1983 No. 244

SEEDS

Seed Potatoes (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983

Made	*22nd August 1983*
Coming into operation . . .	*3rd October 1983*

The Department of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 1(**a**), 2 and 12 of the Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965(**b**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, after consultation with representatives of such interests as appear to it to be concerned, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Seed Potatoes (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 and subject to paragraph (2) shall come into operation on 3rd October 1983.

(2) The provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of regulation 2 shall come into operation on 2nd January 1984 and 1st August 1984 respectively.

Amendment of Seed Potatoes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981

2. The Seed Potatoes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981(**c**) shall be amended as follows:—

(1) As regards regulation 2(1):

(*a*) sub-paragraph (*a*) of the definition of ''basic seed potatoes'' shall be deleted;

(*b*) in sub-paragraph (*b*) of the definition of ''basic seed potatoes'' the words ''other than from a crop grown in 1981'' shall be deleted;

(*c*) for the definition of ''sealing device'' there shall be substituted: ''''sealing device'' means a device used to seal a package or a container of seed potatoes which will be broken if it is applied to a package or a container and that package or container is opened in the ordinary way subject to—

(i) such a device not being deemed to include an official label with a punch tie hole which is machine stitched into the mouth of the bag;

(ii) in the case of basic seed potatoes produced in Northern Ireland such a device being deemed to include an official label without a punch tie hole which is machine stitched into the mouth of the bag and which is also endorsed with the official stamp of the Department''.

(2) As regards regulation 8(1)(*b*) for ''and'' there shall be substituted ''or''.

(3) In Schedule 1 paragraph 3(*b*)(i) shall be deleted.

(4) For Schedule 2 there shall be substituted Schedule 1 to these regulations.

(5) As regards Schedule 4 Part III, for paragraph 3(*c*) there shall be substituted: ''(*c*) ''SUPER ELITE SEED'' or ''ELITE SEED'' or ''CLASS A'' as appropriate to the contents''.

(6) For Schedule 5 Part I there shall be substituted Schedule 2 to these regulations.

(**a**) As amended by S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1972 No. 351 Art. 3 and Sch. 3
(**b**) 1965 c. 22 (N.I.)
(**c**) S.R. 1981 No. 243

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 22nd August 1983.

(L.S.) *K. E. Brady*
Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE 1 Regulation 2(4)

"SCHEDULE 2 Regulations 2(1), 5 and 13(3)

Classification of Basic Seed Potatoes

1. When in the course of certification of seed potatoes produced in Northern Ireland as basic seed potatoes, an authorised officer is satisfied that the standards set out in column 2 of paragraph 2 in relation to those potatoes have been met and that the tolerances, if any, set out in column 3 have not been exceeded by those potatoes, the Department shall classify those potatoes into the classes set out in column 1 of paragraph 2. The Department shall state in the certificate the class into which such potatoes have been classified. The classes listed in column 1 are arranged in descending order of quality.

2. *Column 1*	*Column 2*	*Column 3*
Class	*Requirements*	*Tolerances*
VIRUS TESTED STEM CUTTINGS SEED (VTSC)		
VTSC 1	The seed potatoes shall: (*a*) be grown in a crop planted with tubers derived from pathogen tested mother tubers using stem cutting methods with all selections, testings and propagation carried out under the supervision of an authorised officer; (*b*) be free from visible signs of leaf roll, mild mosaic, severe mosaic and blackleg; (*c*) be found on leaf-testing to be free from virus diseases X and S and in the case of susceptible varieties when leaf tested to be free from virus diseases Y and A; (*d*) be free from rogues and recognisable variations and ground keepers; (*e*) be grown and entered for classification by a person whose facilities, planting arrangements and manner of keeping appropriate records in relation to the production of seed potatoes are of a sufficiently high standard to enable that person to produce seed potatoes which will meet the requirements of the classes VTSC 1 and VTSC 2; (*f*) be sufficiently isolated from potato crops below the standard of classes VTSC 1 and VTSC 2 in order to prevent the transmission of disease from such crops;	

Column 1		Column 3
	(*g*) have had the foliage of the plants destroyed by the date notified to the owner of the crop or his agent by an authorised officer.	
VTSC 2	The requirements shall be the same as for class VTSC 1 except that the seed potatoes shall be derived from a stock which was classified as class VTSC 1 in the year preceding the planting of the crop.	
SUPER ELITE SEED (SE)		
SE 1	The seed potatoes shall: (*a*) be derived from a stock which was classified as class VSTC 1 or class VTSC 2 in the year preceding the planting of the crop; (*b*) be sufficiently isolated from potato crops below any class of Super Elite standard in order to prevent the transmision of disease from such crops; (*c*) have had the foliage of the plants destroyed by the date notified to the owner of the crop or his agent by an authorised officer.	(i) Varietal impurity and deviation from type – 0.05% by number of plants; (ii) Tobacco Veinal Necrosis — Nil (iii) Leaf Roll and Severe Mosaic (other than Tobacco Veinal Necrosis) combined–0.01% by number of plants; (iv) Mild Mosaic including all mottles – 0.05% by number of plants; (v) Blackleg — 0.25% by number of plants.
SE 2	(*a*) In 1984 the requirements shall be the same as for class SE 1 except that the seed potatoes shall be derived from a stock which was classified as class FS 1 in 1983 under the Seed Potatoes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981. (*b*) In 1985 or in any year thereafter the requirements shall be the same as for class SE 1 except that the seed potatoes shall be derived from a stock which was classified as class SE 1 in the year preceding the planting of the crop.	As for class SE 1.
SE 3	(*a*) In 1984 the requirements shall be the same as for class SE 1	As for class SE 1.