



Growing together

NEW ZEALAND SEED POTATO CERTIFICATION AUTHORITY

OCTOBER 2024

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Same fee for the 2024-25 seed year
- Annual crop registration
- PNZ PCN survey
- Seed rules changes
- Virus survey
- Scab testing options
- Organophosphate Group
- Bob Yaxley
- Contact details

FEES FOR THE 2024-25 SEED POTATO CERTIFICATION YEAR

The entry fees for the 2024-25 will not be increased.

The entry fee for “standard” entries (i.e., those where field and tuber inspections are carried out by Potatoes New Zealand orASURE Quality) will be \$305 plus GST per hectare.

ANNUAL CROP REGISTRATION

Each seedline must be registered annually. Production site registration must be completed within 21 days of planting.

Growers must complete the current ‘*Application for seed potato certification*’ form ([Application for Seed Potato Certification Form EXCEL \(Aug 2021\)](#) or [Application for Seed Potato Certification Form WORD \(Aug 2021\)](#)). This form can be completed on excel format (preferred option) or hard copy and emailed to PNZ (avoid sending the form by courier as it will take longer to process).

A reminder to supply a *Farm Map* with the GPS coordinates/location of the paddock (if provided with PCN registration farm map not required for seed registration) and a *Plot Map* ensuring that each entry is clearly marked with the variety name, harvested generation, and seed sown reference number (if available).

Completed Application for Seed Potato Certification forms can be emailed to any one of the PNZ staff email addresses as below.

Paula Lleras Email: paula.lleras@potatoesnz.co.nz

Cyril Hickman Email: cyril.hickman@potatoesnz.co.nz

Tristan Hickman Email: tristan.hickman@potatoesnz.co.nz

PNZ POTATO CYST NEMATODE SURVEY

- The PCN region-wide survey is still in progress.
 - ✓ 500 gr soil from piler/under grader samples
 - ✓ Process - Fresh
 - ✓ Complete anonymity
 - ✓ Survey extended for one more year till June 2025
- Up to date results: All PCN negative



SEED RULES CHANGES

There have been a few changes to the rules which will come into effect for the 2024-25 seed year. All the changes have been approved by the Authority and presented to the seed growers at the seed grower meeting held in Methven on 4th September 2024 and will be clearly identified in the Amendment Record of the “*New Zealand Seed Potato Certification Authority – Seed Scheme Rulebook*”; which will be published on the website and sent out to all growers, merchants, and trade members.

The main change is listed below (minor changes relating to renaming of other documents are not detailed below):

G2 Virus Testing

Two sampling options depending on the size of the G2 plots:

- ✓ Option A) Collect 1 leaf from 100 plants and test 10x10 (10 tests). 10 bags of 10 leaves each, 100 leaves total.
- ✓ Option B) Collect 1 leaf from 10 separate plants and test 1x10 (10 tests). 1 bag of 10 leaves, 10 leaves total.

If the plot has more than a 100 plants: *Option A*

If the plot has less than a 100 plants: *Option B*

If more than one sample tests positive, then the line must be removed from the scheme.

If one sample tests positive, then the G2 label must be endorsed “Failed G2 virus test” and the seedline will be subject to a compulsory virus test at G3. The G3 line is subject to the same criteria as G2 lines. Repeated failure will require virus test on the following generations. The seedline will not be eligible to be tagged as certified seed until the virus test returns negative.

If the G2 virus test is missed completely, the seedline will be subject to a compulsory virus test at the next generation and the G2 label will be endorsed with “Virus test not completed”. If the virus test is missed again at G3 the seedline will be removed from the scheme.

VIRUS SURVEY

- A virus survey will be conducted over the next season.
- It is a continuation of virus survey carried out by Plant & Food Research since 1983.
- It will be focused on the following cultivars: Agria, Moonlight, Russet Burbank, Innovator and an additional (1 only) crisping cultivar.
- Generation 4, Generation 5, and Generation 6 planted seed.
- Seed crops produced in Canterbury and commercial crops produced in Canterbury, Pukekohe and Manawatu.
- It will include a comparison trial between PCR and ELISA for seed Generations G4/G5/G6 and commercial crops, targeting the negative ELISA results.

SCAB TESTING 2025 SEASON

Scab testing services for the 2025 seed potato certification season will be offered by Plant & Food Research and Plant Diagnostics Ltd.

- ✓ Plant & Food Research scab testing price of \$170.00 + GST per sample, charging directly to growers/merchants.
- ✓ Plant Diagnostics Ltd scab testing price of \$120.00 + GST per sample, charging directly to growers/merchants.

Plant Diagnostics Ltd

185 Kirk Road

Templeton

Phone: 0273329934

Email: bronwyn@plantdiagnosticslimited.co.nz



Common scab

Powdery scab

THE ORGANOPHOSPHATE GROUP OF INSECTICIDES (OPS)

The organophosphates (OPs) are the active ingredients in some insecticides. They can be used to control a wide range of horticultural pests but are toxic to people and the environment. These OPs were reassessed by the EPA and ACVM and has resulted in the whole group of products being heavy restricted, some banned, and some phased out.

The approval of Fenamiphos and Methamidophos expired on 1 July 2023, therefore *they can no longer be used*, imported or manufactured in New Zealand and safer alternatives must be used in place.

<http://www.worksafe.govt.nz/assets/dmsassets/1/1999WKS-2-hazardous-substances-methamidophos-insecticide-guidance.pdf>

<https://www.worksafe.govt.nz/assets/dmsassets/2/2032WKS-2-hazardous-substances-fenamiphos-insecticide-guidance.pdf>

BOB YAXLEY

We were very saddened to hear of the passing of Bob Yaxley on the 2 of September 2024.

On behalf of seed potato growers and the New Zealand potato industry, we would like to express our sincere condolences to Bob's family.

KEY CONTACTS:

Iain Kirkwood - Secretary (for general enquiries)

Mobile: 027 240 1092

Email: Iain.Kirkwood@potatoesnz.co.nz

Website: www.potatoesnz.co.nz

Paula Lleras – Administration & Inspector

Mobile: 027 263 8427

Email: Paula.Lleras@potatoesnz.co.nz

Cyril Hickman - Seed Scheme Manager & Inspector

Mobile: 027 276 6664

Email: cyril.hickman@potatoesnz.co.nz

Tristan Hickman - Seed Scheme Inspector

Mobile: 027 233 3865

Email: tristan.hickman@potatoesnz.co.nz