

1 Department of Agriculture

2 Plant Industry Division

3

4 Adopted Amendments to Rules Governing Seed Potato Certification

5 (3 MCAR SS 1.0127-1.0135)

6

7 Rules as Adopted

8 3 MCAR S 1.0129 General guidance.

9 The provisions of this section govern the production of
10 potatoes for use as certified seed potatoes.

11 A. [Unchanged.]

12 B. Winter testing. In order to detect certain virus
13 diseases, samples from all Primary Foundation certified and
14 Foundation certified seed potato lots shall be winter-tested.
15 In the event of serious malfunctions of the winter test,
16 classification of lots as Primary Foundation certified or
17 Foundation certified shall be based on the previous summer field
18 readings.

19 C. Certified seed potato classes. There are three classes
20 of Minnesota certified seed potatoes, differentiated by their
21 tolerances for virus diseases.

22 1. The first class, Primary Foundation certified seed
23 potatoes, has stricter tolerances for virus diseases than do the
24 other classes. This class shall be winter-tested.

25 2. The Foundation certified seed potato class is the
26 second class. Virus disease tolerances for these seed potatoes
27 are less strict than those for Primary Foundation certified seed
28 potatoes. Foundation certified seed potatoes shall also be
29 winter-tested.

30 3. [Unchanged.]

31 D. Certified seed potato grades. Grades of certified seed
32 potatoes are established according to the physical defects of
33 the tubers. There are three grades used for shipping Minnesota
34 certified seed potatoes.

35 1. The blue tag certified seed potato grade, the first
36 grade, has tolerances for physical defects of the tubers

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1 stricter than the other grades. This grade may be used by
2 growers of Primary Foundation certified, Foundation certified,
3 and Certified seed potatoes. The blue tag grade may be used for
4 intrastate and interstate shipments of certified seed potatoes.

5 2. The yellow tag certified seed potato grade is the
6 second grade. This grade allows more physical defects of the
7 tubers than the blue tag certified seed potato grade. It may be
8 used by growers of Primary Foundation certified, Foundation
9 certified, and Certified seed potatoes. The yellow tag grade
10 may also be used for intrastate and interstate shipments of
11 certified seed potatoes.

12 3. The white tag certified seed potato grade is the third
13 grade. The tolerances for physical defects of the tubers are
14 determined by agreement between purchaser and seller of the
15 certified seed potatoes. This grade may only be used by growers
16 of Primary Foundation certified and Foundation certified seed
17 potatoes. It may only be used for intrastate shipments of
18 certified seed potatoes.

19 E.-F. [Unchanged.]

20 3 MCAR S 1.0130 Application and eligibility for inspection and
21 certification.

22 A. [Unchanged.]

23 B. Seed potatoes eligible for Minnesota certification
24 planting. A field may not be inspected for certification unless
25 both the seed potato variety and the particular lot planted have
26 the authorization of the commissioner. In considering seed
27 potato varieties for authorization for certification planting,
28 the commissioner shall consider scientific evidence and expert
29 opinion. To be eligible for certification planting, seed
30 potatoes must be one of the following:

31 1. From Minnesota growers:

32 a. Primary Foundation certified seed potatoes;

33 b. Foundation certified seed potatoes; or

34 c. Certified seed potatoes. A grower may replant his
35 own certified seed potatoes. The commissioner may authorize the
36 planting of purchased certified seed potatoes if there is no

1 source of Primary Foundation certified or Foundation certified
2 seed potatoes available to the grower.

3 2. From non-Minnesota growers: Seed potatoes approved
4 for certification planting by the certifying agency in another
5 state or a Canadian province may be planted if tolerances for
6 certification meet Minnesota tolerances for Foundation or
7 Primary Foundation certified seed potatoes.

8 3. [Unchanged.]

9 3 MCAR S 1.0132 Requirements for Primary Foundation certified
10 seed potato production.

11 Primary Foundation certified seed potatoes consist of
12 potatoes which meet all the requirements of 3 MCAR SS 1.0130 and
13 1.0131 as well as the additional requirements in this rule.

14 A. A lot grown as and intended to be Primary Foundation
15 certified seed potatoes must remain under direct control of the
16 grower for three years prior to being certified as Primary
17 Foundation certified seed potatoes.

18 B. Primary Foundation certified seed potatoes shall be the
19 only potatoes grown on the farm. They shall be grown from
20 potatoes produced on a tuber unit seed plot.

21 C.-D. [Unchanged.]

22 E. A sample of each lot meeting the requirements of this
23 rule must be submitted for winter testing. Seed potato lots
24 with winter test readings more than one-half percent of any or
25 all virus diseases must be removed from the Primary Foundation
26 certified seed potato class. Presence of spindle tuber;
27 bacterial ring rot, or chemical damage must also remove the lot
28 from the Primary Foundation certified seed potato class.

29 F. [Unchanged.]

30 G. Blue, yellow, or white tags with the word "Primary
31 Foundation" stamped across the front of the tag shall be issued
32 only after all requirements of 3 MCAR S 1.0132 are met. In
33 addition, the crop must be at least the third crop grown
34 following the year in which bacterial ring rot was found before
35 becoming eligible to be tagged with Primary Foundation tags.

1 3 MCAR S 1.0133 Requirements for Foundation certified seed
2 potato production.

3 Foundation certified seed potatoes consist of potatoes
4 which meet all the requirements of 3 MCAR S 1.0130 and 3 MCAR S
5 1.0131 as well as the following additional requirements:

6 A. [Unchanged.]

7 B. A sample of the lot must meet the same winter test
8 requirements as prescribed for Primary Foundation certified seed
9 potatoes in 3 MCAR S 1.0132 E.

10 1. In selecting lots for winter testing, the commissioner
11 shall consider factors such as lots more than two years removed
12 from the Primary Foundation certified seed potato class, amount
13 of disease found during field inspections, amount of varietal
14 mixture rogued, proximity to fields having excessive amounts of
15 disease, and other conditions which may jeopardize the value of
16 the lots for certification planting.

17 2. If bacterial ring rot is found on the farm, before
18 becoming eligible to submit a sample from future crops for
19 winter testing, the grower must either:

20 a. Dispose of the crop from the year bacterial ring
21 rot was found and purchase all new Primary Foundation certified
22 or Foundation certified seed potatoes; or

23 b. Produce at least two crops free from bacterial ring
24 rot.

25 3 MCAR S 1.0135 Minnesota certified seed potato grades and
26 tolerances.

27 A. Minnesota certified seed potato grades. Before potatoes
28 are eligible for grading as certified seed potatoes, the
29 requirements of 3 MCAR SS 1.0130 and 1.0131 must be met. In
30 addition, Primary Foundation certified seed potatoes must meet
31 the requirements of 3 MCAR S 1.0132. Foundation certified seed
32 potatoes must meet the requirements of 3 MCAR S 1.0133. Grading
33 and tagging or issuance of a bulk certificate are the final
34 steps in the certification process.

35 1.-2. [Unchanged.]

36 3. Minnesota white tag certified seed potato grade.

1 a. Minnesota white tag certified seed potato grade
2 consists of Primary Foundation certified or Foundation certified
3 seed potatoes which are graded according to agreement between
4 the seller and the purchaser as to size and defects, except that
5 not more than one-half percent of soft rot, frozen, or wet
6 breakdown and two percent dry rot is allowed.

7 b. [Unchanged.]

8 B.-D. [Unchanged.]