

# RED DEER COUNTY

## TITLE: CONTROL OF CLUBROOT DISEASE IN CANOLA

Category: Operations / Agricultural Services

Policy \_\_\_\_\_ Procedure   x    
Bylaw \_\_\_\_\_ Guideline \_\_\_\_\_

No. 7.022(a)

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**AUTHORITY:** County Manager Approval

**DATE:** May 26, 2023

**REPLACES:** County Manager Approval  
County Manager Approval  
County Manager Approval

**DATE:** May 26, 2020  
January 2, 2018  
April 10, 2015

### Further References:

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### PURPOSE

To provide guidelines and procedures in relation to Red Deer County's Clubroot inspection, confirmation and enforcement process under authority of the Agricultural Pest Act of Alberta.

### GUIDELINES/SCOPE

1. Administration will inspect Canola fields to identify the presence of Clubroot disease.
2. Inspections will be conducted based on risk factors. Risk factors include active Pest Notice fields, previously confirmed or suspected positive fields, crop history, crop rotation, proximity to other infestations, unknown clubroot status of an area, possible site of contamination from moved soil, visually poor crop and others.
3. If clubroot is suspected, a plant sample will be sent for lab analysis to confirm the presence of Clubroot disease.
  - a) If confirmed (Clubroot positive) a re-inspection of the property will occur to develop a **Disease Infestation Rate (DIR)** of that parcel. The landowner may/shall be contacted to witness the re-inspection.
  - b) If denied (Clubroot negative), the parcel will be listed as inspected and no further action will be required.
4. Once clubroot is confirmed in a field, regardless of the DIR, and a landowner has been notified, a letter will be sent to the adjacent landowners notifying them of the presence of clubroot.
5. DIR will be determined by taking and inspecting plant samples within the parcel. A minimum of 100 samples (preferably over 200) must be taken and a percentage of plants that show clubroot symptoms versus plants that do not show symptoms will be considered the DIR for that parcel. (U of A Canola/Clubroot Survey Protocols)

- a) If a DIR of under 10% is determined in the parcel, then a Notice to Control Pests will **not** be issued. The landowner will be provided with the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan and advised of Best Management Practices (BMP), including equipment sanitation and encouraged to restrict access to the parcel. It will be strongly suggested to the landowner that they voluntarily adopt a 1 in 4 rotation, if they don't already. This parcel will be monitored annually to ensure the disease isn't spreading/increasing in severity and to ensure that BMP's are being followed.
  - b) If DIR of 10% to 20% is determined in the parcel, a Notice to Control Pests will be issued. This notice will prohibit the growth of a Clubroot host crop for a period of up to 3 growing seasons (1 in 4 year rotation).
  - c) If DIR of 20% to 30% is determined in the parcel, a Notice to Control Pests will be issued. This notice will prohibit the growth of a Clubroot host crop for a period of 4 growing seasons (1 in 5 year rotation).
  - d) If DIR greater than 30% is determined in the parcel, a Notice to Control Pests will be issued. This notice will prohibit the growth of a Clubroot host crop for a period of 5 growing seasons (1 in 6 year rotation).
6. If BMPs haven't been followed or are not being followed, a notice should be written, regardless of DIR, for the minimum rotation as recommended by the Alberta Clubroot Management Guide.
  7. If there are insufficient plant samples for taking a plant sample or completing a DIR, a comprehensive soil sample may be collected and tested to confirm the presence or absence of Clubroot disease and a Notice to Control Pests may be issued for the minimum rotation as recommended by the Alberta Clubroot Management Guide.
  8. Notices written may direct action to a particular area of a parcel or the entire parcel.