



NISA Commodity-Specific Sustainability Assessments: Potato

NOTE: Only answer questions for those practices which pertain to your production system

Potato Production and Management

1A Are soil samples taken and assayed for plant parasitic nematodes and verticillium and thresholds used in your management decision for potato early dying?

(Check only one)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

2A Is certified seed planted?

(Check only one)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

3A Are proper temperatures and conditions used during planting (at least 45 degrees F, soil moisture at 75% of field capacity)?

(Check only one)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

- 4A** Is weather data used for potato-specific concerns (e.g. Colorado potato beetle, late blight, early blight, irrigation, etc.)?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 5A** Is computer based decision support software (e.g. WISDOM, PCM) used for potato disease management?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 6A** Are irrigation scheduling tools (e.g. moisture sensors) used to match irrigation to crop need?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 7A** Are split applications of in-season nitrogen used and/or are slow release fertilizers used?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 8A** Is supplemental nitrogen based on petiole sampling?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable

- 9A** Are rotations planned to limit concerns of weed, disease and/or insect pests (e.g., areas with known low populations of verticillium, nematodes, weeds and /or proximity to overwintering CPB's)?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 10A** Are cover crops (e.g. brassicas, sorghum sudan, etc.) planted specifically for suppression of potato early dying?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 11A** Are crop rotations planned to control weeds problematic in potatoes and prevent weed seed escapes in and around fields?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
- 12A** Are biocontrol agents used when applicable?
(Check only one)
- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable

13A Which of the following practices are used to manage potato insect pests?

(Check all that apply)

- Completely kill foliage to reduce aphid transmission of viruses after vinekill
- Avoid planting potatoes within ¼ mile from previous potatoes to avoid overwintering insect pests (e.g. Colorado potato beetle)
- Target Colorado potato beetle eggs and/or small larvae for control with foliar insecticides
- Promote natural control with pest specific insecticides
- Avoid planting potatoes into sod or grassy areas to limit soil insects (e.g. wireworm, white grub)
- Use heat units to predict insect development (Colorado potato beetle)
- Monitor corn borer adults in traps or grassy areas
- Not applicable

14A Which of the following are used to manage potato diseases?

(Check all that apply)

- Store seed for 5-7 days after cutting to suberize potatoes
- Use varieties with resistance to pathogens (e.g. scab, nematodes and late blight)
- Eliminate nightshade weeds and volunteer potatoes to limit late blight inoculum
- Eliminate cull piles for late blight control
- Remove potato vines to reduce verticillium
- Not applicable

15A Are potatoes harvested at proper temperatures (between 45 and 65 degrees F)?

(Check only one)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

16A Are practices and/or equipment used to limit contaminants during the size grading, sorting, packaging and/or canning process?

(Check only one)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

17A Are potatoes stored to ensure food safety (e.g. using proper conditions, timings, cleaning methods and disinfectants)?

(Check only one)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

18A Is storage quality monitored (e.g. limiting bruise, shrink, and managing disease)?

(Check only one)

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable