

2014 Potato Certification Advisory Committee
THREE RIVERS CONVENTION CENTER
Kennewick, WA 99336
Tuesday, Jan 28, 2014 at 10:00 AM

AGENDA

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS – Greg Harris

II. PRESENTING THE 2013 MINUTES

(see: <http://seedcert.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/advcom/potato/potatominutes13.pdf>)

III. PROGRAM UPDATES

- A. Oregon Department of Agriculture (Nancy Osterbauer)
- B. OSU - Crop Science & Seed Services Reports * (Russ Karow)
- C. Oregon Seed Certification Service (Dennis Lundeen)

IV. REVIEW OF NATIONAL CERTIFICATION MEETINGS

(Mike Macy/Bill Brewer/Jeff McMorran)

- 1. Canadian Seed Potato Quality Management Program (D-06-04) *
- 2. Bacterial Ring Rot Testing *
- 3. Necrotic Virus Management Plan (revised) and MOU
- 4. WGO vs. Virus testing (visual vs. lab)
- 5. PCN testing options *
- 6. Shipping Point Inspections (revisited)
- 7. Zebra Chip
- 8. Sale of 'back yard' potatoes,

V. PROPOSALS REQUIRING COMMITTEE ACTION

- A. New Early Generation Line Selection Program (EGLSP):
- B. Isolation requirements for Early Generation Seed;
- C. Seed Directory: What lots to include (withdrawn, OUO)

VI. OSCS ISSUES & UPDATES FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Item 1 – Review of Appeals granted in 2013
 - A. Stastny/Wright (Isolation)
 - B. Shasta Seed (G5 downgrade)
- Item 2 – Winter Grow-out Report (Terry Burr)
- Item 3 – Review/Discussion of WGO requirement
- Item 4 – On Line Shipping Certificates
- Item 5 – G1 Inspection Protocol * (see page 6)
- Item 6 – Nevada Inspections/cooperation;
- Item 7 – Latent Virus List - additions, relevancy? *
- Item 8 – Possible Fee increase for WGO lots.
- Item 8 – Review of Role of OSCS in ‘OUO’ Seed lots

Supplemental Information

- 1. Canadian Seed Potato Quality Management Program (D-06-04)
- 2. Inspection Policy for Early Generation Seed (adopted Summer 2013)

OTHER HANDOUTS

* = *Supplemental Handouts in packet or below*

2014 Potato Certification Advisory Committee

IV. REVIEW OF NATIONAL CERTIFICATION MEETING

(Mike Macy/Bill Brewer/Jeff McMorran)

1. Canadian Seed Potato Quality Management Program (D-06-04)

- Licensing of seed potato growers to perform Shipping Point Inspections for all Canadian growers shipping seed potatoes of a registered variety for commercial and seed for re-certification into the United States. Moves program from a voluntary program (as now exist) to a mandatory program.
- See “*Canadian Seed Potato Quality Management Program*” below for more detail).

2. Bacterial Ring Rot Testing

- Response to BRR Outbreaks in OR, WA, and Idaho in recent years (Review)
- Mandatory testing of all commercial lots for BRR at 1,200 to 4,400 tuber level (buyer-seller agreement)
- PAA/NPC Certification recommendations (see attached draft below)
- Testing labs and testing numbers
- Changes to Certification Regulations needed?

3. Necrotic Virus Management Plan (revised) and MOU

- NVMP - (a) new version, any problems; (b) re-signing of MOU (Nancy O?); (c) PMTV, TRV not included? AlfMV;

4. WGO vs. Virus testing (visual vs. lab)

- (a) Changing national situation/requirements (b) Mandatory testing programs (options) (c) strains, etc.

5. PCN testing options

- NPC position (Keeling’s memo) - preference: 3year no PCN = hiatus, current year testing always an option;
- Question: Time for grower input on this issue.

6. Shipping Point Inspections (revisited)

- “Grade Inspections” - Currently required on many Out-of-State shipments (all must have inspection for necrotizing virus)
- Revisit/review - Mandatory/optional, Oregon still out-of-step on this, pressure to change via SNIP and talks with Canada

7. Zebra Chip

- In one seed lot, not a true disease issue in seed, but is export issue (Peter Joyce) (fry test vs. PCR test).

8. Sale of 'back yard' potatoes,

- Montana approach/concerns, (a) Risks; (b) Properly labeled in regards to “Certified” (i.e. “Certified” but lacking tag/docs?, risks (c) Seed supplies (Wallowa example)

2014 Potato Certification Advisory Committee

V. PROPOSALS REQUIRING COMMITTEE ACTION

A. New Early Generation Line Selection Program (EGLSP):

BACKGROUND: OSCS has been approached to allow for field-grown lines, selected from disease-tested tissue culture stock of multiple genetic lines, to be entered into the certification program as Nuclear Class stock (FY1). No such program current exist.

PROPOSAL: For complete proposal see supplemental handout. The proposal will allow an eventual certification of disease-tested tissue culture material, of multiple genetic sources, as long as this material was tested and handled in a manner equivalent to 'standard' Nuclear Class material.

Remaining questions - Changes needed? Should Latent virus testing be required?

B. Isolation requirements for Early Generation Seed;

BACKGROUND: The current Potato Standards are somewhat vague in regards to isolation requirements for early generation seed. They specify (page 13, Table 4) that the isolation requirement for Nuclear and G1 class seed is simply an "*Approved Location*" and that for Generation 2 & 3 are "*300 feet from fields planted with seed higher than certified G4 class*".

OSCS staff has encountered two problems with the applying the Standards in 2013 as written:

1. What constitutes an 'approved location'. Without any specified criteria in this regard, OSCS staff have deferred back to the "*300 feet from fields planted with seed higher than certified G4 class*" for G2/3 seed in determining if the isolation requirement is met for N/G1 seed.
2. In 2013 material planted for Nuclear class production was planted within 140 feet of material from the Oregon Potato Variety Development Project (OPVDP). Because the material being produced by the OPVDP is not certified, the lots were deemed only eligible for G4 class due to isolation requirements for N through G3 seed not being met. Though material from the OPVDP is early generation material, the OPVDP material is not equivalent to certified Pre-Nuclear or Nuclear class lots. The planting stock used to plant FY1 material in the OPVDP is not tested as thoroughly, it is not grown in an approved insect-proof GH house, nor is this material inspected and tested like certified Pre-Nuclear material. OSCS staff felt proximity to Nuclear class seed posed a real risk to any early generation production. This decision was appealed and the grower was allowed to produce the material as Nuclear class Own-Use-Only pending a Winter Grow-out.

Questions for consideration and guidance:

1. What should constitute an 'approved location' for Nuclear and G1 class material?
2. How should OSCS staff respond to material from a Variety Development Program planted within close proximity to early generation certified seed lots?

2014 Potato Certification Advisory Committee

C. Seed Directory: What lots to include (withdrawn, OOU)

BACKGROUND: Currently the Potato Standards require all lots entered into the certification program to be included in the Directory except for lots withdrawn prior to the 2nd inspection.

Part IV. PUBLISHING DIRECTORY OF CERTIFIED SEED POTATO GROWERS (page 9)

Seed Potato Growers Lists will be published annually after final field inspection. The report will show the results of the field inspections, including bacterial ring rot. The Directory will include all lots that have completed the field inspection portion of the OSCS program (including the “Do Not Publish” varieties with variety names blacked out). Lots withdrawn prior to completion of field inspection portion of the OSCS program are not included. Fields that normally would be required to have a Winter Test, but final approval cannot be made at last inspection, will have a ‘*pending*’ under classification which means the seed lot is held for Winter Test, or other tests were not completed at the time of publication.

While OSCS prepares the Seed Directory each year, the Oregon Potato Commission pays for its publication and distribution. Assuming the purpose of the purpose of the Seed Directory is aid in the sale of seed lots for Oregon growers, the question has arisen “*Why are lots that are not available for sale as certified seed, such as lots withdrawn prior to final inspections or ‘Own-Use-Only’ lots, included in the Directory?*”

PROPOSAL: Discussion of the current policy/rules regarding what is published in the Directory. Is their a need to change the current policy?

2014 Potato Certification Advisory Committee

VI. OSCS ISSUES & UPDATES FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION

Item 1 – Review of Appeals granted in 2013

A. Stastny/Wright (Isolation)

Isolation from non-certified material, Status of OPVDP material) - See III-A above).

B. Shasta Seed (G5 downgrade)

Downgrade of OUO lot from Nuclear to G5 due to mosaic.

Item 2 – Winter Grow-out Report (Terry Burr)

Item 3 – Review/Discussion of WGO requirement

Item 4 – On Line Shipping Certificates

(A) Available, demonstrate?; (B) Phase out of booklets

Item 5 – G1 Inspection Protocol

→ see “Inspection Policy for Early Generation Seed” (below)

Item 6 – Nevada Inspections/cooperation;

Item 7 – Latent Virus List - additions, relevancy?

Item 8 – Possible Fee increase for WGO lots.

Item 9 – Review of Role of OSCS in ‘OUO’ Seed lots

2014 Potato Certification Advisory Committee

Item 9 – Review of Role of OSCS in ‘OUO’ Seed lots

BACKGROUND: Currently, the sub-class ‘-OUO’ is affixed to lots that are designated for “Own-Use-Only”. These lots cannot be sold as certified seed but may be used by the grower for the production of certified seed the subsequent season or planted as commercial seed by the grower in satisfaction with the Oregon Seed Law.

There are basically three cases where the OUO designation is used:

- (1) **Appeal condition:** As a result of an appeal in which the original decision is over-turned and the lot is accepted as an OUO lot (not to be sold);
- (2) **Grower Request:** Where a grower of commercial acreage uses the OUO designation on all their seed lots to avoid needing Bacterial Ring Rot inspection on their commercial acreage.
- (3) **OSCS Use:** In special cases where the seed source eligibility or other factor is uncertain, OSCS will sometimes allow for a lots acceptance but under an OUO status (by agreement with grower).

In the last few years, there has been an increase use of condition #2 where growers of large acreage of commercial potatoes have decided to produce limited amounts of seed for their own use. This practice, while in accordance with Oregon Certification Standards, is contrary to what many states require of seed farm production. In some cases, OSCS involvement in these operations is solely so the grower is in compliance with the Oregon Certified Seed only law.

Question: Should OSCS continue to be involved in inspecting the ‘all OUO’ seed lots of commercial operations? If the main purpose of the ‘all OUO’ seed operations is to remain in compliance with the Oregon Seed Law (and not the production of high quality seed for sale) should a separate program to allow for limited inspection of this material for BRR be developed in cooperation with ODA to allow for such production while not involving OSCS in full certification activities? Is there value to other seed growers in keeping such operations under the Certification umbrella?

2014 Potato Certification Advisory Committee

Supplemental Information

1. Canadian Seed Potato Quality Management Program (D-06-04)

BACKGROUND: The SPTQMP is a program that gives Canadian seed potato growers the flexibility to monitor and document the grade and quality of seed potato tubers in every shipment and timely issue tags and records of bulk movement. The CFIA plans to provide training and conduct regular audits of growers on the program to make sure the seed potato tuber grade and quality standard are upheld. Through this process, the Canadian seed potato tuber standard remains unchanged and CFIA will continue to issue all required phytosanitary certificates. (*email from Trevor Yu - CFIA*)

This revision was undertaken mainly to:

1. Introduce licensing of seed potato growers to the program to reflect upcoming changes to the Seeds Act and Seeds Regulations.
2. Transition the SPTQMP from a voluntary program to a mandatory program for all growers shipping seed potatoes of a registered variety within Canada and exporting seed potatoes for commercial planting or for re-certification as seed in the United States (U.S.)

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) intends to transition the current Seed Potato Quality Management Program from a voluntary program to a mandatory program in 2014. As part of the transition process, the CFIA is consulting with stakeholders on the draft 5th revision of the D-06-04 Seed Potato Tuber Quality Management Program (SPTQMP), see attached document. During this consultative period, the voluntary program will remain in place until the transition to the mandatory program on April 01, 2014.

NOTE: This program has been in place for commercial seed lots (lots for nor re-certification) for 3 years. CFIA would now like to extend it to seed for re-certification and make it mandatory for all seed growers.

Main issues raised at National NPC/PAA meetings

1. Violates requirements of most states to have an *independent* third party grade inspection of all loads entering state.
2. Not clear that CFIA personnel will be inspecting tubers from all lots for phytosanitary requirements (such as specified in the NVMP, and for disease like Potato Wart, Nematode, or BRR).

Plan was a 'no go' for re-certification of lots most of the larger importing states (Idaho, Wisconsin, Colorado, Maine) due to lack of Federal/State Grade Inspections. Oregon would require proof that CFIA personnel had conducted phytosanitary inspection of tubers from each lot.