

Requirements for Marketing of Seed Potatoes

In accordance with the European Communities (Seed Potatoes) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 532 of 2011) only officially certified pre-basic or basic seed potatoes shall be sold or supplied. Official certification provides for minimum requirements and tolerances to be met by the growing crops and tuber lots of seed potatoes. It also establishes requirements for official sealing and labelling of seed potatoes to be placed on the market.

The sale by direct retail of less than 50 kg of pre-basic or basic seed potatoes is exempt from official labelling and sealing requirements. However, the following particulars shall be supplied with the sale of less than 50 kg by retail of pre-basic or basic seed potatoes:

- (a) name and address of the seller;
- (b) declared net weight;
- (c) variety;
- (d) category;
- (f) class;
- (g) class generation - if shown on official label (for pre-basic and basic seed potatoes);
- (h) Community Grade (if applicable);
- (i) size (except for pre-basic TC seed potatoes);
- (j) crop identification number; and
- (k) particulars of any chemical treatment.

These particulars shall be displayed conspicuously on or in close proximity to the seed potatoes. If the seed potatoes are sold in a new container, these particulars shall be printed, or otherwise legibly and indelibly marked, or attached to or inserted therein on a label.