



News Release – For Immediate Release November 2, 2009

No Further Clubroot Cases Detected in the County

The County of Grande Prairie No. 1 is pleased to announce that no clubroot was detected in 2009 within the County. .

Clubroot is a serious disease of canola, mustard, and other cruciferous crops. These are crops that are part of the cabbage family. The disease forms galls or clubs on the roots of canola, cutting off water and nutrients. Infected crops above ground ripen prematurely and seeds shrivel. Clubroot was discovered six years ago in several canola fields in the Edmonton area.

Last year lab analysis confirmed that a number of fields within the County tested positive for clubroot. Further lab testing of samples from the same fields resulted in negative results. Inspections were carried on again this year to verify these findings and no new clubroot cases have been detected, which could indicate that the initial results were possibly false positive.

However, producers, custom operators, organizations involved in activities on farmland and farmers are still encouraged to remain vigilant to prevent future infestations. Producers are encouraged to inspect their fields by looking for any galls on canola plant roots during the growing season. Equipment should be cleaned between fields to minimize transportation of any contaminated soil if any suspect plants are found.

Copies of the County's clubroot policy and prevention protocol can be downloaded from the County's website at www.countygp.ab.ca or call 780-567-5585.

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