Monday, April 28, 2010

To: Oregon Potato Seed Growers & Interested Parties
From: Jeffrey P. McMorran - OSCS Seed Certification Specialist
RE: Pre-Season letter to Growers Procedure & Sign up date reminder

Just a few reminders about signing up seed potato fields for Certification in 2010.

Application Forms: Available online at [http://seedcert.oregonstate.edu/potatoes](http://seedcert.oregonstate.edu/potatoes)* or at your local Extension Office. I have also attached a single form that you may copy if you prefer.

* NOTE: This URL has changed from last year!

Required attachments:

1. Official seed source documentation issued by Certification Agency (i.e. Tag or Certification Certificate).

2. Maps clearly showing location of field. Nearest public roads should be indicated, if they are not on the map, draw arrow and write something like “2.5 miles to Upper Bridge Road”.


4. Check to cover fees (see handbook page 7). Fees are $30/acre with a minimum of $60/application. Applications postmarked after June 1st (or 15 days after planting if planted after May 25) will be charged a late fee of $50 per application. Applications will not be accepted without payment attached.

5. Other possibly required forms:

   a. Seed Farm Requirement Form (if you are producing both commercial potatoes and seed for sale as completely separate operations).

   b. Survey Of Uncertified Potato Fields (if you are producing both commercial potatoes and seed for sale as one operation).

   c. Documentation that you are an approved grower of a proprietary variety.

   d. Documentation that seed received has been inspected for Necrotic Arcs as required under the Necrotic Virus Management Plan (any seed that has had an official USDA Grade Inspection, or is an Oregon-produced lot, is acceptable in this regard)
Applications can be either mailed directly to our office at “Seed Certification, Oregon State University, 31 Crop Science Bldg, Corvallis, OR 97331-3003” or brought to your local Extension Office.

No applications for field-produced seed will be accepted after June 30th.

NOTE: Even if you lack other aspects of the complete application (i.e., tags, health certificate, maps), be sure to send in the application and check in a timely manner to avoid a late fee.

Thanks again, for your interest in the OSCS potato certification program.

A few other important reminders:

1. **Isolation of G2 & G3 lots**: must be 300 feet from any field planted with seed higher than G4 class, G2 & G3 class seed planted within the 300 foot isolation zone will be automatically down graded to G4 (‘own-use-only’ production is exempt from this rule);

2. **PVY testing of New Varieties**: Nuclear and G1 class production of varieties not known to express symptoms for PVY will be required to be tested for PVY per the ‘latent virus testing program’ (see Standards);

3. **Field History**: Nuclear and G1 require 3 years out of potato production, and G2 & G3 require two. Lots not meeting these requirements will be automatically downgraded to the appropriate class. A ‘field history’ book has now been prepared to help OSCS check your field history.

4. **Out-of-State Lot Eligibility**: To help you navigate through the ever confusing and varying systems states use to denote generations and class see page 23 of the 2009 Potato Standards. If you are purchasing seed from Colorado, Michigan, New York, North Dakota, or Wisconsin, keep in mind that the term used for generation (i.e. G1, G2 etc) is NOT the class of the seed as it is in Oregon, and thus cannot be used to judge the eligibility for equivalent production in Oregon. For example, Wisconsin "G1" simply means third year in the field, they use "Foundation" and "Certified" to denote class, so buying G1 Wisconsin seed will not (necessarily) allow you to produce G3 seed in Oregon. Please feel free to have me review your lot to determine eligibility in Oregon at any time.