

# P O L I C Y



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Policy Title <b>VIRULENT BLACK LEG OF CANOLA</b>	Date: <b>February 25, 2021</b>	Resolution No. <b>C/76/21</b>

## **Policy Statement:**

Due to the significant damage that Virulent Black Leg inflicts on canola, resulting in major crop yield reductions, the Lacombe County Agricultural Service Board supports actions to control and eliminate Virulent Black Leg, which is considered a pest under Alberta's *Agricultural Pests Act*.

## **Guidelines/Procedures:**

1. Positive identification of virulent black leg shall normally be obtained by a laboratory test, or any other means approved by the County Manager or designate.
2. A "Notice to Control Pests" shall be issued pursuant to the *Agricultural Pests Act*, by the County Manager or designate, to any landowner or tenant of land infested with virulent black leg. The notice shall contain the conditions noted in Appendix 1 below.
3. All owners and tenants of land surrounding the virulent black leg infested land shall be notified of the pest and encouraged not to plant canola on adjoining lands for a period of three years.

### **APPENDIX 1 Black Leg Control on Infested Land**

1. Bury canola residue (stubble, straw) in the fall, or just prior to planting a non-canola crop in early spring if soil erosion is a problem on the land.
2. In the three seasons immediately following the issuance of this Notice, to avoid bringing any infected canola residue to the surface, shallow tillage or direct seeding of non-host crops shall be used.
3. Black leg infested land must be kept in non-host crops such as cereal, grass, alfalfa, clover or peas for three years immediately following the issuance of this Notice.
4. The non-host crop planted on known infested land must be kept free of any wild mustard or volunteer canola.
5. Seed harvested from infested crops shall be prohibited for use as seed and shall be sold for crushing or export only.

Approved: April 18, 1989, Agriculture Committee  
Revised: March 7, 1996, Agriculture Committee

Revised: June 23, 2011  
Revised: June 27, 2013