Recognize the problem

The Andean potato weevil is also called "papa khuru" or "choq'e laq'o" or white grub. When it attacks the potato, the latter becomes damaged and nobody wants to buy it.

Background

White grubs hatch from the eggs laid by adult weevils.

The white grub can come from the potato seed.

Adult weevils settle on volunteer plants or "k'ipas", where they continue living to lay more eggs.

The white grubs leave the potatoes at harvest time and enter the soil to continue living and growing.

Management

Before sowing, seeds should be carefully selected. Use only healthy seeds.

Eliminate volunteer plants.

Between the first and the second hillling, manually collect adult weevils using flashlight and buckets. Use the flashlight to search for weevils on the leaves of plants and slightly hit the plant with your hands so that the weevils will fall into the bucket. Then, kill adult weevils to prevent them from laying more eggs.

During harvest, pile the potatoes on blankets so that the white grub will not enter the soil again. The grubs will come out of the potatoes and chickens can readily eat them.