

IMPORTANT

Conditions for the movement within Victoria of potato cyst nematode (PCN) host materials from the Gembrook, Koo Wee Rup, Thorpdale and Wandin PCN Control Areas

In February 2009 an additional PCN Control Area was established around Thorpdale to prevent the spread of PCN from the area.

Please be advised that a permit is required for moving PCN host materials out of any of the above-named PCN Control Areas.

To obtain a permit, or for further information on import requirements, please contact DPI Plant Standards Branch - phone (03) 8371 3500 or fax (03) 9687 6746.

The permit must state that the following conditions for the movement of host materials within Victoria from any Control Area apply:

Seed potatoes (under permit)

- Potatoes must be brushed so as to remove loose soil; and
 - sampled and found to be free from PCN: or
 - labelled and certified under the ViCSPA Scheme.

Processing potatoes (under permit)

- Negative for PCN
 - Potatoes must be:
 - grown on land tested and found to be free from PCN; and
 - washed or brushed:
 - before leaving the property; or
 - at a facility accredited by Plant Standards; and
 - in packages which identify the place of production; and
 - accompanied by a plant health declaration issued by an authorised person or accredited business.
- Untested for PCN or infested with PCN
 - Potatoes must be:
 - consigned to a processor accredited by Plant Standards; or
 - accompanied by a plant health declaration issued by an authorised person/business

Ware potatoes for human consumption (under permit)

- Potatoes must be:
 - brushed or washed so as remove loose soil; and packaging must be labelled with the words:
 - "for table use only - not for planting", and
 - the letter "A" to denote that the potatoes were grown in a PCN affected area; or
 - another code where approved by the Manager Plant Standards.

Potatoes sold as waste, including stockfeed (under permit) must be washed or brushed so as to be practically free of soil; and transported by a carrier to a place approved by the Manager Plant Standards.

PCN host plants (under permit) must be grown on a property which has sampled and found to be free from PCN; and a statutory declaration by the owner/occupier declaring no potatoes have been grown within the last 10 years.

Soil movement is prohibited.

Seed bins (under permit)

- Bins must be accompanied by a copy of a permit issued by an authorised inspector permitting the movement of seed bins which have been:
 - cleaned so as to be practically free of soil and organic matter by brushing, and disinfested with:
 - high pressure water; or
 - hot water; or
 - steam.

Agricultural equipment

- must be accompanied by a Plant Health Certificate issued by an authorised inspector, certifying that the equipment has been cleaned so as to be practically free of soil and organic matter by:
 - brushing and
 - disinfestation with:
 - high pressure water; or
 - hot water; or
 - steam.

Exemptions:

Nursery plants, including seedling, grown in soil-less media, bare-rooted plants or root vegetables (except potatoes) or bulb which have been washed or brushed so as to be free of visible soil.

Notes:

1. The operator must 'present' potatoes for lot inspection and provide resources for lifting, spilling and repacking bags.
2. Inspection must be conducted in an area set aside for this purpose and provided with adequate lighting and table space conducive to inspection
3. Inspection of potatoes will not be done in a field situation; a packing shed is acceptable.
4. **PCN host plants** - means any plant or plant product of the Solanaceae family and any root vegetable, bulb, seedling, nursery plant or tree, except where exemptions apply;
5. **Solanaceae** - means the family of plants which includes potatoes, tomatoes, eggplants, and weeds including nightshade;
6. **Brushed** - in reference to potatoes, refers to the mechanical removal of soil from potatoes by means including by hand
7. **Agricultural Equipment** - means any equipment used for the culture, harvesting, packing or processing of any PCN host plants, including bulk handlers and any vehicle;
8. Sampled and tested for PCN accordance with the National PCN Sampling Strategy (Hinch, 1991),

Additional conditions apply to PCN host materials moving into the potato Plant Protection Districts in the Portland, Colac-Otway and Warragul areas.



PATRICK J SHARKEY
Manager Plant Standards