



# Potato Progress

Research and Extension for Washington's Potato Industry

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Andrew Jensen, Editor. Submit articles and comments to: [ajensen@potatoes.com](mailto:ajensen@potatoes.com)

108 Interlake Rd., Moses Lake, WA 98837; Fax: 509-765-4853; Phone: 509-765-8845.

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## Regent - A New Insecticide for Wireworm

Alan Schreiber, Agriculture Development Group, Inc.

For years and years, our options for wireworm control were fumigation with Telone, planting time applications of Mocap, or selection from some lower efficacy insecticides. We now have a new option for wireworm control in potatoes. BASF Corporation recently registered Regent (fipronil) on potatoes. The product is applied in furrow at 3.2 ounces per acre. The rate changes for row spacings over 36 inches in width.

The Washington State Potato Commission has funded my research program for three years to evaluate the use of this product for control of wireworm. In each of the trials, Regent has worked as well or better than any other product evaluated for control of wireworm. Some excellent research conducted by University of Idaho's Juan Manuel Alvarez confirms our results.

The product should be applied one time, in furrow in a 5 to 7 inch band. No T-banding over the top of a closed furrow is permitted.

Regent is also registered for use on corn. This product has been widely used in the Midwest for soil insect control on corn. Recently BASF obtained a supplemental label allowing for a 3 fl oz/a rate (30" row) to control wireworm and seedcorn maggot as compared to the main corn label rate of 4.16 fl oz/a (30" row) for all other labeled insects. (The Washington State Potato Commission has funded a project with us to evaluate Regent for control of seed corn maggot on potatoes this year.)

Regent has excellent potential for control of wireworm, however, it has some important crop rotation restrictions that will limit its importance to the Washington potato industry for the time being. Do not plant any other rotational crops except field corn, potato, leafy vegetables, root vegetables, legume vegetables, wheat or triticale within 12 months following application. BASF is working to get these restrictions lifted for this season, we must abide by them.

For more information on use of Regent for potatoes or corn, feel free to contact me at 509 539 4537 or at [aschreib@centurytel.net](mailto:aschreib@centurytel.net).

# 2008 Commercial Seed Lot Trial Information

Mark Pavek 509-335-6861, Zach Holden 509-335-3452

Tim Waters 509-545-3511 (Benton/Franklin County WSU Extension)

Carrie Huffman Wohleb 509-754-2011 (Grant/Adams County WSU Extension)

Commercial potato seed samples are requested for the 2008 Washington Seed Lot Trial. **Two to three hundred whole (single drop) seed is an acceptable sample size, or 50 lbs of 4 oz single drop seed.** This seed should not be treated with insecticide or fungicide. Seed tubers need to be uniformly small (not larger than 4 oz) because no seed cutting is done and a cup-type planter is used. A sample that represents the entire seed lot received is most desirable. Sampling the first (or last) 300 seed from the truck is not likely to provide a representative sample of the lot. Sample tags may be obtained by calling the Potato Commission at 509-765-8845.

Your assistance with collection and drop off of seed samples is needed. Seed samples may be taken to the WSU Othello Research Unit (509-488-3191); located on Booker Road ¼ mile south from State Highway 26 and about five miles east of Othello. For sample pickup and any questions regarding the seed lot trials please call:

**South Basin:** Tim Waters (509-545-3511), Mark Pavek (509-335-6861), or Zach Holden (509-335-3452).

**North Basin:** Carrie Huffman Wohleb (509-754-2011), Mark Pavek (509-335-6861), or Zach Holden (509-335-3452).

In the North Basin, one seed "drop-off" has been established. It is located at Qualls Ag Labs (Mick Qualls, 509-787-4210 ext 16) on the corner of Dodson Road and Road 4; come to front office between 8 am and 5 pm. Please call the numbers below to arrange additional pickup sites. Samples will be picked up at 2:00 pm the day before each planting date (below) to be included. Growers planting in early March should drop their samples off at the Othello Research Center or store the samples and call the numbers below for pickup. For all alternative pickup locations or questions please call Mark Pavek at 509-335-6861 or Zach Holden at 509-335-3452.

The planned seed lot planting dates for 2008 are:

2nd	April 8
3rd	April 22
4th (Late)	May 6

PICKUP DATES ARE ONE DAY PRIOR TO THE PLANTING DATES ABOVE

This year's virus reading of the seed lots will take place on June 10 and 24.

The 2007 Potato Field Day is scheduled for Friday June 27.