

Bacterial ring rot of potatoes

Best management practices for prevention and control



What is bacterial ring rot?

Bacterial ring rot (BRR) is a serious potato disease caused by the bacteria *Clavibacter sepedonicus*, that spreads via equipment, containers, and infected tubers.



Prevention

- Only use certified seed potatoes
- Disinfect all equipment and tools
- Avoid reusing potentially contaminated bags
- Rotate crops and destroy volunteer potato plants



Employee protocol

- Educate workers on BRR symptoms and prevention
- Disinfect footwear and tools
- Use clean gloves and clothing



Field practices

- Plant seed potato fields first
- Ensure shared equipment is cleaned and disinfected
- Monitor for symptoms



Symptoms

- Yellowing leaves
- Wilting plants
- Vascular ring discoloration in tubers
- Infected tubers may ooze sticky material
- Tuber tissue becomes soft and may collapse under pressure



External symptoms



Yellowing leaves



Vascular ring



Cross section view



Tuber decay



If BRR is found on a seed potato farm

- ❗ Report immediately to your [local Canadian Food Inspection Agency office](#)
- ❗ All shipments of seed potatoes must be suspended

If BRR is found on a non-potato farm, contact your provincial agriculture department.



Follow the principles of the [National Farm-Level Biosecurity Standard for Potato Growers](#)

