

# SPUDSCOOP

**29 August 2020**

Welcome to Spud Scoop for the week ending on August 29, 2020. No late blight has been reported in ND, MN and MB. Congratulations to everyone in the potato industry in our area. Stay diligent with fungicide protection and scouting fields as harvest approaches. This week no late blight spores were found in the spore traps. The spore trapping network is winding down as harvest is beginning. Aphid numbers have substantially increased with numbers of Green Peach Aphids being found. Because numbers are so high this takes longer to count, so the Aphid Alert will be published tomorrow.

Recently, I've seen black dot (caused by the fungus *Colletotrichum coccodes*) appearing more. The black dot structures, or sclerotia, can be seen on stems, stolons and tubers. It can be confused with Verticillium wilt or early dying. Wilting from black dot develops rapidly and can cause plants to wilt.



## **Blightline**

by Gary Secor

Welcome to the NDSU Potato Blightline for August 28, 2020. Congratulations to everyone in the potato industry in our area. We are approaching the final days of our field season and still no late blight has not been reported in ND, MN or MB. Late blight has been reported in WA, BC and WI, and a small amount in ON. The rain and cooler temperatures are favorable for late blight infection and spread. Continue to scout fields, especially in areas that remain wet for longer periods, such as along shelterbelts and in low areas. If late blight is confirmed, an aggressive fungicide program will be necessary to manage the disease, especially for tuber infection that can cause soft rot problems in storage if present. Remember that late blight is a community disease and if late blight is present, inform your neighbors so you can manage late blight together. Send suspect late blight samples or photos to us for positive identification.

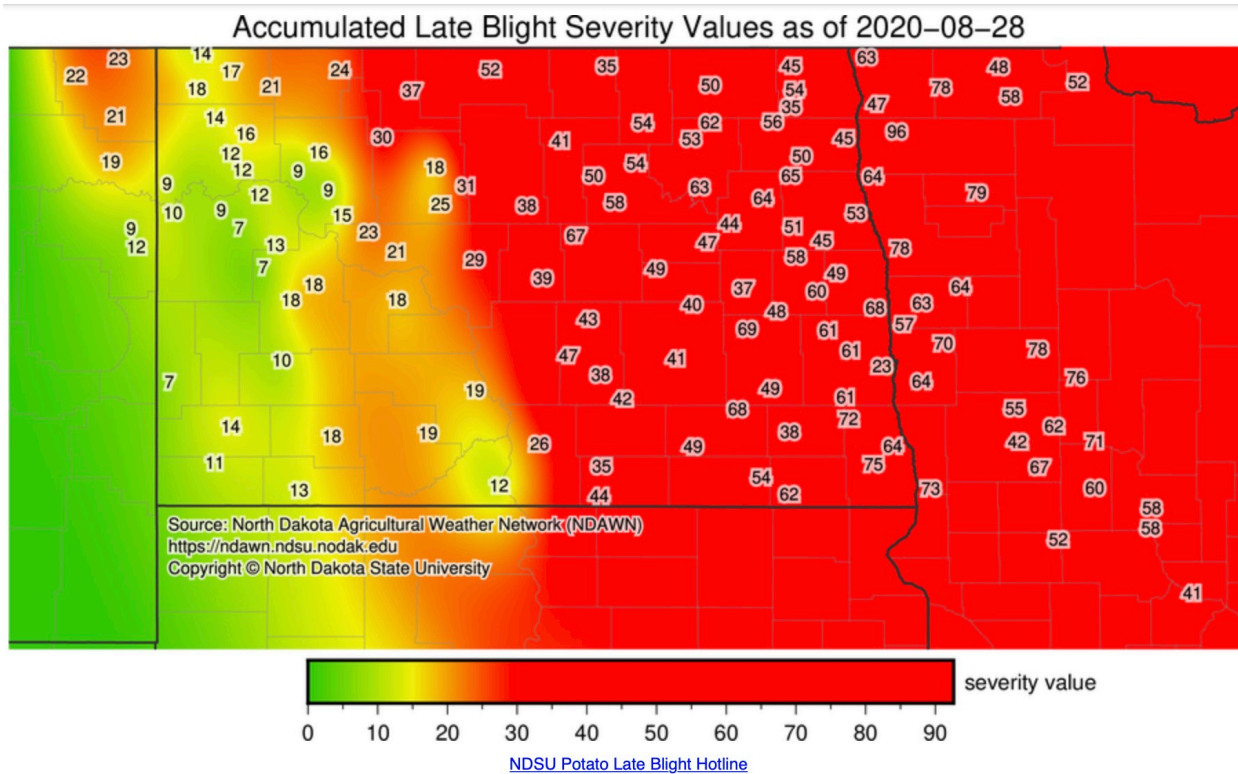


Figure 1. Late blight severity values as of August 28, 2020.

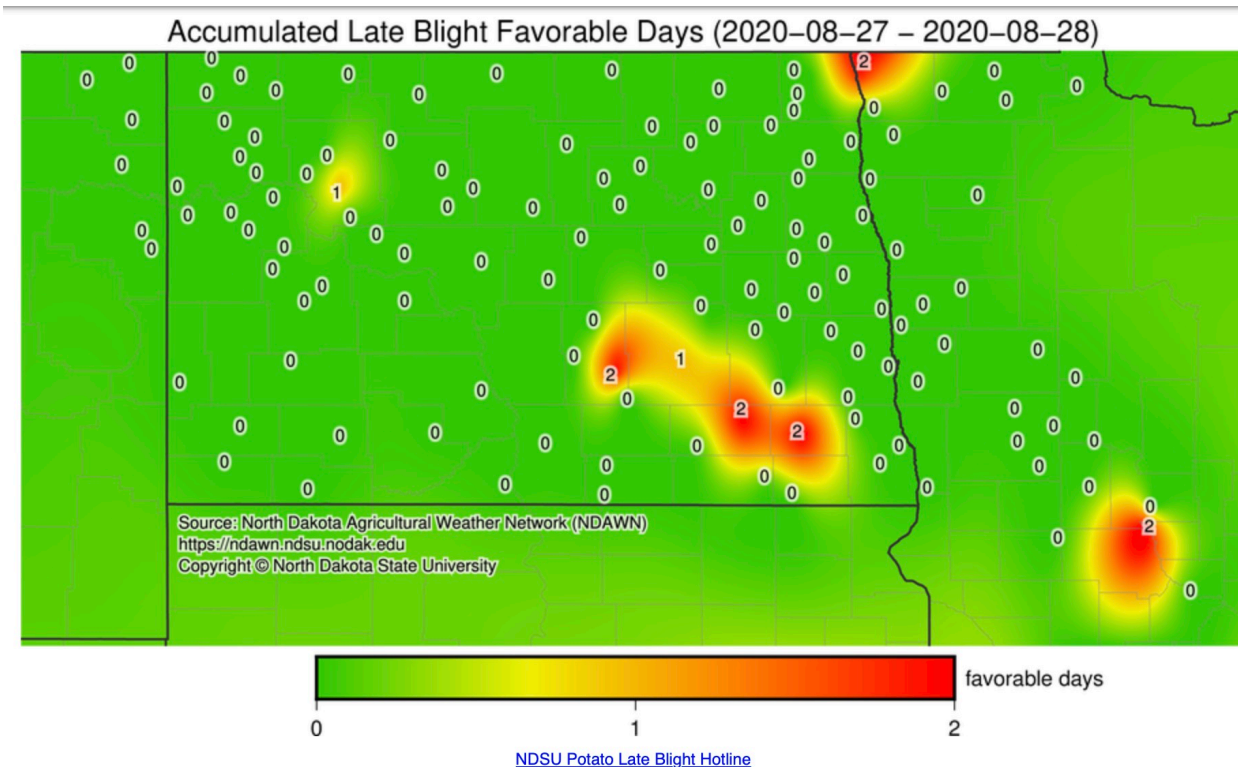


Figure 2. Accumulated late blight severity values in the past two days, August 27-28.

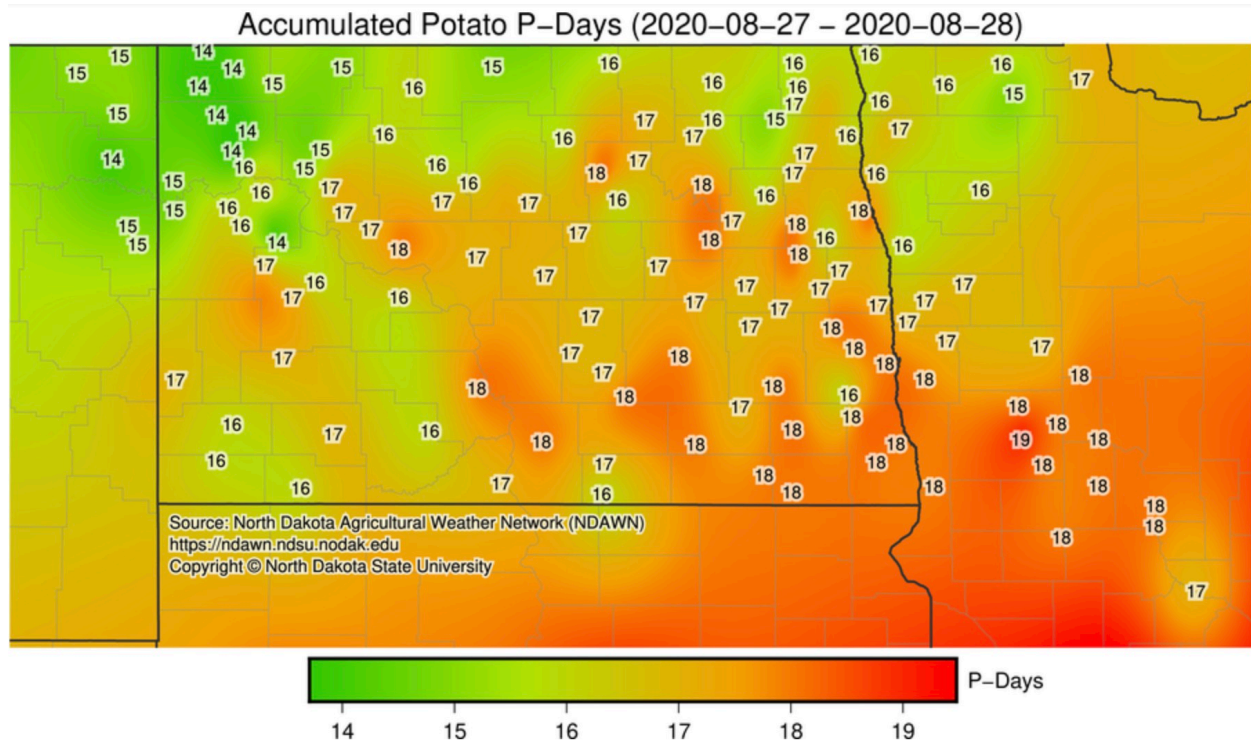


Figure 3. Early blight P-day values accumulated in the past two days, August 27-28.

# Potato Late Blight Spore Trapping Network

Trap catches from August 17-23, 2020

By Andy Robinson and Julie Pasche

This is the eightieth reporting period for 2020. This report contains 25 sites reporting for the week of August 17-23. The PCR assays to detect late blight spores were conducted in the lab of Dr. Julie Pasche at the NDSU Plant Pathology department. Late blight spore DNA was not found at any locations this week. As the legend in the map indicates, green dots indicate no late blight spores recovered and the gray dots indicate sites not reporting.

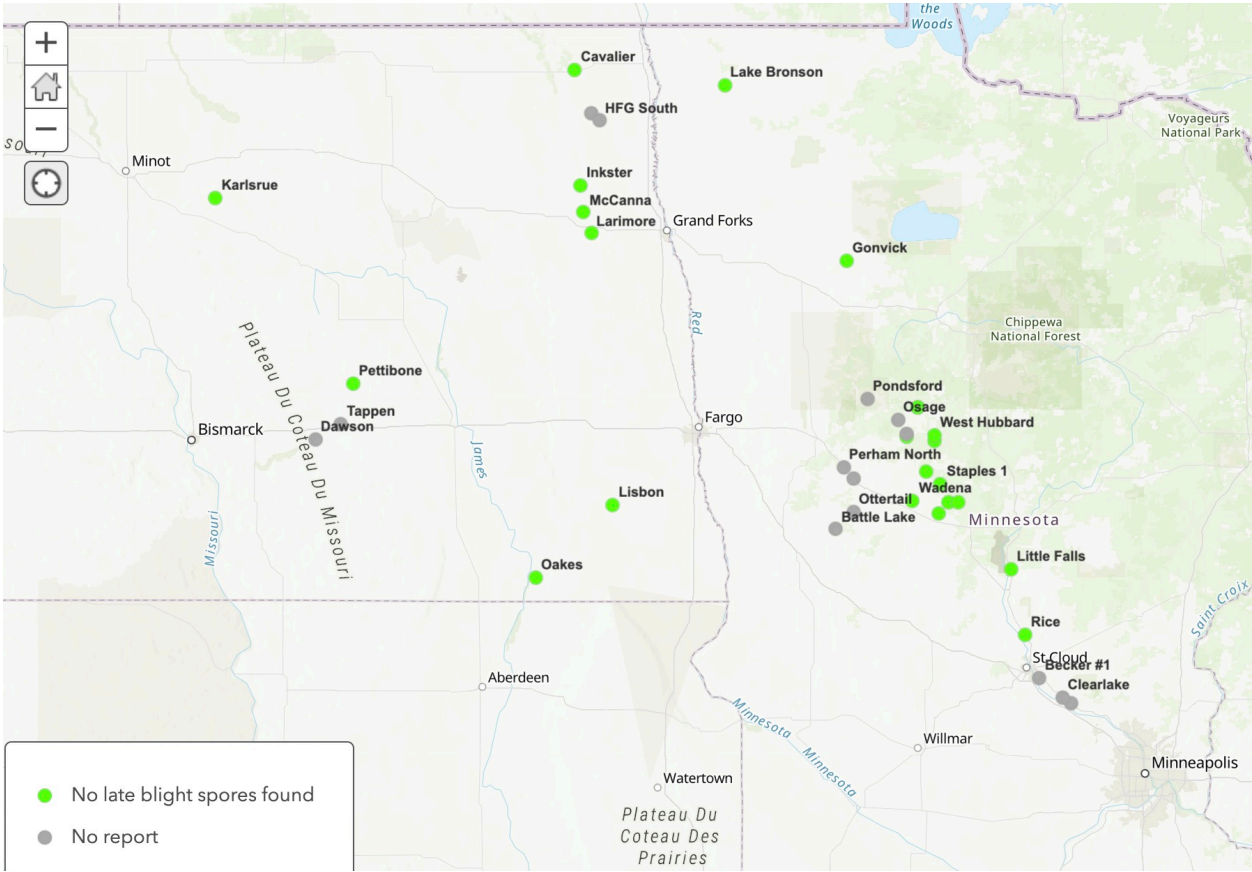


Figure 4. Results of late blight spore traps during the week of August 17-23, 2020.

Thank you to the Northern Plains Potato Growers Association, Minnesota Area II Potato Council, J.R. Simplot Company, Cavendish, R.D. Offutt Farms, Syngenta, Sipcam, Bayer Crop Science, BASF, UPL USA, Corteva, and Nufarm for supporting this effort.