

Common pests and diseases of Potato



Late blight FUNGUS – (*Phytophthora infestans*)

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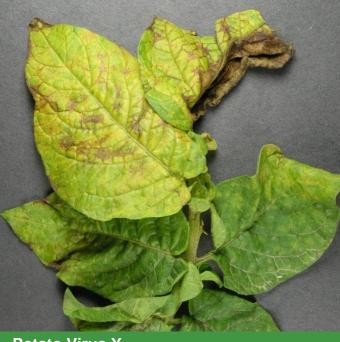
- First seen as small light- to dark-green watersoaked spots
- Lesions enlarge forming irregular-shaped large, dark brown or black lesions on leaves
- During wet weather lesions may be bordered or covered by a white moldy growth
- Brown, greasy-looking lesions on stems



Early blight FUNGUS – (Alternaria solani)

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- Small, circular dark spots seen on lower, older leaves
- Lesions enlarge turning brown/black and have concentric rings.
- Lesions to not cross large leaf veins and are often angular; entire leaf turns yellow, then brown and dries



Potato Virus Y VIRUS

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- Symptoms vary depending on the cultivar
- Leaf mottling and yellowing; deformed leaves; leaf and stem necrosis; premature death of stems



Herbicide damage HERBICIDE – (Clopyralid)

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 Stunting and yellowing of newly emerged foliage; twisting, cupping and elongation of leaves



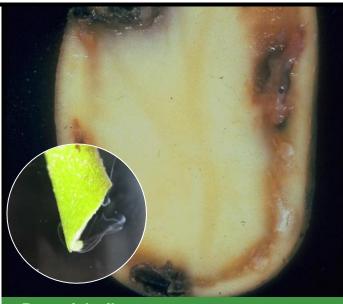
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Cyst nematode NEMATODE (*Globodera pallida***)**

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- Stunting, yellowing and early senescence
- Supressed tuber yield; distinct patches in field
- White or yellow spherical bodies (cysts), 0.5-1.0 mm in diameter visible on the surface of roots (arrowed).



Bacterial wiltBACTERIA – (*Ralstonia solanacearum*)

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- Wilting of plant. This may affect one side of a leaf first, or one branch
- Mild yellow of leaves
- Milky white strands of bacteria stream from cut end of stem when placed in a glass of still, clear water (Inset)
- Bacterial ooze from tuber eyes; cut tubers with brown ring-shape discolouration



Heat damage PHYSIOLOGICAL

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- Browning and curling at leaf margins
- Yellowing of leaves between veins
- Premature leaf drop



Colorado potato beetle INSECT – (Leptinotarsa decemlineata)

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- Adult beetle about10 mm long, with a bright yellow/orange body and five bold brown stripes along each of its wing cases
- Notches and holes on leaf; defoliation; wilted plants; yellow eggs on leaf underside