



Potato Certification Association of Nebraska

100 Depot St, PO Box 339, Alliance, NE 69301

RE: LD 473 – Testimony against

The Potato Certification Association of Nebraska (PCAN) is responsible for certifying all seed potatoes grown in Nebraska and Wyoming, which is why I am grateful for the opportunity to address you on this topic. I am appreciative of your desire to protect your state from any harmful pests entering with imported seed, in fact Nebraska has strict quarantine rules as well. My concern is the broad application of the quarantine, listing the entire state of Wyoming.

There are limited acres of seed potatoes grown in Wyoming, but one producer, who has the majority of their acreage in Nebraska also has some fields across the border in Wyoming, as well as some storage there. This producer regularly sells and ships to buyers in Maine. In 2024 alone, they shipped around 21,000 cwt of seed potatoes into Maine, some of which were grown and stored in Wyoming.

Within the state of Wyoming, since they began to do random soil sampling in 2001, there has been one positive soil sample, in Laramie County. This was in 2006, when one of the fifteen samples taken in the county tested positive. Since then, there have been no positive soil samples anywhere in the state.

There are no potatoes grown in Laramie County, and the seed potatoes that are grown in Wyoming are located about 75 miles North.

I would like to propose that you consider adjusting the verbiage of this amendment, and like Nebraska, list the specific county where Columbia Root-Knot Nematode has been found as quarantined, rather than the entire state, to avoid interrupting the continued beneficial trade between our states.

Again, I want to thank you for your time today. I appreciate the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Nebraska and Wyoming seed potato industry. Our priority is guaranteeing that quality seed potatoes are certified, and then shipped wherever buyers want them, and that includes Maine. I would encourage you to reach out to my office directly if there are any questions, or if there are any other ways that we can assist in this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Dillinger".

Jennifer Dillinger
Manager