

# Potato cyst nematode at Thorpdale

## Market access

- A revised PCN management plan has been distributed nationally to industry and government. If the plan is agreed, it will go to the national Plant Health Committee for endorsement in about two weeks' time.
- An interstate science advisory meeting was held on 28 November to agree on the scientific basis for proposed movement conditions from PCN-infested land.

Plant Health Committee will consider the outcomes of this meeting on 4 December.

## Fees for samples

- The cost of soil sampling and testing to determine the spread of PCN will be covered by DPI.
- For market access sampling and testing, growers will need to contribute to costs on the following basis:

**Sample taken with grower assistance\*:**  
\$33 per ha (inc. GST)

**Sample taken without grower assistance:**  
\$44 per ha (inc. GST)

**Minimum sample collection fee:**  
\$330 (inc. GST)

**Laboratory test: \$103 per 2ha (inc. GST)**

\* Grower assistance may include taking soil cores, use of a vehicle on the property etc.

- Enquiries about fees should be directed to Gordon Berg—phone 5624 2229.

## Soil surveys

- Excellent progress is being made with soil sampling, despite the loss of a couple of days due to rainfall. More than 286,000 soil cores have now been taken.
- No further detections of PCN have been made.
- As of 28 November, about 2000ha of land had been sampled, which is around 80% of the estimated total area to be surveyed.
- 498ha of the total have been surveyed on a high-intensity sampling grid (5m x 5m) to determine the spread of PCN.
- Around 1500ha have been surveyed for market access purposes; this includes roughly 300ha of ViCSPA sampling.
- 884 PCN delimiting samples and 737 market access samples (including some ViCSPA samples) have been tested.
- Three staff from Queensland DPI visited Thorpdale last week to be trained in our soil sampling technique - they are now testing trace forward paddocks in Queensland.

## Financial advice

If you would like to talk to a Rural Financial Counsellor, please contact either:

- **RFC Leongatha** - 5662 2566 (Jenni Gibson or Marshall White)
- **RFC Ellinbank** - 5624 2286 (Ilona Kingston)

Your local DPI Community Relationship Manager is **Angus Hume**:  
phone 5662 9927 / 0429 110 546; email [angus.hume@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:angus.hume@dpi.vic.gov.au)

DPI would like to acknowledge the support of ViCSPA, Seed Potatoes Victoria, the Victorian Potato Growers' Council and the Baw Baw Shire Council in the response to the PCN detection.

## Movement regulations

For information about the movement of potato plant material, machinery and other equipment, please contact DPI Plant Standards on (03) 8371 3500 or [plant.standards@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:plant.standards@dpi.vic.gov.au)

Other information is available on the DPI website at [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/psb](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/psb)