

1. **Winter Grow-out Requirements:** A winter grow-out (WGO) is required for all lots for final certification. Any seed lot you receive this year for recertification (i.e. seed used to produce seed) will also be required to have had a winter grow-out. An ELISA test for virus does not take the place of a winter growout. Exceptions to this requirement are considered as “special cases” and must have advanced approval by OSCS. NOW is the time to insist that your source conduct a Winter Grow-out on their seed.
2. **Required WGO sample size for “own-use-only” Nuclear and G1 lots:** For growers of PVY *latent* varieties that opted out of latent virus testing this summer for the “One-Use-Only”/WGO option, please don’t forget that be legible for Nuclear or G1 class the minimum sample size for these lots is 220 tubers if 1 acre or less, 420 tubers for up to 20 acre lots. Any such lot for which tubers are not submitted will automatically be downgraded to G2 class eligibility. Please note: the 750 lbs exemption for WGO does not apply to such lots!
3. **Eye-indexing for Nuclear lots:** Minimum lot size for nuclear lots is 220 tubers for each lot. These nuclear lots are high value, so to help reduce the impact of the loss of material sent to the WGO, OSCS is allowing Nuclear class lots (only) to be ‘eye indexed’ this year. In this process a single eye can be removed from the tuber by the grower, and used for the WGO, leaving the rest of the tuber for propagation the next season. Growers who choose this option should contact **OSCS** for an acceptable protocol to follow.
4. **Optional PVY ELISA testing:** In response to Idaho and Washington’s requirement that all seed lots for re-certification in Idaho be ELISA tested for PVY, OSCS will offer this service to growers who request it in advance. In this program a ‘standard’ 400-leaf sample is taken (or less if fewer plants present in the lot). The grower will be billed directly by the OSU lab for the lab testing cost (currently \$208 for 400 leaves, \$2.60 per 5 leaf test), and billed a \$32 per lot ‘sampling/mailling’ fee by OSCS (or \$42 per 400 leaf sample is shipping is needed). Total cost per 400 tuber lot for this testing thus comes about \$240. Testing leaves from the greenhouse is much cheaper than testing tubers later on! Testing 400 tubers for PVY generally about 4 times the cost of leaf testing.
5. **PVY Strain Survey:** Some growers who had more than a trace of PVY in their lots in past years requested that a ‘strain survey’ be conducted on the positive ‘mosaic’ plants to identify the type of PVY present (i.e. PVY_n, PVY_{ntn}, PVY_{no}, PVY_o). Currently, the only virus testing done in the WGO is ‘conformation testing’ to help inspectors be assured of the viral nature of mosaic found, and then the results are simply “PVY +” or “PVY –“ (and sometimes PVA). Strains of PVY are not identified because the Standards are for ‘Mosaic’, and not related to strains of PVY or PVA causing the mosaic.

PVY Strain testing is available upon request in advance of the WGO readings. ELISA plates with positive wells for PVY are sent to the labs of North Dakota State University (Neil Gudmestad) for PVY stain analysis. The cost is approximately \$11/test. The grower is billed by OSCS at the end of the season for or any testing done at NDSU.
6. **Grow-out of lots where WGO not possible in state/province of origin:** If you are interested in purchasing seed from an area where a Winter Grow-out is not possible due to lateness of sale or lack of available programs in state/province of origin ^{*1} you may request that a grow-out of this lot be conducted at OSCS for the purpose of making that lot eligible for re-certification in Oregon

(only). Such requests must come from, and be paid by, the Oregon grower. No formal report will be issued, however results will be sent to the Oregon grower who paid for the test (only). Once a Canadian lot has qualified for re-certification in Oregon it can be grown by any Oregon grower. The cost of this 400 tuber grow-out test is \$135.

**1 - NOTE: This program is not available to growers where a Certification-sponsored Winter Grow-out program is available in the state/province of origin except as a 'special case'.*

7. Dickeya Testing: As noted in earlier mailings, nationally there is an increasing concern for the possible presence of *Dickeya* sp. in seed potato lots. Many state certification agencies are conducting sampling of seed lots for *Dickeya*, or at least sending all Blackleg samples found into a lab for *Dickeya* sp. determination. Oregon is not, for the reasons mentioned in earlier mailings. Please be aware that your seed buyers may begin requesting that a test for *Dickeya* be done on seed lots they buy (similar to required testing for Bacterial Ring Rot), especially lots showing high levels of Blackleg. OSCS cannot sample your lots for this disease, samples of lots must be sent directly from your facility to the testing lab. For further information on sampling and testing for *Dickeya* contact either Ken Frost (HAREC) at 541-8321 x105; or Noah Rosenzweig (University of Michigan) at 517-355-4754. ICIA currently does not conduct testing for *Dickeya*.

8. Inspection at Shipping Point – set aside tubers: As you should recall, the Necrotic Virus Management Plan, which Oregon has agreed to participate in, requires that all lots of seed potato shipped out of state receive an inspection for internal necrotic arcs after 2 months (minimum) in storage. Maximum tolerance for internal necrotic arcs are set at 2.0% for certified seed, and 0.5% for seed to be eligible for re-certification (see extract below). It is the responsibility of the grower to contact the ODA for this inspection (Lindsay Eng, Commodity Inspection Division, 503-986-4631, or leng@oda.state.or.us). The ODA has been allowing growers to set aside two 200-tuber bags of each lot to be inspected in the early spring. Contact Lindsay Eng for details.

9. Some Important Winter Grow-Out Dates:

October 1	- evaluation samples may be delivered after this date;
November 20	- Deliveries received after this date will be assessed a late fee;
December 15	- OSCS must be notified in advance of any samples to arrive after Dec 15;
January 2	- No winter test samples will be accepted after this date.