

15 April 2011

Trader Notice 002

Audit of Potato Producers 2011

This Department plans to conduct random audits of Potato Producers later this year to check for compliance with the legislation on potato plant health and record keeping.

Plant Health – main requirements of S.I. No. 577 of 2010 - *Seed Potatoes (Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 2010*.

- Anyone intending to bring more than 10 kg of seed potatoes into Ireland from other countries must give three days advance notification to this Department.
- Growers may plant only certified pre-basic or basic seed potatoes or one year's direct progeny of such potatoes, where the direct progeny was grown by themselves.
- Growers must retain official labels as well as a sales note, delivery note, invoice or similar documents as proof of origin of the seed potatoes.

Record Keeping – main requirements of S.I. No. 637 of 2001 - *Registration of Potato Growers and Potato Packers Regulations 2001*.

- Seed potatoes for planting – quantity and date acquired as well as variety, class, grower's number and country of origin.
- Seed and ware potatoes grown – area planted and yield of each variety grown.
- Sales (other than for consumption by the buyer) – quantity, sale date and purchaser name and address for each variety sold.

Growers should ensure that they retain labels of all certified seed potatoes for at least two years as well as sales notes, delivery notes, invoices or similar documents.

The above requirements are applied in order to protect the health status of the domestic potato industry.

Notification forms for seed potatoes being brought into the country and a Potato Growers Record Book can be obtained by contacting 01-5058895 or from the Department's website at:

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmingsectors/crops/potatoes/>

Yours sincerely.

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