Programme. Compared with the old compliance programme the format of the entire document has changed and several sections have been updated, mainly by way of clarification. The export requirements for the Republic of Korea have been added.

- (2) **Who nominates when the PCN soil survey is undertaken and how do they do this?**

To a large extent the grower decides what surveys are required and when they are conducted, however this can also be prescribed by the importing country. The registration form allows the grower to nominate the type of survey required for each production site being registered and for what market.

- (3) **The category of seed to be planted for Taiwan and the Republic of Korea may vary between each production site, how do we register those?**

The registration form has been updated to allow the category of seed to be stated for each production site.

- (4) **What are the tolerances for the other Additional Declaration pests for Taiwan?**

The normal 600 unit phytosanitary inspection applies, with no detections of live pests in the sample. Refer to the relevant ICPR for the Maximum Pest Limit.

- (5) **Section 1.2 (9), 2.2 (14) and 3.2 (14) requires that potatoes for destinations other than Taiwan and the Republic of Korea are not packed at the same time as those destined for Taiwan or the Republic of Korea. If, during grading, a particular size is being packed for Taiwan or the Republic of Korea can the remaining sizes be used for another market?**

Yes. The intention of these sections is that potatoes not cleared for Taiwan or the Republic of Korea are not packed at the same time as those that are cleared for these markets.

- (6) **How does a packer let the IVA know that they are going to be packing for Taiwan or the Republic of Korea?**

The registration form allows operators to indicate that they are registering for Taiwan or the Republic of Korea.

- (7) **If PCN is detected during a pre-harvest survey of registered production site number 7 in Figure 1 below, and if the grower has used a sprayer all season on registered production sites 4 and 6, what is the status of those sites (they may have been contaminated with PCN)?**

Sites 4 and 6 are still eligible for export, but cleaning procedures must be put into immediate effect for any machinery moving from site 7. The reason for this is that PCN cysts are stimulated to hatch by young root growth. Any cysts transferred by clods of soil to sites 4 & 6 would be unlikely to emerge and present a significant risk in the current export season. If 4 & 6 are registered for Taiwan or the Republic of Korea, all machinery will have been cleaned between sites.

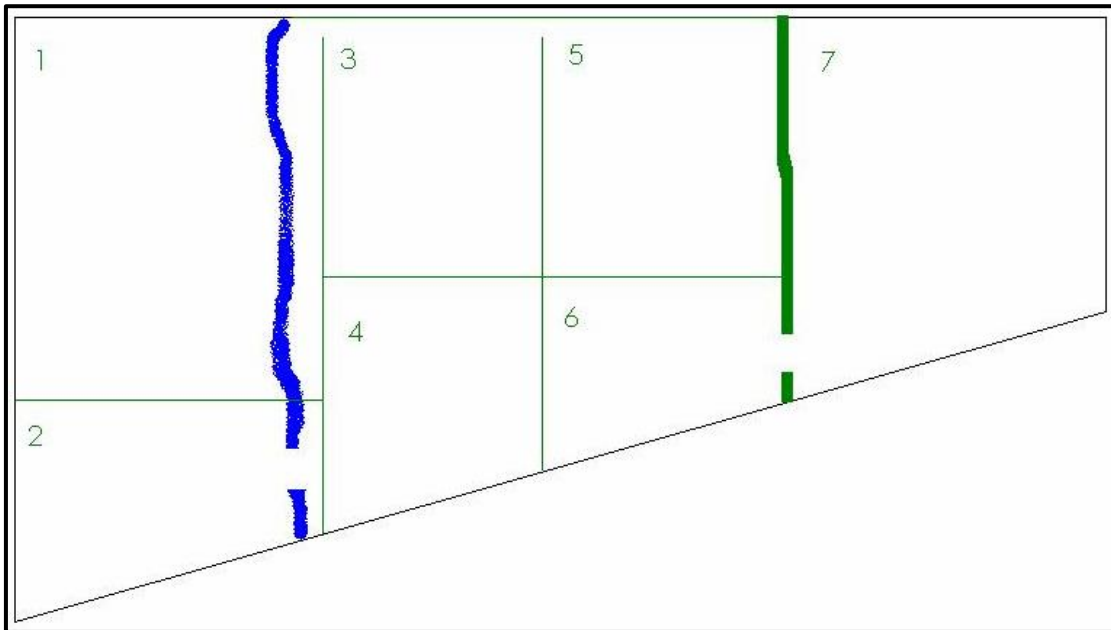


Figure 1. Property showing layout of registered production sites

- (8) **How is a farm track defined? How does this differ from a road when determining whether two adjoining properties can be called a single property?**

If two blocks of land with separate property valuation numbers are to be considered one property (for example so that several paddocks on the two blocks can be registered as one production site) they must be contiguous - touching or adjoining. The boundaries of the properties must touch. If there is a farm track running down the boundary and the boundaries touch it is adjoining.

If there is a road between the boundaries (as owned by the local council or transit New Zealand) then they are not adjoining.

- (9) **What are the costs of the various survey options?**

Growers should discuss costs with the IVAs, as charges will depend on the circumstances of the production sites to be registered.

- (10) **For Taiwan and the Republic of Korea– can you plant before pre-plant survey results are known?**

Yes, at the grower's risk. If PCN is found the production site will be removed from the programme.

(11) Is it cheaper to register all paddocks as one production site, or as several production sites?

In most cases the costs of taking samples or fork sampling will be the same, as 100 soil cores/4 Ha are required. However a separate laboratory test for PCN is required for each production site. Growers need to balance costs against the consequences of PCN being found on a production site (and it being rejected from the programme).

In Figure 2 (below), a grower could register paddocks 5, 6, and 7 as one production site. If PCN is found in paddock 7 all three paddocks are removed from the programme (and may not be re-entered in subsequent years). If they are registered as 3 production sites, only paddock 7 would be removed.

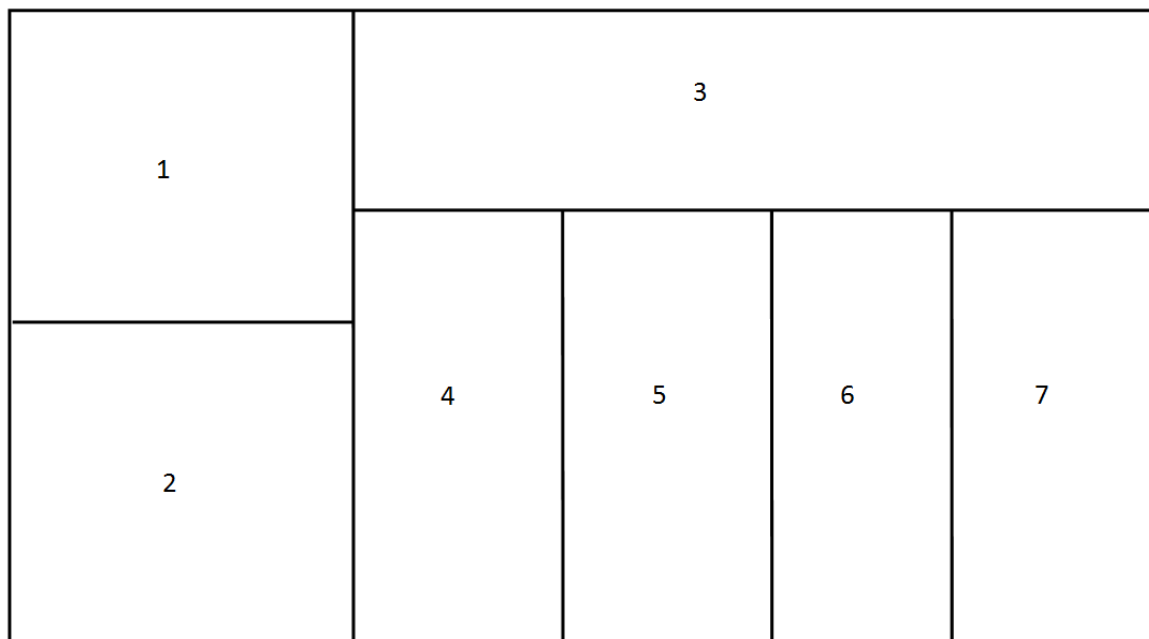


Figure 2. Property showing layout of paddocks

(12) What is the Farm/Property Number/ Code on the registration form?

This space on the registration form is for the (Region of Production) ROP number that many South Island growers use. The form indicates “Farm ROP number (if known)”.

(13) Why do we need a statutory declaration for the survey exemption (where there have been no Solanaceous crops for 10 years and PCN has never been found, a production site may be exempt from the PCN survey)?

This provides additional assurance to MPI that the information is correct. MPI is willing to look at alternative arrangements for implementation of the exemption.