

ECE/CTCS/WP.7/GE.6/2021/INF.4  
25 March 2021  
Post-session document

**Economic Commission for Europe**

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

**Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards**

Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes

**Forty-eighth session**

Geneva, 18—19 March 2021

Agenda item 5(c)

**Knowledge sharing, capacity-building and guides**

**POST SESSION DOCUMENT –**

**(to be submitted for adoption to the November 2021 session of WP.7)**

**Poster on the benefits of certified seed**

The following is for review by the Specialized Section. The poster, illustrating the benefits of certified seed, was submitted by Australia on behalf of the working group (Australia, Germany, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Zimbabwe).

## Use of certified seed potatoes

### Benefits of high health “clean quality” seed potatoes

Quality seed potatoes are known to have a varietal identity and be free of harmful organisms. The use of high quality planting material is the most important strategy available to potato growers to ensure high yields whilst minimising inputs, particularly the reliance on pesticides, and avoiding crop losses due to disease and other quality issues. [make sure agrees w/capacity building doc]



#### ECONOMIC PROFIT ENVIRONMENT PLANET PEOPLE

- ✓ Increased profitability from high yielding potato crops
- ✓ Improved confidence, reliable and dependable seed performance
- ✓ Mitigation of yield limiting risk factors resulting in while the enhancing improved yield-crop performance and quality
- ✓ Enhanced partnership between seed potato producers and growers and potato producer
- ✓ Reduced reliance on pesticides
- ✓ More efficient use of natural resources (land and water)
- ✓ Improved sustainable potato production
- ✓ Less wastage in potato production due to pests and disease
- ✓ Better quality potatoes
- ✓ Affordable and reliable supply of potatoes to consumers
- ✓ Enhanced food security through the sustainable production of a stable crop



Clean The use of quality seed potatoes provides contributes to increased yield and marketability of potato crops by the management of seed borne potato diseases and pests, including many viral and bacterial diseases that can limit yield and quality of potato crops. The Other benefits include: limiting the spread and introduction of pests and diseases into new potato production



Quality seed potatoes may be produced through formal seed certification schemes such as the UNECE seed potato standard which provide official recognition and traceability of high healthy clean seed potatoes. Certified seed potatoes are produced according to strict standards that are specific to different countries and growing areas

Examples of pests and disease issues mitigated by the use of high health “clean quality” seed potatoes



Potato Leaf Roll Virus



Brown rot



Potato Cyst Nematode

[include photos of good crops also]  
Change order of 3 Ps [people, planet, profit].

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