

2022 Potato Tuber Moth Programme

Potato Tuber Moth has become the predominant insect pest species in the Pukekohe growing region, causing significant financial losses for growers in the region. As a consequence, Potatoes New Zealand initiated a research programme designed to better manage the pest.

As part of this programme PNZ will be carrying out a field trial to test a range of chemicals not commonly used to manage the pest. In order to identify an appropriate site for the trial Fruitfed has installed several traps in different location in the region. The trail will be located at sites where pest pressure is highest.

Weekly Monitoring Report No.11

Potato tuber moth per day catch average for the whole Franklin area has decreased slightly from 9.2 to 8.1 moth per day. Tuakau has highest trap average at 18, followed by Pukekawa at 8.5. The average catch per day for the same time last year was 7.3 moth per day. We are seeing larvae in potato canopies so growers and advisors need to remain vigilant, keep checking soil conditions.

Moth Catch Risk Range

0-4 lower risk

5-9 moderate risk

10+ higher risk

