

# Seed Potato Disease Diagnostic Testing

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) Plant Pathology Laboratory (PPL) is responsible for identifying plant diseases and pests regulated by the department and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to help protect the global seed potato industry.

To support Michigan growers' interest in exporting seed potatoes, the PPL is now a USDA approved laboratory to test seed potatoes for the pathogen *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *sepedonicus* for export to Canada. MDARD also participates in the USDA-APHIS PPA 7721 survey for Potato Cyst Nematode annually for no fee. This test is also required to ship seed potatoes to Canada.

The PPL also can provide dormant tuber Potato Virus Y (PVY) diagnostic polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing to Michigan seed potato growers interested in gaining additional information about their seed lots. Currently this is not part of official seed certification program by the Michigan Seed Potato Association.

## Bacterial Pathogens

10 tubers/acre  
**OR**  
a minimum sample size of 400 tubers/seed lot

### Bacterial ring rot (BRR)

*Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *sepedonicus* (Cms)

### Bacterial Blackleg

*Dickeya* sp.

\$134 or less

\$371 or less for both bacteria tests

## Virus Pathogens

< 1/2 acre = 100 tubers  
1/2 to 1 acre = 200 tubers  
1 to 40 acres = 400 tubers

### Potato virus Y (PVY) (Dormant tuber testing)

\$100 per 100 tubers  
\$165 per 200 tubers  
\$300 per 400 tubers

## Nematode Pathogens

one 5-pound sample per acre

### Pale Potato cyst nematode (PCN) *Globodera pallida*

No fee

\*Both PVY and bacteria testing can be done on the same tuber sample. Costs are approximate.

For additional information, call MDARD's Plant Pathology Program Manager Elizabeth Dorman at 517-449-8491 or visit [www.Michigan.gov/PlantPathology](http://www.Michigan.gov/PlantPathology).