



27 February 2018

Tomato potato psyllid (TPP) complex Industry Update

Autumn surveillance to commence in WA

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development is set to commence the next round of surveillance for the TPP complex as part of the nationally-agreed surveillance plan.

Starting 1 March, residents in and around the Perth metropolitan area will host sticky traps in their home gardens to help collect TPP so they can be tested by the department's diagnostics team for the *Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum* (CLso) bacterium. A significant number of department staff have also volunteered to host a sticky trap.

This follows the comprehensive spring surveillance campaign which targeted known populations of TPP across the Perth metropolitan area and surrounds. Over 6000 TPP were tested for CLso with no positive detections of the bacteria.

Some interstate markets require proof of area freedom from CLso – no positive detection of CLso under the agreed surveillance program will provide a high level of confidence of WA's area freedom. At the completion of surveillance, WA's CLso status will be assessed.

Industry plans to help growers manage TPP through the supply chain

It's critical for TPP-affected industries to develop and implement management plans to effectively control TPP. The plans also demonstrate industry commitment to minimising the spread and impact of TPP throughout the supply chain.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development in partnership with peak industry bodies, are working together to develop industry-specific Enterprise management plans to help growers manage the TPP complex according to best practice.

What is an Enterprise management plan?

An Enterprise management plan brings together the best-available knowledge into one easily-accessible resource for growers, and includes five key components:

1. How to identify TPP and the CLso bacterium
2. Risk pathways
3. Control and management options
4. Biosecurity awareness and implementation
5. Post-farm gate management

The plans utilise existing good practice, biosecurity, and quality assurance and certification documents to build on current systems and avoid duplication.

Why are these plans needed?

Enterprise management plans are essential in supporting ongoing efforts to renew and maintain market access, as well as underpin certification and assurance schemes. The plans will also help growers and industry manage TPP both pre and post farm-gate.

Much of the information is available from local, interstate or international sources so it's bringing this information together in a user-friendly format relevant to each industry. Any gaps in knowledge are being flagged for further research.

What industries will have these plans?

- Vegetables
- Potatoes
- Nursery and Garden
- Processing Tomatoes

AUSVEG, vegetablesWA, Potato Growers Association of WA, Australian Processing Tomatoes Research Council and the Nursery and Garden Industry Association are working with the department to develop industry-specific plans for their members.

When will the plans be available?

Growers will be able to access their industry plan online and at industry information sessions during May 2018.

For more information

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Check and report

Commercial growers are encouraged to check for, and report sightings of unusual insects or damage to their plants through the MyPestGuide reporter app.

Good farm biosecurity procedures should be in place to prevent the entry, establishment and spread of pests and diseases. More information on biosecurity is available at the Farm Biosecurity website www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

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