

# Policy

**Title:** CLUBROOT OF CANOLA MANAGEMENT  
**Policy Number:** AG-63-14  
**Effective Date:** November 15, 2023  
**Resolution:** 506-23  
**Department Responsible:** Agricultural Services  
**Supersedes Policy No:** J13 Clubroot of Canola Management 2019  
**Next Review Date:** November 15, 2026

## POLICY STATEMENT:

The Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124 (MDLSR) Agricultural Services will inspect private lands for the presence of clubroot in canola as a requirement under the *Province of Alberta Agricultural Pests Act (APA)*, Section 10(1) "The local authority of a municipality shall appoint a sufficient number of inspectors to carry out this Act and the regulations within the municipality." Clubroot was declared a pest to Alberta under the APA in 2007. Section 6 of the APA states that "a local authority shall take active measures to prevent the establishment of, or to control or destroy pests."

## DEFINITIONS:

"**Agricultural Pests Act and/or APA**" means the *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter A-8* and the *Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (184/2001)* including any amendments or successor legislation thereto.

"**Agricultural Service Board Act**" means the *Agriculture Service Board Act, RSA 2000, CH A-10*

"**Clubroot of Canola ("Clubroot")**" means the serious soil-borne disease caused by *Plasmodiophora brassicae*.

"**Geographic Area**" means an area of land under the jurisdiction of MDLSR.

"**Manager of Agricultural Services**" means the individual appointed as the Agricultural Fieldman through motion by MDLSR Council and by virtue of position (*Agricultural Service Board Act*) who acts as a Pest Inspector.

"**MDLSR and/or MD**" means Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124.

"**Notice**" means a notice in writing issued by a Pest Inspector under section 12 of the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

"**Owner**" as defined by the *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act* means

- (i) in the case of land, a person who is registered under the *Alberta Land Titles Act* as the owner of land, or
- (ii) in the case of personal property, a person who is in lawful possession of it or who has the right to exercise control over it

"**Pest**" means an animal, bird, insect, plant, or disease declared a pest under section two of the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

“Pest Inspector” means an inspector appointed by MDLSR Council or by the Minister to carry out the *Agricultural Pests Act*.

“Producer” means a farm operator.

**PRINCIPLE:**

Clubroot of Canola poses a serious threat to the Canola industry by reducing yields, it reduces the quantity and quality of the oil produced from the seeds and the spores can remain viable for twenty (20) years or more according to current research.

- a. Clubroot was declared a pest to Alberta under the *Agricultural Pests Act* (APA) in 2007. Section 6 of the APA states that: a local authority shall take active measures to prevent the establishment of, or to control or destroy pests in the MDLSR.
1. Council Responsibilities
  - a. Council shall appoint Pest Inspectors (as per section 10 of the *Agricultural Pests Act*).
  - b. Council shall review the Clubroot of Canola policy as necessary.
2. Administration Responsibilities
  - a. The Manager of Agricultural Services shall establish protocols and an inspection schedule to be followed outlining the following:
    - i. Ensure fields to be inspected are distributed across the geographic area of MDLSR.
    - ii. Sampling techniques, record keeping and protocols for entering land.
    - iii. Mitigation and control of clubroot spore transferal between fields by Pest Inspectors and;
    - iv. Timed to ensure impacted producers are informed of positive clubroot DNA results prior to harvest.
  - b. Ensure the landowner(s) and/or producers(s) receive a written Pest Notice as per the *Agricultural Pests Act* and associated Regulations following these parameters set by Council:
    - i. 1-3 rotation or a two-year break when a positive clubroot analysis is confirmed and ID% is less than 10%;
    - ii. 1-4 rotation or three-year break when ID% is between 10%-40%;
    - iii. 1-5 rotation or four-year break when ID% is greater than 40%
  - c. In order to better understand how the disease was introduced and spread, administration shall gather as much information about the Clubroot infected field as possible, including type and variety of the crop, seed retailer, equipment movement, custom operators used, soil type, pH and drainage patterns.





- d. MDLSR Agricultural Services will provide information and education to landowner(s) and/or producer(s) regarding the spread of Clubroot of Canola.
- e. MDLSR will advocate that all seed (of a host crop) should be a Clubroot resistant variety.
- f. Ensure the landowner(s) and/or producer(s) follow 1-3 rotation or a two-year break when a positive clubroot analysis is confirmed, via Clubroot Notice.

\_\_\_ "Original Signed" \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Barry Kolenosky

\_\_\_ November 29, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_ "Original Signed" \_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve  
Murray Kerik

\_\_\_ November 29, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SPECIAL NOTES/CROSS REFERENCE: AG-63-14.01 Clubroot of Canola Procedure  
*Agricultural Pests Act, RSA 2000, Ch A-8*  
*Agricultural Service Board Act, RSA 2000, CH A-10*  
*Alberta Land Titles Act, RSA 2000, CH L-4*

AMENDMENT DATE: November 15, 2023

