

Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes

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Item 13 of the provisional agenda

RUCIP Rules for Seed Potatoes

THE GOODS

Article 7 Definition of lot

A lot is considered to be a load, or part of a load having the following characteristics in common:

- The same origin,
- The same region of production,
- The same variety,
- The same type, for new potatoes,
- The same riddle size,

Article 8 Seed potatoes

8.1 Only those complete tubers which are certified by an official certification body shall be considered as seed and suitable for use for production purposes.

8.2 Seed potatoes should be sold commercially in sufficiently homogeneous lots either:

- in new packaging, sealed and provided with tamper-proof closure and an official label;
- in bulk, provided with tamper-proof closure and accompanied by official labelling and a transport document.

8.3 A lot should remain in its natural state and with the riddle size stipulated in the contract.

8.4 Seed potatoes must be of the variety, category and class, origin, from the area and of the riddle size stipulated in the contract. They must be free of defects internally and externally.

8.5 Tolerances allowed in seed potatoes:

Characteristic	Tolerance allowed by weight		Cumulative tolerance
	%	Specifications	
a) Dry and wet rot and/or late blight	1%	Of tubers except if the rot is caused by quarantine diseases, in that case see annex 5, wart disease for which no tolerance is allowed.	Total tolerance 6% by weight a) to e) inclusive
b) common scab	5%	Tubers affected on over 1/3 of surface	
c) silver scurf	5%	of tubers affected. Only tubers which have lost some of their turgidity and with at least one eye affected are considered to be affected.	
d) external defects (e.g. deformed, damaged)	3%	of tubers in a manner which will affect the germinative value of the tubers.	

e) Presence of earth and foreign bodies	2%		
f) Rhizoctonia	33%	of tubers on condition that the lot has been treated for this disease on dispatch, account should always be taken of the provisions of this Article, 6.	
g) sprouted tubers	33%	On condition that the sprouts are not at a more advanced stage than : - practically not sprouted up to 31st January - 10 mm from 1st February to 15th March - 15 mm from the 16th March	
h) out of size	3%	Of tubers below or above the respective minima or maxima for the specified riddles	

8.6 Any chemical treatment should be agreed when the contract is made and should be mentioned on the label.