You should be aware of two serious bacterial diseases of potato. They are not established in the UK and are a threat to our potato industry.

**Ring Rot**
The initial symptom is a glassiness and darkening of the vascular ring which develops into a cheesy rot with separation and eventual necrosis of the tissue.

![Symptoms of potato ring rot caused by Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. sepedonicus](image)

**Brown Rot**
The initial symptom is a brown staining of the vascular ring which later rots completely. A creamy-white ooze exudes from cut vascular tissues and eyes of the potato.

![Symptoms of potato brown rot caused by Ralstonia solanacearum](image)

Please note! Potato waste can transmit these diseases. Don’t dump it on arable land.

These diseases are difficult to tell apart. If you see any of the above symptoms or suspect either disease, you must immediately contact your local Defra Plant Health and Seeds Inspector, or in Scotland, your local SEERAD Area Office.