

## POTATOES & PESTS PASS PASS

Actionable Science Against Nematodes

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## Golden nematode: a devastating potato pest

- The golden nematode (GN; Globodera rostochiensis) is about half a millimeter long, but it poses a very serious threat to the multi-billion-dollar US potato industry.
- GN forms cysts that can survive in the soil for over 30 years and can cause over 80% crop loss if left uncontrolled.
- Once GN is introduced, eradication is difficult and unrealistic, so these sites are kept under quarantine.
- If GN spreads to new sites, trade embargoes could result, hampering domestic and international trade.
- Quarantines affect the potato industry, but also any agricultural commodity shipped from the quarantined areas that carries soil, such as nursery, turf, root and tuber crops.



Golden and brown-colored GN cysts on potato roots (left image). Over 200 potato-hungry nematodes live within every cyst! (right image)

## Wild potato species offer novel resistance to potato cyst nematodes (PCN)

