

IDAHO POTATO PULSE



Brought to you by the Idaho Potato Commission
Website: www.idahopotato.com

July 17, 2012 Update on Zebra Chip.

From Erik Wenninger via www.PNW PestAlert.net:

Plant with zebra chip symptoms found in Idaho

A single potato plant was observed on July 17 at the Kimberly R&E Center with classic zebra chip symptoms: aerial tubers, pink coloration on leaves, curling of leaves, and characteristic internal discoloration of tubers. Samples were sent to the University of Idaho campus to run molecular tests to confirm presence of liberibacter, the causal agent of zebra chip, but based on symptoms, we are reasonably confident that the plant is positive for zebra chip. The plant was pulled from the field and destroyed.

Additionally, psyllid samples collected on July 3 from two commercial fields in Twin Falls County have tested positive for liberibacter.

Samples for this week from other fields being scouted by the University of Idaho scouting program are still being collected and processed; we will have an update later on findings from these samples.

Two adult potato psyllids collected on yellow sticky traps from Elmore County on July 15 were taken into the Parma R&E Center. Two adult potato psyllids (one on July 13 and one on July 15) on yellow sticky traps from Minidoka County were taken into the Kimberly R&E Center. These samples will be sent to the University of Idaho campus to test for liberibacter.

To our knowledge, we have the first (preliminary) finding of a ZC potato plant from this year's planting in the Pacific Northwest this season. However, we continue to encourage scouting in order to make the most sound and appropriate management decisions for a given field.

Refer to the sites below for guidance on scouting and IPM programs for potato psyllids.

<http://www.kimberly.uidaho.edu/potatoes/>

<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/30058/pnw633.pdf>