

An Overview of The Plant Health Act and The Plant Health Regulations

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Overview

1. *The Plant Health Act*
2. *The Plant Health Regulations*
3. Declared pests
4. Discussion

The Plant Health Act

- In August 2024, *The Plant Health Act* and *The Plant Health Regulations* came into force.
- *The Plant Health Act* is an Act respecting Plant Health and the Surveillance, Control and Destruction of Pests.

Who does this legislation affect?

1. Municipalities
2. Pest Control Officers (PCOs)
3. Owners and occupants
4. Ministry of Agriculture

Key Definitions

- **Pest**- any insect, animal or disease that is declared by the minister to be a pest.
- **Nuisance pest**- any insect, animal or disease that is determined to be a nuisance pest by the director.
- **Pest Control Officer**- a person appointed by the municipality or by the minister for the purpose of enforcing the *Act*.
- **Authorized persons**- an agrologist, ministry employee or other persons authorized by the minister or director to conduct surveillance respecting pests and nuisance pests or **pest control respecting pests**.
- **Director**- an employee of the ministry who is designated by the minister pursuant to section 4.

What does *The Plant Health Act* cover?

Power of Minister and Duties of Director (s. 3 to 4)

Destruction and Control of Pests (s. 5 to 13)

Pest Control Officers (s. 14 to 21)

Notification and Report (s. 22 to 23)

Order for Control or Destruction (s. 24 to 25)

General Provision (s. 26 to 37)

Powers to the RM

- Appoint a Pest Control Officer(s).
- Urban municipalities can appoint a PCO as well.
- The ability to require individuals to take actions to control or destroy declared pests.
- May pass bylaws respecting the control or destruction of declared pests.
- Agreements between municipalities.

Pest Control Officer

Entry on land, etc.

19(1) In accordance with the regulations, a pest control officer may enter on any land and into any premises, other than a dwelling house, for the purpose of performing the pest control officer's duties and exercising the powers conferred on pest control officers by this Act.

(3) Without restricting the generality of subsection (1), a pest control officer may enter on any land and into any premises, other than a dwelling house, to take specimens of any pests, soil samples and any vegetable matter infested or suspected of being infested with any pests.

- If an urban municipality has not appointed a PCO, the PCO appointed by the RM that borders the urban municipality may exercise in that urban municipality all the powers conferred by this Act.
- PCOs are to notify the rural municipality and the director of the confirmed presence of a pest.

Agreements and Orders

- If the PCO determines there is a pest issue and the owner/occupant resides in the RM, the PCO shall consult and may enter into an agreement on measures to destroy or control the pest.
- An agreement may span two years.
- A PCO may immediately issue an order if:
 - ☐ Unable to make contact after reasonable attempts.
 - ☐ Unable to reach an agreement.
 - ☐ If immediate action is required.
- Work must commence within 5 business days after date of service of an order.
- An order may span two years or more.

Agreement and Order Templates

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PLANT HEALTH

PART 2
Forms
FORM A
[Section 21 of The Plant Health Act]

AGREEMENT

Agreement No. _____

Agreement between
Owner/Occupant Pest Control Officer
– and –

(Name) _____
(Name)

(Address) _____
(Address)

(Municipality) No. _____

As provided in *The Plant Health Act*, I, the above-mentioned owner or occupant, having this day conferred with the above-mentioned Pest Control Officer, hereby acknowledge the presence of the following pest,

on the land located at (if different from above):

☐ _____ quarter of section _____ township _____ range _____ west of the _____ meridian,
and/or GPS Coordinates N _____ and W _____ as
shown on the diagram attached; or

☐ Number, Street: _____ Town/City: _____

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PLANT HEALTH

FORM B
[Section 24 of The Plant Health Act]

ORDER

Order No. _____

To: _____ Address: _____
Telephone: _____
E-mail: _____

It has come to my attention that the following pest:

declared pursuant to *The Plant Health Act*:

☐ has become established on your land described as (if different from above):

(a) _____ quarter of section _____ township _____ range _____ west of the _____ meridian; or

(b) Number, Street: _____ Town/City: _____
and/or GPS Coordinates N _____ and W _____ as
shown on the diagram attached; or

☐ is present in or adhering to your machine/facility described as:

(description of machine or facility)

- By December 31 of each year, RMs are to submit a report containing all findings of pests or nuisance pests and enforcement actions.

Owners and Occupants

- Control a pest

5(1) Every owner and occupant of land shall:

(a) take measures to control, destroy and prevent the spread of a pest on any land or other premises owned or occupied by that person;

- Report

(b) notify the director, municipality or pest control officer for the municipality in which the land is located, within 5 business days after its detection, of the presence of any pest on that land;

(c) notify all persons who have access to that land for the purposes of conducting any work on the land or any other prescribed person who has access to that land, of the presence of a pest on that land; and

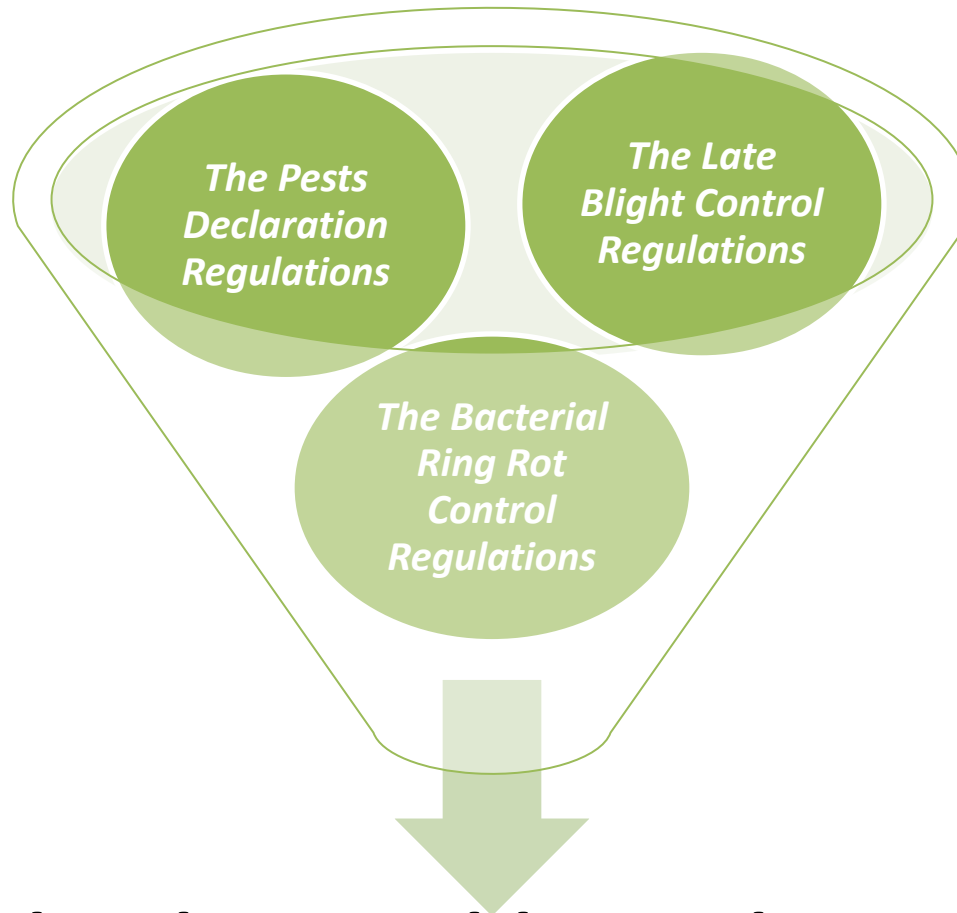
Power of Minister

- May declare by order declare a pest.
- May appoint a PCO and assign an authorized person.
- May by order make an emergency declaration.

Duties of the Director

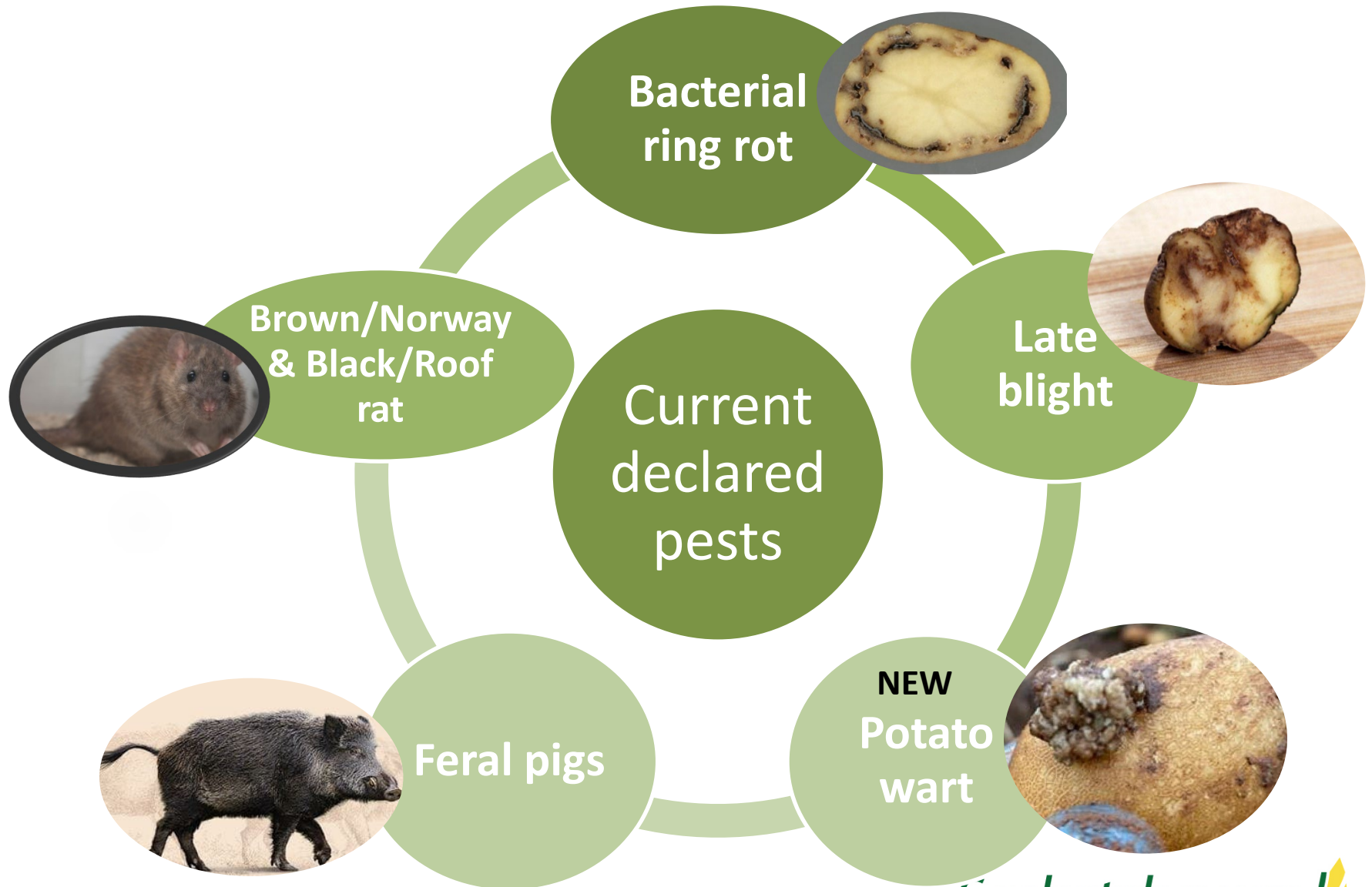
- Assist in the administration of the Act.
- Conduct duties that Minister may direct.
- **Nuisance pest list.**

The Plant Health Regulations



The Plant Health Regulations

The Plant Health Regulations



The Brown and Black Rat

- Rural Municipalities and appointed PCOs have the authority to control rats.
- The ministry supports rat control through the Sustainable CAP – Rat Control Program:
 - Funding available through SCAP.
 - SARM administers the program on behalf of the province.
 - As of 2025, provincial infestation rate is 1.29%

Feral Pigs

- Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC).
 - Control, trapping, baiting, surveillance (Required license issued by Ministry of Environment- Wildlife regulations).
 - Permission required by producer to access land and control.
 - Report sightings through their webpage- [Feral Wild Boar Control Program | SCIC](#) or call 1-833-PIG-SPOT (1-833-744-7768).
 - SCIC has removed approximately 1200 wild boar throughout the province.
- Rural Municipalities have the power to take action to control feral pigs.
 - Reporting is required.
 - If anyone including PCOs wants to set up traps, use cameras, use bait, or control/destroy, **they must maintain an active contract with SCIC, have the necessary training and requirements to obtain a special license called Wild Boar Control Licence issued by Ministry of Environment.**

Potato diseases

Late Blight - Bacterial Ring Rot - Potato Wart (NEW)

STANDARDIZE

Control and
prevention

CERTIFIED SEED

Seed
Regulations
(Canada)

RECORDS

Keep all planting
records for three
years

CULL POTATOES

Disposal by June
15 of each year

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

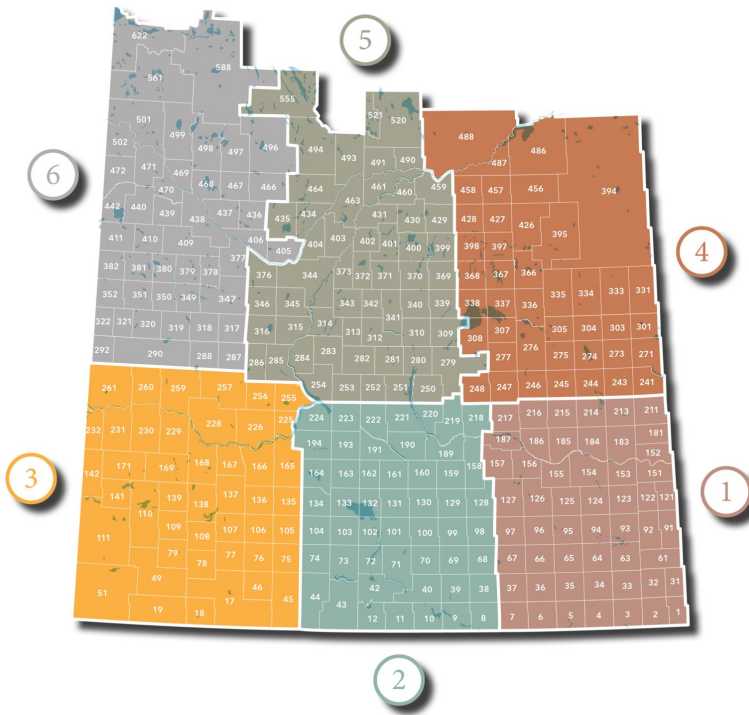
Equipment,
storage, and
production facility
if was infected by
potato pest.

EXEMPTIONS

If growing
potatoes for
household or
acquaintances.

Plant Health Technical Advisors (PHTAs)

- Provide technical advice, program support and training opportunities to RMs and First Nation communities that deal with agricultural crop pests and designated weeds.



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Take home message

- PCOs can enter any land/premises to conduct pest control activities and enforce *The Plant Health Act* for declared pests.
- PCOs can enter agreements and issue orders for enforcement purposes.
- Owners/occupants have a duty to report declared pests.
- PCOs must report confirmed presence of declared pests to their municipality and to the Regulatory and Compliance branch, Ministry of Agriculture.
- RMs are to submit a report by December 31 each year with findings of pests, nuisance pests and enforcement activities to the Regulatory and Compliance branch, Ministry of Agriculture

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

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