

Notice to producers, processors and packers of Potato Cyst Nematode host produce

National reforms to PCN management, 1 November 2013



From 1 November 2013 there will be changes to how Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN) will be controlled. This follows recent negotiations between the states that will change land use practices and market access arrangements for host produce marketed nationally (except Western Australia).

Current interstate quarantine controls which are based on the treatment and certification of all host produce (*see definition*) sourced from within 20 km of a known PCN detection, will be replaced by property-based controls effective **1 November, 2013**.

These changes represent the most significant national reforms made to PCN management since its first detection in Victoria in 1991. Focussing quarantine controls on movement pathways identified as being the highest risk for the spread and establishment of PCN enacts the key recommendations of the recently developed National PCN management plan.

The Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) has led the reforms and has expressed gratitude to interstate counterparts and industry for their assistance with the development of policies and protocols which enable these reforms to be enacted.

Changes

From **1 November, 2013** all states and territories (except Western Australia) will enact uniform quarantine legislation that will provide for the following.

- Previous testing, movement controls and certification for host produce sourced from within 20km of a PCN detection will be removed.
- Movement of PCN host produce from PCN infested land and land linked to a PCN infestation will be regulated (requiring ICA44 certification to enter SA).
- All potatoes **marketed as seed** and potatoes sold for planting will require PCN testing.

South Australian entry requirements will be reflected in Condition 18 of PQS ver 10.0 (see extract overleaf).

Occupiers of land known to be infested or linked to a PCN infestation will be contacted by DEPI Victoria regarding these new controls regulating movement of PCN host produce from their properties.

The changes aim to ease trade restrictions whilst creating a national standard for the distribution of PCN host material, and manage the biosecurity risks associated with spreading the pest.

News for 'linked' property growers

Under the new management regime, 'linked' growers will be able to continue marketing their crops to most markets under pre-existing accreditation arrangements.

Please note

Movement of fruits, vegetables, soil, used packaging and agricultural equipment and machinery into interstate markets may be subject to additional quarantine conditions (eg Phylloxera, Fruit Fly and other pests. Always verify.

The requirements for sending PCN host material to Western Australia will remain unchanged.

National reforms to PCN management, 1 November 2013

Definitions

PCN host produce

- Potatoes (all stages from seed to ware & processing)
- Solanaceae seedlings – including tomato, capsicums, chillies and eggplant
- weeds – purple nightshade
- soil
- ornamental plants produced in soil
- agricultural machinery used in the cultivation of potatoes and ornamental plants.

Land status

Infested land: Any defined paddock, or area, which has had a positive PCN in accordance with national sampling and testing regimes.

Linked land: Any land which:

- has been farmed with equipment used on known PCN infested land
- borders PCN infested land
- receives direct drainage from PCN infested land, or
- is currently, or has previously been planted with seed sourced from PCN infested land or land exposed to PCN as a result of a regulatory violation.

SA Entry Requirement – Condition 18 (PQS v10)

Condition 18 – Potatoes and Solanaceous Hosts

The plant is a host of the serious pests *Globodera pallida* and *G. rostochiensis* Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN).

1. The following are prohibited entry into South Australia:
 - 1.1. Potatoes grown on a property known to be infested with PCN,
 - 1.2. Nursery produce grown 'in-ground' on infested properties.

Potatoes and PCN host plants entering South Australia must meet the following conditions:

2. Potatoes for propagation/planting may enter provided they have been washed or brushed free of soil, have been PCN tested¹ and,
 - 2.1. In the case of generation zero (G0) seed covered under the specifications of a national certified seed scheme in which case will not require PCN testing when produced in an approved facility and consignments are accompanied with an approved black label certified seed tag, or
 - 2.2. Have been produced under the requirements of a national certified seed scheme and accompanied with an attached approved nationally recognised certified seed tag, or
 - 2.3. In the case of one-off seed (small) or potatoes for propagation/planting, tested and found free of potato cyst nematode during the current growing season and accompanied with a plant health certificate.

Proof: The appropriate National Certified Seed Label/Tag (as approved by the Australian Potato Industry Council) is attached to the individual containers or a Plant Health Certificate.

3. Ware and potatoes for processing may enter unrestricted provided they were grown on or sourced from a property not infested with potato cyst nematode or not linked to a property that has had a detection of PCN.

Proof for Condition 2: None – Unrestricted Entry.

4. Potatoes (ware and processing), root vegetables and bulbs grown on linked land may only enter if certified as meeting the requirements of an approved accreditation program

Proof: Accompanied by a Plant Health Certificate or Plant Health Assurance Certificate (ICA44).

5. Agricultural equipment that has been used in the production of potatoes on linked land or land infested with PCN may enter provided:
 - 5.1. It is free of soil and plant material; and
 - 5.2. Has been sprayed with steam in all accessible areas to further ensure cleanliness from earth material and organic matter and decontamination from PCN, or
 - 5.3. It meets any other treatment approved by the Chief Inspector, Biosecurity SA - Plant Health.

Proof: Accompanied by a Plant Health Certificate or a Plant Health Import Certificate from the Chief Inspector, Biosecurity SA - Plant Health.

6. Nursery stock grown on PCN infested land may only enter provided:
 - 6.1. it was produced in strict accordance with an approved accreditation program (PS27) and
 - 6.2. it was grown in soil-free media, with the plants, pots and potting mix not having been in any contact with soil, and
 - 6.3. it was not grown in-ground. (Produce grown in-ground on infested land is prohibited entry to South Australia).

Proof: Accompanied by a Plant Health Certificate or Plant Health Assurance Certificate.

7. Nursery stock grown on linked land may enter provided:
 - 7.1. it was produced in strict accordance with an approved accreditation program (PS27), or
 - 7.2. is bare rooted, washed visually free of soil; or
 - 7.3. grown in soil-free media, with the plants, pots and potting mix not having been in contact with soil.

Proof: Accompanied by a Plant Health Certificate or Plant Health Assurance Certificate.

8. PCN diagnostic / agronomic sample (plant material / soil) for chemical / biological analysis may enter if sent directly to an approved diagnostic laboratory and meets the following provisions:
 - 8.1. It is packaged in a quarantine secure manner; and
 - 8.2. the package is clearly and legibly marked on the outside with the name of the collector, the place of collection, the name and address of the recipient; and
 - 8.3. the sample is denatured by autoclaving at the completion of testing and before disposal into the municipal waste stream.

Proof: Accompanied by a Declaration to the Approved Diagnostic Laboratory that the sample must be denatured by autoclaving prior to disposal or a Plant Health Import Certificate from the Chief Inspector, Biosecurity SA - Plant Health.

Practice on-farm biosecurity

Biosecurity is vital for protecting industries from unwanted pests/diseases and assuring continued market access.

On-farm hygiene practices can help prevent pests and disease infestations from establishing on your property. Some examples include:

- restricting visitors entering your property
- designate areas for visitor vehicles
- clear signage etc

Further information

For further information contact Biosecurity SA - Plant Health on (08) 82077814 or visit www.pir.sa.gov.au/legislation for our Plant Quarantine Standard or links to those for other States.

¹'Australian National Standard - Certification of Seed Potatoes', published and released in August 2007.

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but Biosecurity SA - Plant Health and its employees do not guarantee the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

