



Knowledge grows



Yara Analytical Services
Technical Bulletin

Potato Cyst Nematode Testing

Your soil samples are examined for potato cyst nematode (PCN). The results are averages based on the cores taken from various places in the area sampled. Nematodes are not evenly distributed across a field so some parts of the area may differ noticeably from the average. Each sample is assessed for the presence of cysts. This is expressed as a cyst count per 100g of air dried soil.

Cysts contain eggs and it is the larvae from these that attack the potato crop. This is expressed as eggs per gram of soil.

Because nematodes are not evenly distributed across a field some parts of the area may differ noticeably from the average and it must be recognised that the results shown refer to the sample received at the laboratory. It is essential to follow the recognised sampling procedure as laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture. Sampling guidelines are available upon request .

Because of this random distribution and as the laboratory has no control over the sampling procedure it cannot be held responsible for yield loss or damage relating to PCN activity.

Please also note - a NOT FOUND or LOW count is no guarantee of freedom from yield loss or damage due to PCN related problems. Yield loss may also be caused by other factors such as poor drainage, fertility problems, cultivation or seasonal conditions.

Report categories

NF - Not Found	No cysts found in the sample. Eelworm is either not present or in such small numbers as to have negligible effect on the count. Due to the haphazard nature of the occurrence of PCN in a field an absence of PCN related problems cannot be guaranteed at this level.
L - Low (1-10 eggs per g of soil)	Low numbers eggs were found. Due to the haphazard nature of the occurrence of PCN in a field an absence of PCN related problems cannot be guaranteed at this level.
H - High (60+ eggs per g of soil)	High numbers of eggs were found. Yield loss is likely to be severe.
EC - Empty Cysts	Empty cysts present which indicates that PCN activity has occurred in this field.

