



PLANT HEALTH NETWORK

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2026

Invasive Plant Control Program (IPCP) Tips for a Successful Claim

It's that time of year again! **IPCP claims are due October 31** and your PHTA team has put together some tips for success.

1. Ensure that your RM has appointed a weed inspector, and the appointment has been acknowledged by Saskatchewan Agriculture. If you have submitted an appointment and have not received an acknowledgement letter within a month of submission, please follow up with the Ministry at crops@gov.sk.ca.
2. Any person who is paid to apply herbicides/pesticides **must** be licensed at the time of spraying. Check that each person who is applying herbicides that you are claiming for has a **current** licence. Licences will be verified for dates and categories allowable under the program. **Copies of licences must be included** with claims and if the licence(s) are not current, claims may be denied.
 - If an applicator needs a copy of their current licence, they can reach out to PL@gov.sk.ca
 - If hiring a third-party independent contractor or application company, your claim also needs to include the contractor/company **Pesticide Service Licence**.
 - RM employees do not require a Pesticide Service Licence number (RMs are exempt)
3. Claimants with large numbers of LLDs or GPS coordinates may use a spreadsheet to submit herbicide application records (rather than filling out several individual herbicide application records).
4. Ensure the weed you are claiming for is covered in Appendix A of the IPCP guidelines, and check that the herbicide is registered for controlling the right weed(s).
5. Applicators **MUST** follow label rates and recommendations. The label is the law!
6. Got questions? Feel free to contact your PHTA for help and even to look over your claims before submission. We're here to help!

Please contact your SARM Division Plant Health Technical Advisor for more information, to answer any questions, or to suggest content for future newsletters.

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News from the Field:

In September, members of the PHTA team went on a private tour in southern Manitoba to check out some **Waterhemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*)** with the Manitoba Provincial Weed Specialist. This is a Prohibited Weed in Saskatchewan and has not been identified in our province yet. We were able to see how the plant has affected those fields and got some tips on how to successfully identify it. This will help us train Weed Inspectors and continue to participate in **Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)** to crop pests in Saskatchewan.

Waterhemp seedling



PHTA Div 1 Marieve Elliot standing with a Waterhemp plant in a Soybean field



Female Waterhemp plant



(Photo Credits: J. Kwasnicki, PHTA Div. 2)

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Weed Inspectors** – Remember that the Crop Protection Lab offers its Weed ID services to all Saskatchewan Weed Inspectors free of charge! Contact your PHTA for more information.
- **The Invasive Plant Control Program (IPCP) deadline is October 31, 2026.** Please reach out to your PHTA if you need any assistance with completing your claim forms.
- **The Rat Control Program (RCP) deadline is December 31, 2026.** Please reach out to your PHTA if you need any assistance with completing your claim forms.
 - **REMINDER:** include licence copies when claiming through the IPCP or RCP
- **Annual Appointments for Weed Inspectors and Pest Control Officers** expire every year on December 31st. Appointments are to be sent by email (crops@gov.sk.ca) to the Ministry of Agriculture at the beginning of each calendar year.
- **Annual reports from Pest Control Officers and Weed Inspectors** are also due by December 31st each year to the Ministry of Agriculture.
- **2027 PHN Winter Workshops – SAVE THE DATE** for one-day workshops being held **February 8 & 9** in Regina and **February 18 & 19** in Saskatoon. Stay tuned for more information on workshops we are facilitating in 2027 for PCOs, WIs, Administrators, and council members.