**[Late blight forecast for May 20](https://d-linnard.github.io/LateBlight/)[th](https://d-linnard.github.io/LateBlight/)[, 2022](https://d-linnard.github.io/LateBlight/)**

**Forecast:** Late blight has not been reported in the Columbia Basin of Washington. Additionally, late blight is not expected to occur in the Columbia Basin before row closure. The probabilities that late blight will occur in 2022 are presented below for the same locations used in previous years:

* Othello: 0.81
* Tri-Cities: 0.53
* Prosser: 0.96

**Recommendations:**

1. Eliminate culls, tuber refuse, and volunteer potato plants, especially in fields with or near late blight last year.
2. Limit irrigation unless the crop is fully emerged.
3. Ensure that developing tubers are covered with moderately sized hills.
4. Upon row closure, begin to monitor fields for late blight. This is very important for (i) effective management and (ii) accurate forecasting. Growers, field representatives, and extension agents serve as the eyes on the ground. We need this information to provide meaningful forecasts.

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