**Economic Commission for Europe**

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

**Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards**

**Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes**

**Meeting of Bureau and Rapporteurs**

Kimberly, South Africa, 13-18 March 2016

**Seed potato virus testing and PCR-method:**

Proposed survey on current practices for virus testing

Seed potato virus testing and PCR-method

1. Country\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name of seed potato certification authority (Designated Authority)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Potato virus testing in your country is
   * 1. Compulsory part of seed potato certification
     2. Voluntary
     3. Not done
4. Type of potato virus testing
   * 1. Potato leave tests during growing season
     2. Post -harvest virus testing
     3. Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. If virus testing depends on circumstances, describe (aphid status, haulm killing time, varieties etc.)
6. Seed categories tested, virus tested and the method

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **PBTC** | **PBTC** | **PB** | **PB** | **Basic** | **Basic** | **Certified** | **Certified** |
|  | yes/no | method | yes/no | method | yes/no | method | yes/no | method |
| PLRV |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PVY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PVA |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PVX |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PVS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PVM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. Sample sizes?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Timing of testing (for example September – November)?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Virus testing is done by
   * 1. Your organization
     2. Other governmental laboratory
     3. University or research institute
     4. Private laboratory
     5. Laboratory in other country
     6. Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. The criteria to choose the laboratory
   * 1. The efficacy and reliability of virus tests
     2. The rapidity of virus tests
     3. The price of the virus tests
     4. Other criteria \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
     5. No possibility to choose the laboratory
5. Does the Designated Authority audit the laboratory and testing procedures?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Official potato virus testing method used by laboratory
   * 1. PCR
     2. ELISA
     3. Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Other potato virus testing methods used by laboratory
   * 1. PCR
     2. ELISA
     3. Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Samples used for PCR testing
   * 1. Tubers
     2. Leaves from field
     3. Leaves grown from tubers (in greenhouse)
     4. Sprouts grown from tubers
     5. Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. Is the PCR and/or ELISA method used in the laboratory
   * 1. Home-made
     2. Commercial\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
     3. Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. How are the samples pooled for PCR testing? Number of subsamples?
11. Is the laboratory accredited? Does the laboratory have a quality control system?
12. How has the laboratory validated their PCR virus testing method?
13. Does the laboratory take part any ring tests of potato virus testing?
14. What is your experience, are the PCR virus testing results comparable to results of field inspections?
15. What is your experience, are the results of different testing methods comparable?
16. Have your clients commented on virus test methods or results? How?
17. Other information?