

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT TABLE-STOCK POTATO EXPORTS TO KOREA

Can I export 2017 crop to Korea under the new agreement?

- Re-opening of the Korean market for table-stock potatoes takes effect for the 2018 crop in Oregon, Idaho and Washington. Efforts are underway to see if compliant 2017 crop can be exported, but to date, they have not been successful.

What kind of records do I need to keep?

- You will need to keep records describing the location of the field, what crops were planted in the field previously, when planting occurred, any inspections/field treatments applied, and any unusual pest finds or abnormal growing patterns. You should also have records of the seed used and the trapping results for the psyllid traps placed.

How is the presence of zebra chip assessed?

- The main way zebra chip will be assessed is through traps and the trapping protocol that PNW growers already use. Industry and APHIS shared with Korea the IPM guidelines and practices undertaken to trap for psyllids and to detect the presence of zebra chip. Growers and shippers interested in exporting to Korea must trap according to the protocol, which is four traps per field for fields of 50 hectares or less and adding another trap for each additional ten hectares. Traps must be changed weekly. Records of tapping and lab results must be kept and available.
- On the inspection side, potatoes will be cut, visually inspected and subject to a fry test to check for symptoms of zebra chip. The fry test involves frying the potato in hot oil (191° Celsius/376° Fahrenheit). Infected tubers develop unsightly black lines indicating the presence of the disease.

Who is responsible for the trapping of potato psyllids?

- Growers are responsible for the trapping of potato psyllids and typically carry this out as part of their internal farming practices. There are also crop consultants that will carry out trapping for growers, but there will likely be a fee involved for this service.

Where can I get the trapped psyllids tested for zebra chip?

- Testing of trapped psyllids can be carried out by an accredited university or by approved commercial or state testing laboratory. Growers should contact Potatoes USA for further information on approved testing institutions.

What happens if vectors test positive for zebra chip?

- If, during laboratory testing, the trapped vectors are found to test positive for zebra chip, the field will be excluded from exporting to Korea for the remainder of that export season. There are significant requirements for contiguous fields.

What happens if zebra chip is detected during inspection?

- If zebra chip is detected during export inspection in the US, the field from which the potatoes came will be suspended from the export program for the remainder of the export season.
- If the causal agent of zebra chip (*Candidatus Liberobacter Solanacearum*) is detected during import inspection, the shipment will be rejected or destroyed and the import of potatoes from the entire

state will be suspended, pending further investigation and appropriate action to address the issue. If the detection of zebra chip disease continues, the import requirements for PNW potatoes may be suspended and reviewed.

What are the requirements for contiguous fields if I have a positive find in my field?

- It is important to realize that a contiguous field is considered a field that is touching another field. Fields across the road are not considered contiguous. The requirements for contiguous fields are significant if there is a find. 17 traps must be placed and checked according to the guidelines outlined above. Fields larger than 50 hectares require even more trapping.

Which Pesticides Can I Use?

- Korea has its own pesticide residue limits. Korean maximum residue levels (MRLs) can be compared with US MRLs at the Potato USA's Global Database reached through at www.PotatoesUSA.com or at www.glbalmrl.com.

What sprout inhibitor can I use?

- The Korean government requires growers to use approved sprout inhibitors. There is currently one approved sprout inhibitor: Chlorpropham (CIPC). The treatment schedule for this sprout inhibitor can be found above.

Who should I contact if I have further questions?

- Please contact Amy Burdett at Potatoes USA; amy@potatoesusa.com