

Department: Agricultural Services	Section: PC – Pest Control
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PC-02 Control of Clubroot Disease in Canola

Policy Statement

Leduc County Agricultural Services will inspect private and public lands for the presence of clubroot in canola as a requirement under the Agricultural Pests Act, Section 10(1) “*The local authority of a municipality shall appoint a sufficient number of inspectors to carry out this Act and the regulations within the municipality.*”

Definitions

- *Inspector*, according to the *Agricultural Pests Act*, means a person appointed as an inspector, including an inspector by virtue of office.
- *Owner*, according to the *Agricultural Pests Act*, means
 - In the case of land, a person who is registered under the *Land Titles Act* as the owner of land, or
 - In the case of personal property, a person who is in lawful possession of it or who has the right to exercise control over it
- *Pest* means an animal, bird, insect, plant, or disease declared to be a pest under the *Agricultural Pests Act*

Policy Authority

- (a) Pest control enforcement will be completed in accordance with:
- *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act and Regulation*
 - *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*
 - Leduc County Land Use Bylaw 7-08, specifically Part 6 (Site Leveling, Infilling, Grading & Stockpiling)
- (b) All clubroot inspections will be undertaken in accordance with the guidelines in the Leduc County Clubroot Inspection Administrative Procedure.

Control of Clubroot Disease in Canola Standards

- (a) Clubroot inspections will be conducted in accordance with relevant legislation.
- (b) The detection of clubroot will be identified and the relevant information will be transferred to property owner and/or producer on an ongoing basis.
- (c) Issue notices and enforce the *Agricultural Pests Act* as required:
- a. A notice would include a three-year restriction on the growth of canola and potatoes on the verified field. In the fourth year, potatoes or a clubroot-resistant canola variety may be grown. If a field is confirmed positive to a pathotype to which there is no resistant variety commercially-available, the restriction would be indefinite. When a variety that is resistant

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to the pathotype is commercially available, the restriction will be reduced from indefinite to three years and a further requirement for a Management Plan signed by the property owner/producer (renter, where applicable) and submitted to Leduc County would be included in the notice.

- b. A notice would be issued on land that is introducing infill contaminated with clubroot if the infill contains a higher level of infestation than the native soil of the land in question.

Policy Responsibilities

1. Council responsibilities

Council shall:

- Approve the Control of Clubroot Disease in Canola policy;
- Appoint an independent Committee annually to hear and determine appeals received by the municipality against notices issued by an inspector under the *Agricultural Pests Act*.
- Appoint Clubroot Inspectors under the *Agricultural Pests Act* as required by the Act to conduct clubroot inspections.

2. Administration responsibilities

Department directors and managers shall:

- Review this policy annually to ensure that the policy complies with all current, relevant legislation and municipal policies.
- Ensure that clubroot inspection program requirements are budgeted for annually.
- Provide training and support for inspectors.

Designated Inspectors shall:

- Inspect private and public lands for the presence of clubroot.
- Provide recommendations to property owners/producers on effective management of clubroot on verified and non-verified infected fields.
- Issue a notice when non-compliance is determined.
- Respond to Development Application referrals with respect to risks associated with infilling.

Monitoring & Updating

This policy should be reviewed annually.

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