

Potato cyst nematode at Thorpdale

Interstate trade negotiations

- Victoria's proposals for interstate market access were sent to members of the national Plant Health Committee last week, in preparation for a meeting (commencing today) which will discuss the issue.

Soil surveys

- The early stages of soil sampling are proceeding well and additional survey teams have now been employed to accelerate the process.
- Priorities for soil sampling are decided according to a combination of the PCN risk of the paddock and market access considerations.

Information is being collected from growers, merchants and packers to help in deciding on priorities. Your cooperation in providing this information is much appreciated.

Test results

- Soil samples will be tested as soon as possible, but the time required between sampling and getting a result will be variable. Test results will be communicated to growers as soon as they are available.

Negative PCN test results will be advised by fax.

Positive test results will be advised by telephone.

Please resist the temptation to make enquiries with DPI Crop Health Services about the progress of sample testing.

Acknowledgements

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.

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

Other information is available on the DPI website at www.dpi.vic.gov.au/psb