TECHNICAL UPDATE 2025 V.1

Potato Late Blight Management

Integrated management of Late Blight (*Phytophthora infestans*)

- **Always build a strong foundation with cultural control practices:**
  - Limit primary inoculum by managing potato dumps, volunteers and planting clean seed.
  - Extend crop rotations to limit oospore survival.
  - Plant more resistant cultivars if possible.
- **Implement FRAG and fungicide manufacturer guidelines:**
  - Apply fungicides preventatively.
  - Mix and alternate fungicides with different modes of action throughout the programme.
  - Include multi-site fungicides.
  - Select effective mixture partners (with sufficient efficacy and persistence).
  - Use appropriate spray intervals (considering persistence of mixture partners).
  - Send Late Blight samples to the Fight Against Blight scheme.
  - Burn off the crop when an epidemic is detected (to protect against tuber blight and neighbouring crops).
  - Utilise risk forecasting tools such as BlightSpy to support fungicide timing decisions.

Late Blight Population (*Phytophthora infestans*) update

- *Phytophthora infestans* populations are ever evolving – it is important to monitor populations to manage them, as the frequency and distribution of genotypes is influenced by cultivar selection and fungicide application.
- The table summarises main genotypes of concern in GB including the proportion of genotypes that were recorded by James Hutton Institute/Fight Against Blight in 2024 (note that the frequency of genotype varies by country).

Genotype	Description	Status	Proportion
EU_36_A2	Sporulation at lower temperatures, short latent periods and higher sporulation rates.	Dominant genotype since 2022.	63%
EU_6_A1		Other major genotype but frequency decreased since 2022.	22%
EU_13_A2	Isolates insensitive to Metalaxyl-M.	Frequency decreased since 2023.	5%
EU_41_A2	Isolates insensitive to Metalaxyl-M.	Frequency increased since 2023.	3%
EU_37_A2	Isolates insensitive to Fluazinam	Frequency decreased since 2023.	<1%
EU_46_A1	Isolates insensitive to OSPBI	First isolated cases detected in 2024 in Wales and Scotland.	<1%
EU_43_A1	Isolates insensitive to CAA and OSPBI	Frequency decreased in Europe but not yet detected in GB.	0%

For more information please contact your local CTM or visit our Late Blight Knowledge Hub

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Infinito® is a co-formulation of fluopicolide and propamocarb; active substances which work together to protect every part of the potato plant – leaves, stems, tips and tubers.

Propamocarb-hydrochloride (FRAC group 28) inhibits lipid synthesis disrupting cell membrane permeability and has systemic mobility.

Fluopicolide (FRAC group 43) **i**nhibits spectrin-like proteins synthesis disrupting cytoskeleton stability with translaminar mobility.

Product	**Infinito®**
Target Disease(s)	Late blight *(Phytophthora infestans)*
Active Ingredient(s)	62.5 g/L (5.53 % w/w) fluopicolide + 625 g/L (55.3 % w/w) propamocarb hydrochloride
Formulation	Suspension concentrate (SC) 10L
Maximum Individual Dose	1.60 L/ha
Maximum Total Dose	6.40 L/Ha
Water Rate	200-400 L/ha
Harvest Interval	7 days
Rainfastness	1 hour (providing the spray has dried on the leaf)

Bayer guidance on Propamocarb application in potatoes 2025

Propamocarb continues to be effective on *Phytophthora infestans* with no reports of resistance. To reduce the risk of resistance developing:

Propamocarb should **always be applied in mixture** with an alternative mode of action, with sufficient activity on *Phytophthora infestans and* be applied in alternation with fungicides from a different cross-resistance group.

Bayer advise to apply **no more than 6060g / propamocarb / Ha per crop** and maintain statutory spray application and harvest intervals for all products applied.

Positioning Infinito® in a Late Blight control programme

- Infinito® can be positioned throughout the season, as Propamocarb's systemic and Fluopicolide's translaminar mobility protect the crop in periods of rapid and stable canopy growth.
- The zoospore activity of Infinito®‘ is useful when risk of tuber infection is high. Particularly when seed infection is suspected and later in the season towards harvest.
- Infinito® is physically compatible with a broad range of other plant protection products, adjuvants and micro nutrients. Please visit Bayer Tank Mix Database for tested mixtures.

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