

August 15, 2016

Welcome to the NDSU Potato Blightline sponsored by Syngenta Crop Protection.

Current recommendations:

Late blight has still not been reported in ND or MN despite very favorable conditions. Late blight severity values in our area continue to increase and conditions remain favorable for late blight because of the wet conditions and spotty showers. All sites except Linton, Mandan and Williston have exceeded the threshold value of 15. Severity values are high in all other locations and conditions have been favorable in southeastern ND and southwestern MN the past two days. Growers should continue to scout frequently for late blight and apply protectant fungicides on a seven-day schedule, including fields that have been abandoned due to water damage. We recommend that growers scout for late blight in fields that may be damaged or abandoned, as late blight may appear first in those fields.

Late blight has been reported in western Nebraska and the high plains of Texas. The NE late blight is US8 (Bill Fry lab) and the TX late blight is an unknown genotype similar to that one reported last year by Neil Gudmestad.

We have confirmed that psyllids are present in potato fields in western ND. Psyllids are the vector of zebra chip disease and can do damage without the Lso bacterium. A document just recently prepared by NDSU/UMN scientists on psyllids and psyllid management can be found at: <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/extensionentomology/field-crops-insect-pests/Documents/potato/management-of-potato-psyllids-2016>

Some rot and blackleg is present in wet fields, and we expect more plants with blackleg and field decay. So far we have not detected Dickeya in any blackleg samples from ND that we have tested. We will continue samples for Dickeya as necessary.

Thank you for using the NDSU Blightline.