Chemical control of the Andean potato weevil

Recognize the problem
The weevil is a pest known as potato worm or “papakuru”, which ruins the potato. In extreme cases, it can destroy the entire potato crop. In the market, the price of the whole freight is reduced if some potatoes with worms are found.

Background
The worms hatch from the eggs laid by the weevils on the collar region of small plants.

Adult weevils eat the edges of potato leaves, leaving crescent-shaped bites.

Management
If you see bites in potato leaves, or if you know you will face problems with weevils, you can spray insecticide around the collar region of small plants to kill the weevil eggs and small worms. Spray when most plants have already developed, before the weevils lay their eggs. You can apply Triflumuron (Alsystin 25 WP, chitin inhibitor).

Mix 20 ml in a pump with 20 liters of water, or follow the instructions on the label. If the attack is severe, you can reapply insecticides 12-15 days later. Insecticides are poison. When working with insecticides, we should be careful and wear protective equipment such as gloves, masks, boots, and eye protection. The backpack used for spraying must be in good condition.

When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, and pre-harvest interval.