

Issue 10 – July 9, 2026

Manitoba Potato Report



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Provincial Summary

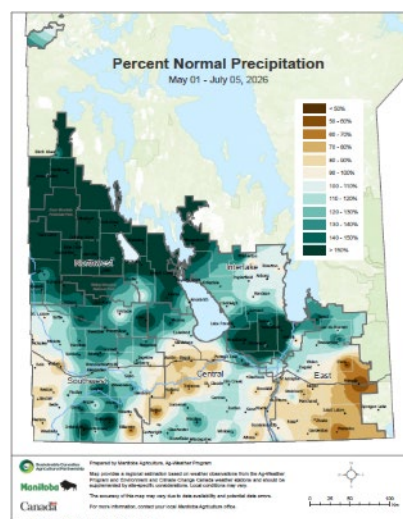
- The potato plants are at varying levels of growth, with tuber size ranging from 1/8th to over 3 inches. The crops appear to be about a week behind the same time last year in tuber size and canopy cover.
- Ground operations including post-emergence weed control sprays are nearly complete but were interrupted in some areas by heavy rains in the week. A few fields had hail damage.
- Late blight spores were trapped from three sites in the province from June 29 to July 6.
- Aphid numbers in the fourth week were fewer than the last two weeks. Potato aphids were trapped but no green peach aphids. Colorado potato beetle adults, eggs and larvae are now present across Manitoba.

Ag Weather Data

Precipitation and Soil Moisture

- In the week, June 29-July 5, there were widespread showers across the province, and more heavy rainfall was seen on July 6-7 (Fig. 1, Fig. 2) leading to very wet or flooded fields in many areas.
- Rainfall in the week (June 29- July 5) ranged from 13.7 mm (Altona, Bagot) to over 58 mm (St. Claude, Carberry, Carman, Shilo, Rivers, Wawanesa) at various potato growing areas (Table 1). The cumulative precipitation (May 1 to June 28) as % of 30-year normal, ranged from ~70% (Portage and Treherne) to 114-148% (Shilo, Wawanesa, Rivers, Carman, Winkler) (Fig. 1, Table 1). Heavy rains occurred on July 6 / 7, which further exasperated the wet field conditions in some areas.
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/percent-normal-precipitation.pdf>
- The soils at the 0-30 cm depth in potato growing areas changed to generally “wet” based on Regional Soil Moisture relative to Field Capacity as of June 28 (Fig. 3a) and remained “wet” at the 120 cm depth.
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather/pubs/soil-moisture-30cm.pdf>

Fig. 1. As a result of scattered rainfall from June 29 to July 6, the cumulative precipitation has crossed 100% of normal at many potato growing areas across Manitoba, ranging from 70% to 148% of normal.



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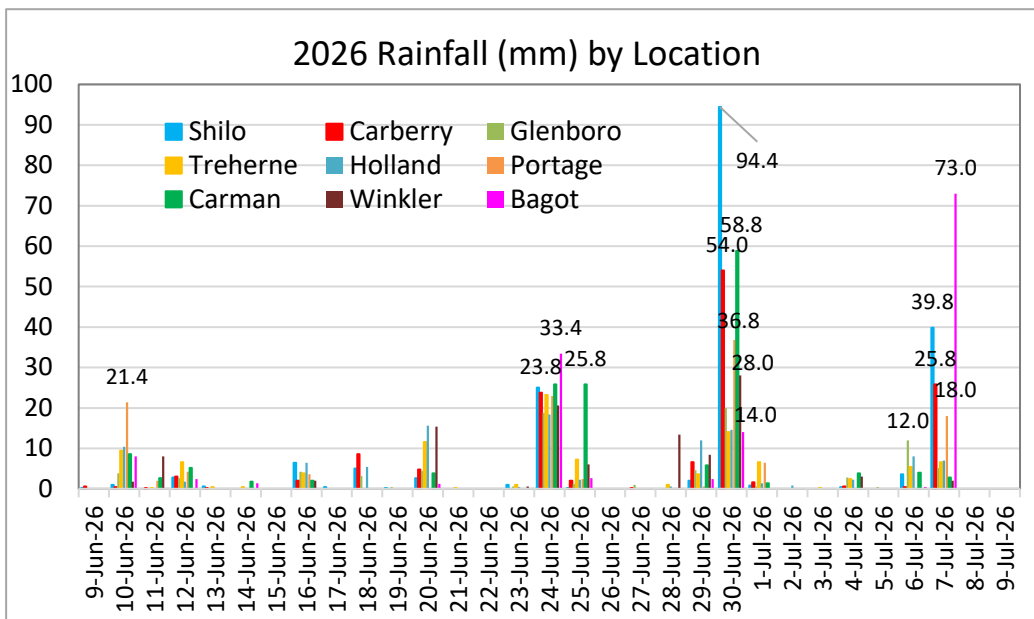
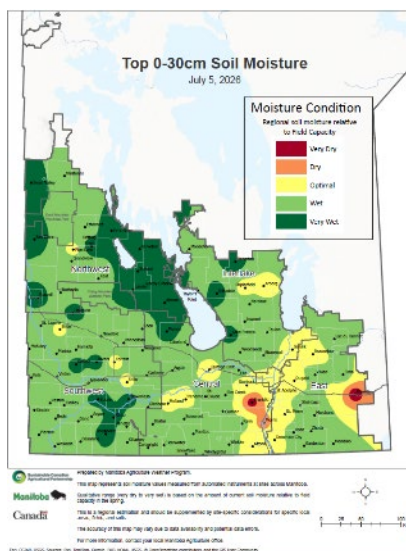
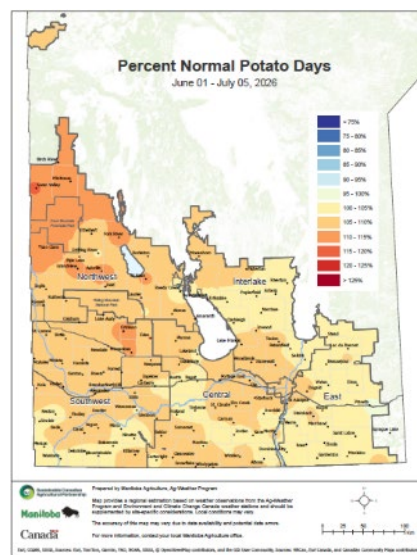


Fig. 2. Rainfall in June, towards end of the month and scattered thunderstorms on July 6-7, has led to soggy wet or flooded fields in many potato growing areas of the province.



3a



3b

Fig. 3a. By July 5, soil moisture relative to field capacity at the 0-30 cm depth indicated generally “wet” but with few “optimal” in potato-growing areas. At the 120 cm depth, soils were wetter (map not shown).

Fig. 3b. The week had cooler daytime temperatures bringing the cumulative Potato Days (P-Days) to around 100 to 110% of normal across most potato-growing areas; it remained unchanged from last week.

Temperatures – Air and Soil

- From June 29–July 5, the daytime temperatures were warm in mid 20s °C to low 30s °C, in most of the potato growing areas (Table 1, Fig. 4). Overnight lows were warmer than last week, ranging from around 10.5°C in Treherne to >13.4°C in Winkler (Table 1, Fig. 4). These temperatures are optimal for plant growth, tuberization and bulking.
- The Cumulative heat (Growing Degree Days, GDD base 5°C) was closer to 103-111% of normal (Table 1). The cumulative Potato Heat Units (P-Days) ranged from 259 (Carberry) to 283 (Winkler) and were 100 to 110% of 30-year normal (Fig. 3 b) in the potato growing areas.

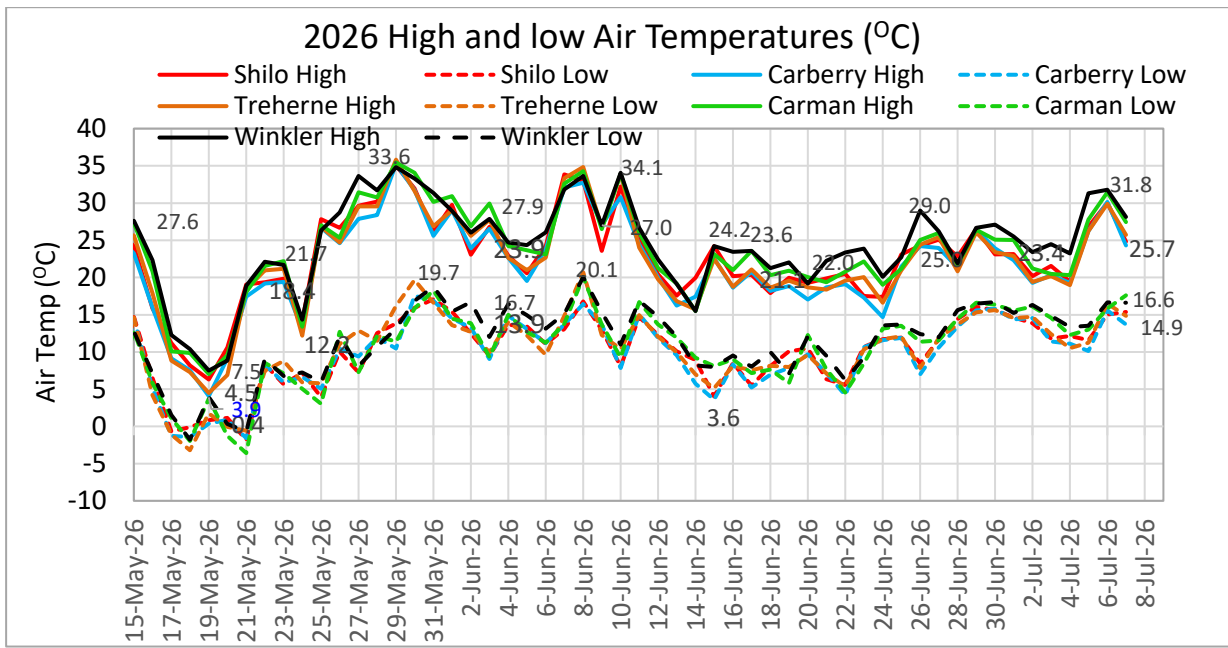


Fig. 4: Daytime air temperatures in the potato-growing areas have become cooler after July 5 (>30°C) to now becoming mid to high 20s by July 8-9. Nighttime temperatures have been steady, ranging from 10 to 17°C in selected weather stations. These day-night temperature differences favour high tuberization.

Table 1. Manitoba Ag Weather Data – June 29 – July 5

Region	Max Temp (°C)	Min Temp (°C)	Rainfall (mm) for the week	Rainfall (mm) (Since May 1)	2026 Rainfall (% of normal) since May 1	GDD (% of normal)	P-Days (June 1 to 28)
Altona	31.0	12.0	13.9	140	76	103	274
Austin	31.5	11.2	18.3	121	76	106	274
Bagot	33.0	11.2	13.7	127	78	106	271
Carberry EC	30.8	10.9	58.8	140	85	109	259
Carman	31.4	12.3	69.4	209	117	107	274
Glenboro	30.7	11.1	37.2	133	85	110	267
Holland	30.9	11.3	26.5	140	79	109	270
Morden	32.2	13.6	36.2	171	97	105	
Portage EC	32.1	12.7	36.2	117	72	108	275
Rivers	29.7	11.5	102.7	251	148	109	270
Shilo	30.0	11.6	103.6	180	114	107	269
St. Claude	31.3	12.2	58.1	158	89	105	279
Treherne	29.9	10.5	27.4	122	70	104	261
Wawanesa	31.7	11.1	130.0	218	134	108	264
Winkler	31.8	13.4	31.4	235	128	111	283

For more Manitoba weather information, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/weather

More information on:

Crop Water Demand (CWD) mm: www.mbpotatoes.ca/cwd.cfm

P-Days: www.mbpotatoes.ca/pday.cfm

Crop Progress

- Ground operations including post-emergence weed control sprays are nearly complete but were interrupted in some areas by heavy rains in the week. A few fields had hail damage.
- Early planted crops are about 2 to 3 feet, while later planted are up to 12 inches. By July 6 the potato canopy ground cover was mostly 80 to 100% across the province (Fig. 5 a-c). Such fields should have had at least one protective fungicide application.
- After heavy rains in the week and on July 6-7, flooding was reported in some areas; many fields have been wet for a few days and could lead to tuber and root rots (Fig. 6 a-b).
- The crop growth and tuberization are rapid. Many of the early planted fields have 2 to 3-inch tubers (Fig. 7 a-f). Crops are about 7-10 days behind last year's growth at the same time.
- There was hail damage in a few fields (Fig. 8 a-c). Injured or broken stems are often the ports of entry for soft-rot bacteria, especially when the crops start settling on the ground.
- Hilling and post-emerge weed control operations were in full swing but widespread rainfall on June 29-30 and July 6-7 interrupted the operations in many areas.
- Aerial fungicide applications (one or two) have been done already, prior to full canopy closure.
- There is a forecast for hot daytime temperatures in the coming few days, going up to 35 °C by July 12-13. Overnight temperatures are also expected to be warm, reaching up to 20-21°C. There is chance of showers from July 9 to 11 scattered across potato growing areas. It is expected to be generally sunny from July 12 to 14. [Manitoba - Weather Conditions and Forecast by Locations - Environment Canada](#)



Fig. 5. Ground cover generally ranging from 80% to 100%. Photos. a: Scott Friesen (RKS Farms, b: Ethan Friesen (Manitoba Agriculture), c: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture).

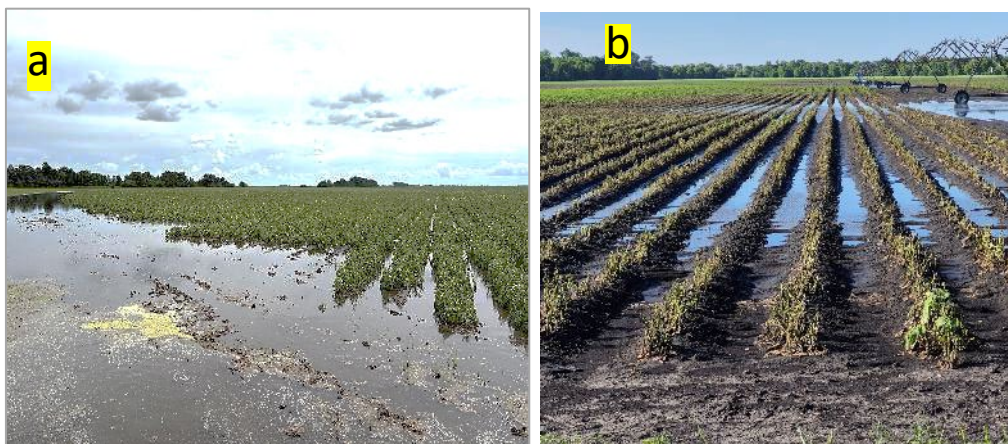


Fig. 6. Flooded fields due to heavy rains and some erosions were reported. a: Andrew Doerksen (Beaver Creek Farms), b: Greg Dyck (Crop Care).



Fig. 7. Many fields have good sized tubers. At this time in 2025, the tubers were dime-sized, and the crops were further ahead by around 7-8 days; Photos. a: Riley Francis (UTH Farms), b: Shilo – Orla Sheridan (Shilo Farms), c: Scott Friesen (RKS Farms, Hadashville), d: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture) Cypress River, e: Ethan Friesen (Manitoba Agriculture), f: Andrew Doerksen (Beaver Creek Farms),



Fig. 8. a, b. Hail damage was reported in many fields. Photo: Kurtis McKee (JP Wiebe Farms; c: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture). Hail injury often leads to bacterial stem rotting and botrytis infection.

Disease Monitoring

- Late blight risk forecasting will be provided on a regional basis at www.mbpotatoes.ca. Late blight disease risk values (DSVs) started accumulating from June 1.

- DSVs from June 1 to July 6 show accumulation above 18 (Fig. 9), which is critical level beyond which fungicide applications are strongly recommended.
- The forecasting is complemented with late blight spore monitoring, using Spornado passive spore traps. Spore traps have been set up in many fields and monitoring began on June 8.
- **Results from the 4th round of monitoring from June 29-July 6 showed that *Phytophthora infestans* spores were trapped at three Spornado sites in the Rural Municipalities of North-Cypress-Langford, Oakland and North Norfolk.**
- It is important to scout the fields in higher risk areas which could stay wet longer, like wind-protected tree shelter-line, low lying areas/valleys in a field.
- It is also important to remove risk from cull-piles in the yards or near potato fields.
- Based on local risk assessment, protective fungicide application could be applied.

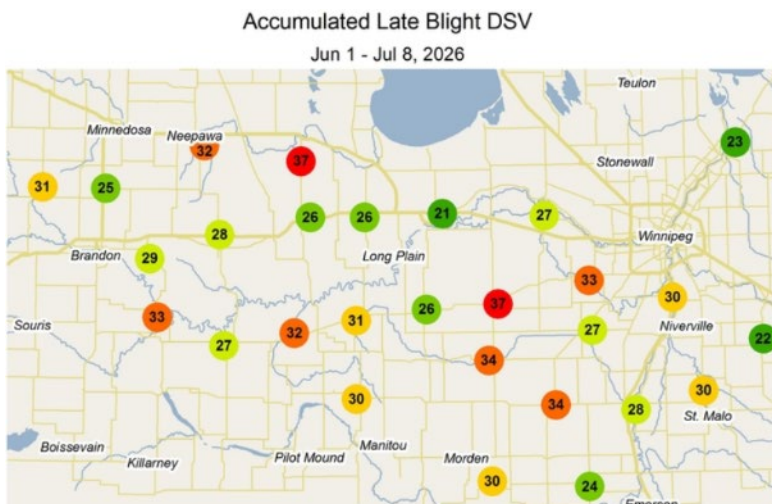


Fig. 9. Cumulative Late blight Disease risk Values (DSVs) are above 18, at all the potato growing areas of the province.

- Incidence of minor levels of bacterial soft rot and blackleg were reported from some fields, especially in wet patches of fields. (Fig. 10 a, b).
- Potato mosaic infected plants were reported from many fields. PVY diseased plants often appear stunted with lighter-green, crinkled leaves. Often when such leaves are put against brighter light, patches of light & dark green “mosaic” pattern can be seen (Fig. 11 a, b). Often, the symptoms are very subtle and could not be distinguished in bright sunlight. Cloudy days are ideal for scouting for mosaic infected plants.
- Late blight risk maps, P-Days, and SprayCast maps are available <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm>.



Fig. 10. Blackleg disease appears as dark-brown-black discoloration on stem or wilting of large sprouts with black soft-rotted stems. Photos: a: Greg Dyck (Crop Care), b: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture).

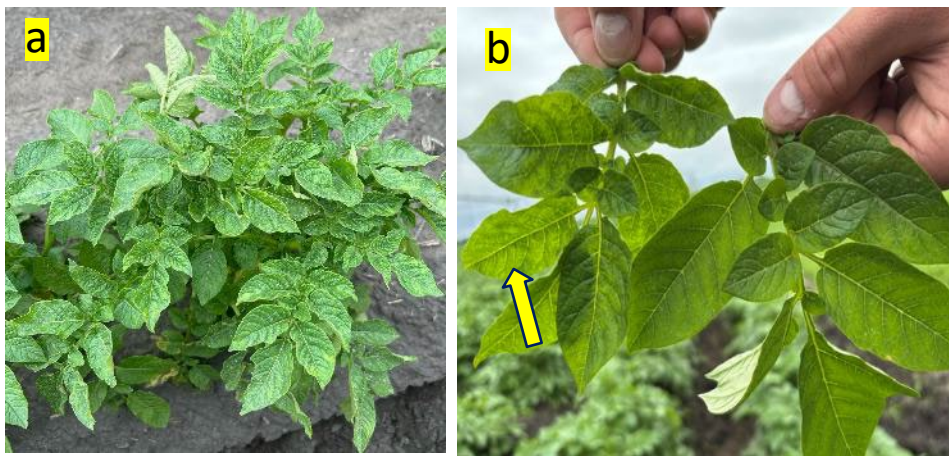


Fig. 11 a: PVY diseased plants often appear stunted, with lighter-green, crinkled leaves. Often when such leaves are put against brighter light patches of light & dark green “mosaic” pattern can be seen. a: Harrison Loewen (KR Crop Check), b: Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture)

Insect Pest Monitoring

- Aphid monitoring using suction and pan traps have been set up in eight seed potato fields.
 - The fourth week’s collection was done from June 29 to July 6.
 - Aphid counts showed much lower numbers trapped than the previous two to three weeks. There were fewer non-colonizing aphids trapped. Potato Aphid (PAs) too were trapped at only one location. No Green peach aphids were trapped at any site (Table 2).
 - Due to heavy rainfall on July 6-7, many aphid traps overflowed and may have caused loss of some aphids, especially in Carberry area.
- European Corn Borer monitoring Delta traps were set up in some fields from June 29 to July 6. Melbourne was the only location that four ECB adults were trapped. The numbers are still low.
- Grasshoppers (1/4” to 1” size) are now seen at field edges; currently the damage appears to be minor.
- Colorado potato beetle (CPB) adults were seen feeding on potato plants in many areas.
 - Egg masses and newly hatched larval instars were reported (Fig. 12). Young larvae may soon be seen in larger numbers across the province – This is an insecticide-sensitive stage for the CPB larvae. Scouting could help decide the timing of insecticide applications.



Fig. 12. A Colorado potato beetle egg-masses are changing color and soon will be hatching into young larval instars. Photo: a: Mating adults and new egg-mass - Vikram Bisht (Manitoba Agriculture), b, c: Near-hatching darker yellow egg mass - Andrew Doerksen (Beaver Creek Farms). d: newly hatched ECB larva - Greg Dyck (Crop Care).

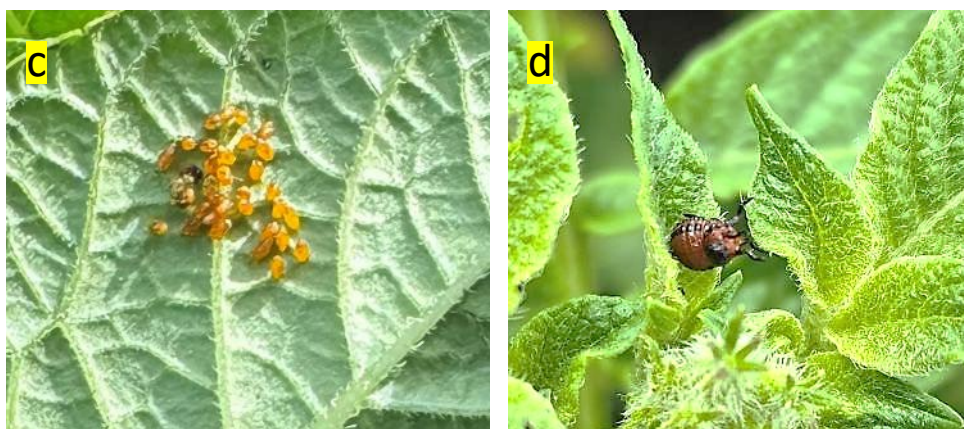


Table. 2. Weekly Aphid Report – **Week 4 (June 29 – July 6) 2026**

Field #	Town	RM	Green Peach Aphid	Potato Aphid	Other Aphids	Total *	A L H	P L H	Comments
Southern Region									
Field 1-H	Winker	Stanley	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Field 2-K	Stephenfield	Dufferin	0	0	3	3	1	0	Traps overflowed with rainwater
Field 3-S	Winkler	Rhineland	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Central Region									
Field 4-S	Holland	Victoria	0	0	15	15	0	0	
Field 5-S	Glenora	Argyle	0	0	1	1	0	0	Suction trap not running well
Field 6-S	Westbourne	Portage La Prairie	0	0	0	0	0	0	Collected on July 3
Western Region									
Field 7-A	Wellwood	North Cypress-Langford	0	0	0	0	0	0	Heavy rains - pans and suction trap jar overflowed
Field 8-S	Carberry		0	0	0	0	0		

- The aphid counts are a summation from a suction and pan traps but pan traps could not be set up in some potato fields, waiting for hilling and other ground equipment operations.
- “ – “ indicates samples not received.
- ALH = Aster leafhopper, PLH = Potato leafhopper

Growers and industry stakeholders, please report or submit for diagnosis, any disease or insect observations of importance. If you suspect late blight disease in your area, please contact vikram.bisht@gov.mb.ca

All reports and information will also be available at <http://www.mbpotatoes.ca/index.cfm> and also archived at [Province of Manitoba | agriculture - Potato Report](#).