



POLICY 2.2

FUSARIUM GRAMINEARUM ZERO TOLERANCE

Department: Agricultural Services Department

Date Approved: November 24, 2015

Rescinds: 117/02/14/12

Council Res. No: 971/11/24/15

PURPOSE:

To ensure that *Fusarium Graminearum* establishment is prevented under the *Agricultural Pest Act* of Alberta (R.S.A. 2000, Chapter A-8), the *Agricultural Pest Regulation* (184/2001) as well as to maintain a zero tolerance policy of the disease.

SCOPE:

Northern Sunrise County recognizes that *Fusarium Graminearum* is a pest under the *Agricultural Pest Act* of Alberta. Northern Sunrise County further recognizes that it is beneficial to the County to clearly define actions that are required to prevent the establishment of *Fusarium Graminearum*, for the protection of agricultural productivity.

DEFINITIONS:

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

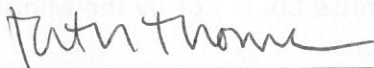
- a. Agricultural Pest Act - the *Agricultural Pest Act* of Alberta (R.S.A. 2000, Chapter A-8) and the *Agricultural Pest Regulation* (184/2001) including any amendments or successor legislation thereto.
- b. Control - to manage the disease to a zero tolerance level.
- c. Infestation - any property containing *Fusarium Graminearum*.
- d. Notice – a legally binding document demanding compliance by a specified deadline, and outlining acceptable *Fusarium Graminearum* control options.
- e. Pest Inspector - Inspector appointed by Northern Sunrise County or by the Minister to carry out the *Agricultural Pest Act* and the regulations.
- f. Reported Field - any field for which a complaint is received as having any symptoms or signs of *Fusarium Graminearum*.

POLICY:

1. Pest inspectors shall attempt to conduct a pest inspection on all Reported Fields within 3 working days of receipt of the report/complaint.
2. Infestation complaints may be submitted, verbally or in writing, to the Agricultural Services Department. The complainant's name shall not be released unless so demanded by a court of law.
3. The Pest Inspector shall issue Notices as suggested by the *Agricultural Pest Act*, when the Inspector is of the opinion that the property contains *Fusarium Graminearum*.
4. The Pest Inspector shall encourage voluntary compliance, and shall as a last resort, take action and/or impose penalties as per the *Agricultural Pest Act*, upon the landowner(s) or registered occupant(s) in the event that the landowner(s) or registered occupant(s) is/are unwilling to take measures to control the infestation.
5. The Pest Inspectors shall attempt to contact landowners at the residence of occupied properties. Notices shall be delivered to landowner(s) and or registered occupant(s) where the Pest Inspector has identified a disease problem, as per the *Agricultural Pest Act*.
6. The County will:
 - i. Maintain information as handouts and annually print info in the county newsletter.
 - ii. Inform County based Seed Outlets of our County policy and concerns and request that cereal seed not be brought into the area from infested areas.
 - iii. Assign the Agricultural Service Board members to advocate to County producers on *Fusarium Graminearum* prevention and management by
 - a. Encouraging that all cereal seed should be treated with a registered fungicide that includes the genus *Fusarium* on the label list of controlled fungi.
 - b. Supporting the producer reimbursement program.
 - c. Promoting that cereal grain seeds, are tested by a designated laboratory showing that the seed lot is *Fusarium Graminearum* free.
 - iv. Campaign local seed cleaning plants to set and follow policies and to accept only cereal grains that are tested for *Fusarium Graminearum*.



Reeve



Chief Administrative Officer