POTATO: *Solanum tuberosum* L., ‘Katahdin’

CONTROL OF WIREWORMS ON IRISH POTATO, 2000

Gary H. Sewell  
Aroostook Farm  
Presque Isle, ME 04769  
Phone: (207) 768-5963  
E-mail: gsewell@maine.edu

Eleanor Groden  
University of Maine  
Orono, ME 04469  
Phone: (207) 581-2984  
E-mail: groden@umit.maine.edu

Wireworms: *Aelolus mellillus, Hypnoidus dubius, Melanotus* spp.

The trial was conducted in an RCB design with four replicates at Presque Isle, ME, on land that was in sod for more than 10 yr. It was planted 23 May. The 8-ft space between blocks was left fallow. All rows were hand planted at 12-inch spacing and were 20 ft long. The single treatment row was surrounded by untreated rows. Granular applications were made by shaker jar with blank granules added for uniform distribution. Fertilizer and hilling practices were normal for the area. Early and late blight were controlled by seven foliar applications of mancozeb. The entire row was harvested, washed with a commercial washer, and rated for damage. The data were subjected to ANOVA and means were separated with Fisher’s LSD test. The soil was classified as Caribou Loam, pH 5.2. Total monthly rainfall for Jun, Jul, and Aug was 2.5, 2.6, and 3.0 inches, respectively. The average temperature for each of the same 3 months was 60.5, 64.7 and 64.2° F.

The Mocap treatment had less damaged tubers, along with less weight of damaged tubers and less percent of damaged tubers, but not significantly less than the untreated control or the Aztec treatments. No phytotoxicity was observed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment formulation</th>
<th>Rate oz/1,000 ft</th>
<th>Application dates</th>
<th>Wireworm damaged tubers/row</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aztec 2.1G</td>
<td>8.25</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>110 a 40.9 a 29.9 a 136.8 a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aztec 2.1G</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>97 a 27.8 a 21.7 a 128.2 a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mocap 10G</td>
<td>32.0</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>66 a 25.4 a 19.0 a 133.7 a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untreated check</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
<td>112 a 39.2 a 30.6 a 128.1 a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Means in a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different (Fisher’s LSD, P = 0.05).