

TO: Committee on Judiciary
FROM: Hemphill Farms, Inc.
RE: Testimony of Gavin Hemphill in Support of L.D. 1667
Authorization to Allow Hemphill Farms, Inc., to Sue the State of Maine
DATE: April 29, 2025

Economic Impact

The Maine potato industry has an economic output of \$1.3 billion each year, providing over 6,500 jobs and generating \$237 million in labor income. The potato industry is a vital part of the entire Maine economy but is especially important to Aroostook County.

Basics of Growing Potatoes

There are three types of potato growers: (1) fresh pack or tablestock growers for potatoes sold in stores and restaurants, (2) processing growers for potatoes processed into fries, chips, etc. (think McCain and Frito-Lay), and seed growers for potatoes that will be stored, cut and planted for next year's potato crop. Each type of potato grower has different protocols for raising their potatoes, different standards to meet, and different markets for the sale of their potatoes. Seed potatoes have more stringent standards that cost more to grow but bring a higher price for the end product. For instance, processing potatoes might sell this year for 12.00 per hundredweight while seed potatoes might sell this year for \$21.00 per hundredweight. (Hundredweight is 100 pounds). Hemphill Farms grows mostly seed potatoes with over 300 acres in seed, 150 acres in processing and 50 acres in fresh pack potatoes. Hemphill's seed potatoes supported another 5,400 acres of potatoes grown by other farmers.

Seed potatoes are a state regulated product and are certified so that growers can be assured that the seed they rely on to grow next year's crop is not starting out diseased. The State of Maine has rules for the importation and growing of seed potatoes.

Bacterial Ring Rot

Bacterial Ring Rot ("BRR") is a very serious disease of potatoes. The disease can be transported from field to field and farm to farm on shoes, clothes, tires, tractors, implements, seed knives, storage containers, sacks, sorting equipment or any surface that comes in contact with it. The bacterium exudes a protective slime layer that allows it to live on storage and farm equipment surfaces for more than five years. Ring rot is managed through proper sanitation, the use of clean certified seed and constant vigilance. There is no known pesticide for the control of BRR or most other vegetative bacterial diseases. As a result, the State of Maine has stringent rules when it comes to BRR and Hemphill Farms pays extra for BRR checks on all of its potatoes. A BRR check is required for seed potatoes but Hemphill Farms pays a check on all potatoes as an extra precaution. The Department of Agriculture is paid \$50 per acre to perform BRR checks by potato inspectors who are trained field diagnosticians specializing in

potato diseases. Suspect potatoes in the field can be brought in for diagnostic testing to the Maine Potato Seed Testing laboratory in Presque Isle. Unfortunately, this is almost never done.

The very nature of BRR is that if it is not detected early, it will only grow in severity and in the area affected.

The Department of Agriculture's Failure to Conduct Import Inspections

1. Import inspections are not being performed as required under Rule 252.E.6.a.i.;

(6) Inspection of Processing and Tablestock Fields

(a) In order for seed potatoes produced on a farming operation on which some lots are not entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program to be offered for sale in the state, either of the following must occur:

(i) all lots not entered for certification must be visually inspected by the Department and found free of Bacterial Ring Rot; or

(ii) any lot otherwise passing all the requirements of the Certified Seed Class must also have 400 randomly selected tubers per 40 acres of production tested by a USDA-APHIS approved laboratory and found free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen according to the protocol in 6.A.(1)

(iii) The grower or his/her representative must contact his/her Inspector to verify that a correct sample has been taken. The grower must submit the sample to the laboratory and he/she and the Department must directly receive the results of the laboratory evaluation. The cost of the testing will be borne by the grower or his/her representative.

(b) These requirements are waived for seed that is produced for a grower's own use or that is sold out-of-state.

(c) These requirements are also waived for the non-seed portion of a lot on a farming operation provided that a portion of the same lot is entered in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program on that farming operation.

(d) If the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is found during either of the options specified in 2.E.(6)(a) of this section, the requirements contained in 6.A.(2) and 6.A.(3) must also be met.

The Department of Agriculture is not conducting the BRR tests required under Rule 252.E.6.a.i.

2. There is no record showing the third BRR check was performed as mandated to take place on all seed and processing acres after the second field inspection but before the top kill. Rule 252;

E. Field Inspection for Certified and Foundation Seed Classes

(1) Frequency of Inspection

(a) Each field entered in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program shall receive at least two field inspections by the Department, spaced approximately one month apart during the growing season.

(b) One or more additional inspections by the Department for Bacterial Ring Rot will be made after the second inspection and before top kill.

(c) One or more additional inspections by the Department for Bacterial Ring Rot may be made during harvest.

Rule 252.2.E.1.

Hemphill Farms made a Freedom of Access request and there is no record of the third field inspection for BRR under 252.2.E.1.c.

3. The State of Maine is not conducting any inspections at the time of packing seed potatoes if the packing is for an intrastate sale of seed. Rule 253.I.

“All shipments of Maine Certified Seed Potatoes are required to be inspected by an authorized Maine Seed Potato Inspector at time of packing and must meet the requirements of the prescribed grade in order to be issued official tag or bulk shipping permits.” Rule 253.I. Despite Rule 253, which states that all Maine Certified Seed Potatoes are required to be inspected, the Department is not following Rule 253 and is only conducting tests for seed potatoes being shipped out of the State of Maine. There is no justification for the Department electing not to test seed potatoes shipped within the State of Maine. Both the shipper of the seed and the recipient of the seed potatoes in the State of Maine rely on testing to ensure the health of their potato crop.

The Department's failure to inspect caused Hemphill Farms great harm as they shipped seed contaminated with BRR to its customers. Hemphill Farms reputation in the potato

community is harmed as a result and they have lost all of its seed potato customers Hemphill Farms will now only be able to grow potatoes in the processing and fresh pack market which have much lower profit margins.

Based upon scientific evidence that BRR can remain for at least five years after an infection, it will take at least five years for Hemphill Farms to regain its reputation and re-enter the seed potato market. Hemphill Farms estimates its loss caused by the Department to be over \$500,000 per year for at least five years.

A failure to recover from the Department for its failure to perform the inspections it was paid to perform will harm Hemphill Farms for years. We respectfully encourage this committee to vote in favor of L.D. 1667 and allow Hemphill Farms, Inc., to sue the State of Maine for damages related to the 2023 and 2024 potato crop.



McCain Foods USA

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April 25, 2025

Hemphill Farms of Presque Isle have been seed suppliers for potato growers in Aroostook County for many years. They contract and grow potato varieties that are utilized for seed supply and grown by process growers supplying potatoes to all three potato processing facilities in Northern Maine.

In December of 2024, the independent inspection agency at McCain, AgWorld Support Systems, detected potato tubers with suspicious disease symptoms being delivered from commercial growers to the facility in Easton. Upon investigation and diagnosis at the State of Maine Disease Testing Facility it was determined that the potatoes were infected with Bacterial Ring Rot (BRR). Bacterial ring rot is one of the most serious diseases of potatoes. It is highly infectious and is easily spread by potato seed cutters, planters and harvesters. There is zero tolerance for this disease in seed potatoes.

As deliveries to the Easton facility have progressed for the 2024-2025 processing season, BRR positive tubers have also been found on loads delivered by four additional growers. All five of these growers were delivering the variety Russet Burbank that was planted on their commercial farms. Upon internal investigation and review with these growers it was determined that the seed supplier for the Russet Burbank volume testing positive for Bacterial Ring Rot came from Hemphill Farms.

Ring rot disease symptoms first appear during the growing season in the leaves of the potato plants. The leaves become pale-yellow with mottling and may display signs of wilting. The first symptoms generally appear in the lower leaves. As the disease progresses and moves upward, this leaf yellowing can intensify producing a bar of bright yellow tissue between the veins. The leaf margins often curl upward, roll inward and eventually a dead brown area develops.

Based on the apparent wide spread infections of the BRR disease in the 2024 commercial Russet Burbank potato crop, it appears evident that the disease went unchecked during the growing and shipping of those seed potatoes. This BRR infected seed was grown by Hemphill Farms in the summer of 2023 and shipped to and grown by commercial growers for the 2024 season. The five growers that grew this seed lot experienced significant losses due to lower payables and storage rot losses based on the percentage of the crop infected with the BRR disease. This disease infection also impacted the efficiency and quality of the product produced at McCain and the other processors.

Thanks for your consideration to this matter and the impact to Hemphill Farms and to the Maine Potato industry. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bart Bradbury". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bart Bradbury
McCain Foods

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 7 M.R.S. Chapter 401, §§ 2101-2105; 7 M.R.S. Chapter 1 §12;
and 7 M.R.S. Chapter 411 §2352

EFFECTIVE DATE:

November 1, 1976 (filed October 16, 1978)

AMENDED:

March 7, 1978 (filed October 16, 1973)
March 3, 1980
August 19, 1980
March 15, 1981- Section 6 (EMERGENCY)
July 30, 1981
June 17, 1983 -added Section 20
May 21, 1984
September 23, 1985
September 1, 1986
June 7, 1987
January 26, 1989 (EMERGENCY)
April 31, 1991
June 11, 1993
March 11, 1993 (EMERGENCY)
June 25, 1994
April 21, 1995 (EMERGENCY)

EFFECTIVE DATE (ELECTRONIC CONVERSION):

May 4, 1996

AMENDED:

July 16, 1997 - Section IX (A)

AMENDED:

April 10, 1998 (EMERGENCY - expires July 9, 1998).
May 5, 1998
September 22, 1998 - §II(E)(2)(a), §II(F)(6)(c)(1), §VI(B)(2)(a) - (EMERGENCY - expires
December 21, 1998)
May 25, 1999
May 25, 2005 – filing 2005-181
July 8, 2007 – filing 2007-237 (major substantive, final adoption)
June 29, 2013 – filing 2013-124 (major substantive, final adoption)

CORRECTIONS:

February, 2014 – agency names, formatting

AMENDED:

May 29, 2016 – filing 2016-097
September 2, 2018 – filing 2018-177
August 29, 2021 – filing 2021-173

APPENDIX I. Laboratory procedures at an authorized Nuclear Seed Origination Source involved in producing Nuclear Seed¹

In the Laboratory & Greenhouse

1. Disease Testing Tubers
 - a. Sprout tubers & remove apical tip
 - b. Plant remainder in greenhouse
 - c. Disease Test² and discard
 - d. Transfer tip to test tube culture medium and grow plantlet
 - e. Section plantlets into separate nodes,
 - f. Disease Test² one node
2. Produce plantlets
3. Transplant plantlets to greenhouse.
4. Harden plants off and Disease Test²
5. Grow to produce minitubers

Planted in soil (First Year) (See Section 2.B.)

1. Plant minitubers in field (Disease Test²)
2. Transplant plantlets into field (Disease Test²)

¹ Other methods of Pre-nuclear Seed production are acceptable. (See 2.C.2.)

² Laboratory test means testing for the Bacterial Ring Rot, Blackleg, PLRV, PVA, PVS, PVX, PVY, PVY-N, Potato Mop Top Virus, and PSTV pathogens.

- (c) One or more field inspections for Bacterial Ring Rot may be made during harvest.
- (d) One or more field inspections for Bacterial Ring Rot only on fields not otherwise entered for certification or on fields rejected because of virus if requested by the grower.

B. Post-Harvest Testing

(1) Fee

- (a) The fee for Post-Harvest Testing seed samples is established in conjunction with the Maine Potato Board's Seed Executive Council.
- (b) The fee schedule will be found on the application form and cover letter.

C. Shipping Inspections

(1) Fee

- (a) The fee for inspection of seed potatoes during the shipment season is established in conjunction with the Maine Potato Board's Seed Executive Council.
- (b) The State of Maine shipping tag shall not be replicated in any shape, working or color.

(2) Services Provided

- (a) Inspection of facilities to ensure compliance with the rules governing the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (b) Inspection of seed potatoes during packing and shipping.
- (c) Issuing of the proper Shipping Inspection Tags to identify the potatoes' grade, size, class, grower's name, field years (on bulk certificates) and variety name and ensure compliance of the rules governing the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

D. Timely Payment

- (1) Payment of fees for services provided is due within thirty (30) days of receipt of the services.
- (2) If payment is not received within thirty (30) days, the Department reserves the right to withhold further service until the delinquent account is paid. The Department also reserves the right to require advance cash payment for subsequent service to producers who maintain delinquent accounts.
- (3) A late charge of ten (10) percent, plus interest of eight (8) percent per annum will be assessed on accounts that are more than thirty (30) days overdue.

- (ii) dispose of all seed potatoes produced on that farming operation and acquire and plant new lots of seed of the Foundation Seed Class.
- (iii) laboratory test 400 tubers of each variety, field year and source of seed produced on the farming operation before such seed can be sold. The cost of this test will be charged to the grower.

7. REJECTION FROM MAINE SEED POTATO CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

A. Reasons and Effects

(1) Reasons

Except as otherwise provided herein, potatoes that do not meet all of the requirements of this Chapter shall fail certification and be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

(2) Effects

- (a) Potatoes failing certification and therefore rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program cannot be sold as seed. Further, seed potatoes, except as otherwise specifically authorized by this Chapter, cannot be used as seed.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, future field years of any seed potatoes which fail certification requirements, or are not properly certified or certifiable, are ineligible for certification.

8. FEE SCHEDULE

A. Field Inspection

(1) Fee

- (a) The fee for field inspections is established in conjunction with the Maine Potato Board's Seed Executive Council.
- (b) Full payment of the entry fee for the Maine Seed Potato Certification program is required with the application form.

(2) Services Provided

- (a) Two field inspections during the growing season timed approximately one month apart.
- (b) One or more field inspections for Bacterial Ring Rot after second inspection and before completion of harvest.

(3) **Penalty if Disease Tolerances are Exceeded**

If the appropriate disease tolerances cited in this Chapter are exceeded during laboratory testing, then the seed lot shall be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

D. **Other Regulated Diseases**

(1) **Potato Mop Top Virus and Tobacco Rattle Virus**

- (a) Potato Mop Top Virus and Tobacco Rattle Virus will be regulated according to the *Canada/US – Management Plan for Potato Viruses that Cause Tuber Necrosis*, dated October 25, 2004, adopted by the United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. This plan is incorporated in these rules by reference. See document at: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/potato/downloads/pvy/NecroticVirusManagementPlan.pdf.

E. **Suggested Grower Practices for Disease Control**

(1) **Equipment and Storage Disinfection**

- (a) All equipment and storages should be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with appropriate industry standards each year prior to use.
- (b) Disinfectants should be available at all seed storages and no one should be allowed entry into the storage without first disinfecting their footwear.
- (c) Equipment from seed farms which is used on other farming operations should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to being used on the seed farm.

(2) **If Bacterial Ring Rot is Discovered**

- (a) Any field of potatoes in which Bacterial Ring Rot was found should be treated with a sprout inhibitor providing the treatment can be applied at the proper stage of growth to effectively control sprouting.
- (b) Any field in which Bacterial Ring Rot was found should not be planted to potatoes for the next two consecutive years and should be treated with a sprout inhibitor or effective herbicide the year following detection of Bacterial Ring Rot to control volunteers.
- (c) For the next two years after the detection of Bacterial Ring Rot the farming operation should:
- (i) thoroughly clean and disinfect, under the supervision of a Seed Potato Inspector, all machinery, storages and equipment used in the production of seed potatoes.

B. Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid**(1) Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid Identification**

- (a) Potato plants and/or tubers which are entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and which the Inspector suspects of being infected with Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid shall be submitted to the Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory for testing.
- (b) The grower or his/her representative shall be notified by the Inspector, if possible, prior to removal of the suspect plant and/or tuber from the grower's property.
- (c) The samples shall be analyzed by generally accepted laboratory procedures for the detection of Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid.
- (d) The grower or his/her representative and the Department shall be notified of the results of the laboratory test as they become available.

(2) Discovery During Field Inspection or Post-Harvest Test

Seed potatoes in which Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid has been detected during field inspection or Post-Harvest Test cannot be sold as seed.

C. Symptomless Disease Carriers**(1) Designation**

The Commissioner may, with input from the industry, designate, based upon experimental evidence, a list of potato varieties or seedlings which do not consistently express visual symptoms of diseases regulated by the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

(2) Disease Testing Requirement

- (a) The Commissioner may require that samples of any of these varieties be laboratory tested if there is reason to suspect that such variety(ies) contains disease levels exceeding the tolerances specified in this Chapter. The appropriate plant or plant parts will be tested by the Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory to determine the level of disease(s) in the seed lot.
- (b) The number of samples to be taken will be statistically determined to adequately assess the disease content of the seed lot.
- (c) Samples for laboratory testing may be collected during field inspection or in the Post-Harvest Test.

400 tubers per 40 acres of production if the progeny is to be sold as Certified Class Seed.

- (iv) will drop to Field Year 4 if designated lower than Field Year 4, if such lots are sold as seed the year that the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is found.
 - (c) Fields from which potatoes infected with the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen were harvested cannot be used to produce Certified or Foundation Class seed for one year following discovery of the pathogen.
 - (d) Crop handling equipment may be used in separate farming operations, provided that the machinery is thoroughly washed, and completely disinfected under the direction of a Seed Potato Inspector, between farming operations.
 - (e) If the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen is found in a production unit involved in a separate farming operation, all seed potatoes produced in the other production unit(s) are ineligible as Foundation Seed Class.
- (3) **Additional Requirements If the Bacterial Ring Rot Disease or Pathogen is Found During Packing and Handling**
- (a) If Bacterial Ring Rot is found in seed potatoes of the Certified or Foundation Seed Class during a packing operation, certification of potatoes from the same bin, and potatoes grown from the same seed source in other bins, will be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and cannot be sold as seed.
 - (b) If Bacterial Ring Rot is found in seed potatoes during the packing operation, certification of all other potatoes stored on the farm or any operation using the same equipment will be rejected from the Foundation Seed Class and re-designated into the Certified Seed Class.
 - (c) Packing of seed potatoes of the Certified Seed Class from remaining bins in the storage or packing house in which Bacterial Ring Rot has been found will not be permitted until the affected seed lot is segregated or “binned up” so as to be inaccessible when seed potatoes from other bins are being graded, stored or packed.
 - (d) After Bacterial Ring Rot has been found, Shipping Inspection Tags will not be issued until the entire storage or packing house work area and potato grading and handling equipment has been cleaned and disinfected by the shipper and meets the approval of the Seed Potato Inspector.
 - (e) All seed potatoes in the storage or packing house in which Bacterial Ring Rot has been found must be inspected for grade by a Seed Potato Inspector prior to shipment.

Additionally, the requirements contained in 6.A.(2) and 6.A.(3) of this Chapter must be met.

- (k) The grower or his/her representative and the Department shall be notified of the results of the laboratory tests within a reasonable time after they become available.
- (l) Final notification of the Department's decision will be sent to the grower or his/her representative in writing. A final decision by the Department to deny certification will be accompanied by a statement of the appeal rights of the grower.
- (m) All testing costs will be borne by the grower or his/her representative.

(2) Requirements when the Bacterial Ring Rot Disease or Pathogen is Found

- (a) The lot in which the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen is found in accordance with these regulations shall be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and cannot be sold as seed.
- (b) All other seed potato lots that otherwise pass the requirements of the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program, that were produced on a farming operation on which the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen has been found in accordance with these regulations:
 - (i) will automatically be designated as Certified Class seed;
 - (ii) will have a # symbol printed after each such lot in the Seed Potato Certification Program Seed Directory;
 - (iii) cannot be sold as seed or be planted as seed subject to the following exceptions;
 1. Lots which are tested according to the protocol established in 6.A.(1) of this Chapter at a level of 400 tubers per each 40 acres of production and found free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen can be sold or planted by the grower as seed but cannot be entered in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
 2. Lots which are tested according to the protocol established in 6.A.(1) of this Chapter at a level of 400 tubers for each 15 acres of production and found free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen can be entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program. The progeny of such lots must also be tested according to the protocol established in 6.A.(1) of this Chapter and found free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen prior to sale or use by the grower as seed. Testing must be conducted at a level of 400 tubers per 15 acres of production if the progeny of such lots is to be sold as Foundation Class Seed, or

requirements of this Chapter must be collected in the presence and under the supervision of a Seed Potato Inspector or other Department official. All other samples will not be considered to be official and will not be eligible to meet the phytosanitary requirements of other countries or to meet the requirements of this Chapter.

- (i) The Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory will utilize the following protocol to determine the presence of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen, in the event that plants and/or tubers which do not exhibit visible symptoms of this pathogen, test positive through the use of any of the laboratory tests specified in 6.A.(1)(f):
 - (i) The grower or his/her representatives will be notified by the Department that the seed lot in question cannot be sold as seed or entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program until additional confirmatory tests are completed.
 - (ii) The Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory will test the sample using at least two additional laboratory tests from the list noted in 6.A.(1)(f). These tests must be different from the initial test conducted in 6.A.(1)(i).
 - (iii) If both of these tests are negative for the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen, the lot is allowed to remain in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (j) The grower or his/her representative may request that a seed lot submitted for testing for the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen to meet the phytosanitary regulations of other countries be tested in a laboratory other than the Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory. Such other laboratory must follow the Bacterial Ring Rot testing protocol established in this section. The grower must submit the sample to the laboratory, at his/her expense, and he/she and the Department must directly receive the results of the laboratory evaluation.
 - (i) In the event that the laboratory results are positive for the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen, the lot will be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and cannot be sold as seed. Additionally, the requirements contained in 6.A.(2) and 6.A.(3) of this Chapter must be met.
 - (ii) In the event that the laboratory results are negative for the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen, and the Department has reason to believe that the seed lot is infected with this pathogen, the Department may have the seed lot tested, according to the protocol established in this Section, to ensure its freedom from the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen. In the event that a USDA-APHIS approved laboratory Results are positive for the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen, the lot will be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and cannot be sold as seed.

- (e) The grower must notify his/her Inspector when herbicides or insecticides are applied to his/her seed potatoes.

6. DISEASES

A. Bacterial Ring Rot

(1) Testing Requirements for the Bacterial Ring Rot Pathogen

- (a) Potato plants and/or tubers must be submitted to the Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory for testing:
 - (i) if suspected by the Inspector as being infected with the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen;
 - (ii) if required to meet the phytosanitary regulations of other countries; or
 - (iii) if otherwise required to meet the provisions of this Chapter.
- (b) The requirements of this Chapter also apply to seed potato samples voluntarily submitted for testing in the Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory.
- (c) The Department's USDA-APHIS approved laboratory will test all samples submitted for Bacterial Ring Rot testing, except as provided in 6.A.(1)j.
- (d) The grower or his/her representative shall be notified by the Inspector, if possible, prior to removal of a suspect plant and/or tuber from the grower's property.
- (e) In the event that a suspect plant or plant part is observed on a grower's property, no certification will be issued until the required laboratory test results indicate the sample is apparently free from the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen.
- (f) The following laboratory tests are acceptable for use when testing samples for the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen: Enzyme Linked Immunosorbant Assay, Latex Agglutination, Gram Stain, Immunofluorescent Antibody Staining, Polymerase Chain Reaction.
- (g) Plants and/or tubers which exhibit visual symptoms of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen will be declared positive upon confirmation of two laboratory tests, at least one of which is serological (examples: Enzyme Linked Immunosorbant Assay, Latex Agglutination, Immunofluorescent Antibody Staining).
- (h) All potato tuber samples submitted for laboratory testing to meet phytosanitary requirements of other countries or to meet the

C. Spindle Tuber**(1) Penalties if Spindle Tuber is Found on a Foundation Class Farming Operation**

- (a) Any seed potato lot in which Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid has been detected cannot be sold as seed.
- (b) Any seed potato lot represented by a Post-Harvest Test sample in which Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid has been detected cannot be sold as seed.

D. Freedom from Volunteers

Fields planted with Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed must be free of volunteer plants to be eligible for Foundation Seed Class.

E. Storage Requirements

Foundation Seed Class potatoes must be stored and handled in a seed potato storage facility where all potatoes have been inspected and found free from Bacterial Ring Rot during the growing season.

F. Packing and Shipping Requirements

Any sanitary practices which the Inspector deems necessary during sizing or packing to avoid disease and contamination must be followed.

G. Recommended Production Practices**(1) Blank Row Recommendation**

- (a) All plots planted with different varieties of Field Year 1, 2 or 3 Seed should be separated from other potatoes and from each other by at least one blank row.

(2) Production Recommendations

- (a) All acreage planted with Nuclear and Field Year 1, 2 or 3 Seed should be planted and harvested before other potato fields.
- (b) Tuber-Unit Planting is recommended when planting Nuclear or Field Year 1 Seed to ensure that rogueing can be completed effectively.
- (c) All cultural operations and spraying should be completed in plots planted with Nuclear or Field Year 1, 2 or 3 Seed before working in other fields to minimize spread of latent Mosaic.
- (d) Weeds, diseases and insects should be controlled using approved herbicides, fungicides and insecticides as recommended by the manufacturer as well as using them safely, effectively and timely.

- (e) Whenever a Seed Potato Inspector determines that any seed packer is not complying with the requirements stated above, the seed potatoes will be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

C. Truck Sanitation

(1) Sanitation Requirement

- (a) All trailer trucks into which Certified or Foundation Class Seed is to be loaded must be cleaned and disinfected before loading.
- (b) If an Inspector observes Certified or Foundation Class Seed being packed into a trailer truck which is not cleaned and disinfected thoroughly, the Inspector will not issue tags or bulk certificates for that load.

5. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FOUNDATION SEED CLASS

A. Total Farm Entered

(1) Entry Requirements and Procedures if Fields are Rejected

- (a) All potato fields planted on a farm or farming operation using the same production equipment must be entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program in order for any seed potatoes produced on such farm or operation to be eligible for the Foundation Seed Class.
- (b) Fields rejected during first or second field inspections must be inspected by the Department before harvest and found free from Bacterial Ring Rot in order to allow any of the remaining fields on the same farm or farming operation using the same production equipment to be eligible for Foundation Seed Class.

B. Bacterial Ring Rot

(1) Penalties if the Bacterial Ring Rot Pathogen is Found on a Foundation Class Farming Operation

- (a) All seed potatoes produced on a farm or farming operation using the same production equipment are ineligible as Foundation Seed Class if the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is confirmed in any field or laboratory sample submitted from the farm or farming operation.
- (b) Crop handling equipment may be used in more than one farming operation, provided that the machinery is thoroughly washed and disinfected between farming operations under the direction of a Seed Potato Inspector.
- (c) If the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is confirmed in a production unit involved in a separate farming operation, all seed potatoes produced in the other production unit(s) are ineligible as Foundation Seed Class.

- (b) The Bulk Certificate must state the variety, size, grade, certification number and field year of potatoes in the load.
- (c) The Bulk Certificate must be attached to and may be used to identify the lot only as long as it is in the original conveyance as identified on the certificate.

(6) Other Requirements

- (a) Other requirements for packing seed potatoes are specified in Department Rule, Chapter 253 - *Official Seed Potato Grade for Maine Certified Seed Potatoes*.

B. Records and Facility Requirements

(1) Required Procedures

- (a) Any person, firm or corporation engaged in grading, sizing or packing Maine certified seed potatoes which have been bought or otherwise obtained from others for proposed sale shall be considered a seed packer.
- (b) Any seed packer must notify the area Seed Potato Inspector for prior approval before receiving any seed potatoes.
- (c) Approval will be granted only to those seed packers who demonstrate compliance with the following requirements, which shall be adhered to at all times during packing operations:
 - (i) Either separate grading and handling equipment shall be used for seed or grading and handling equipment must be thoroughly washed and completely disinfected and meet the approval of the Inspector before handling seed.
 - (ii) Complete and accurate records must be kept showing the grower, variety and amount of potatoes received by each seed packer.
 - (iii) Seed potato records shall be kept and made available to an Inspector or other representative of the Department upon request.
 - (iv) If certified seed potatoes from different growers are mixed in a packing operation, the certification tag will be stamped with the seed packer's name or the name of the packing operation.
 - (v) If large lots from individual growers are handled and kept separate, the grower's shipping tag may be used.
- (d) Sanitary and handling procedures, including cleaning and disinfecting of equipment and the shipping and handling methods used to ensure against varietal mixture and other contamination, must be provided by the packer and approved by the Seed Potato Inspector.

- (b) Shipments of certified seed potatoes for out of state export prior to availability of Post-Harvest Test results must be inspected by an Inspector at shipping point.
- (c) The shipment shall be tagged by an Inspector with a blue shipping tag stating the grade, size, variety, grower name of the shipper and the word "Certified", except that the words "Field Foundation" may be used if the maximum disease tolerances established for the Foundation Seed Class in the Post-Harvest Test are not exceeded during field inspection and all other requirements of the Foundation Seed Class are met.

(4) Special Permits

- (a) Special permits to ship Maine Certified and/or Foundation Class seed potatoes not conforming to the packing requirements in this section may be granted by the Department upon oral or written application by the shipper, stating the justification for the request, variety, grade, field year, approximate quantity to be shipped, receiver, and time and destination of the proposed shipment.
- (b) The Department shall verify that the receiver has been notified of the cause of the special permit and has agreed to accept the seed potatoes as shipped.
- (c) Any shipments made under such a permit must be inspected by an Inspector and identified and tagged as seed as prescribed by the Department.
- (d) Any shipments made under such a permit must meet the requirements in the Maine Seed Potato Grade for foreign material, decay, freezing or soft breakdown (see also Department Rule, Chapter 253, *Official Seed Potato Grade for Maine Certified Seed Potatoes*).
- (e) Any shipment made under such a permit must in all respects other than as authorized under the terms of the special permit, meet all other requirements of the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (f) Special permit shipments shall be tagged with a red shipping tag stating grower name, grade, size and variety. Bulk Certificates will be marked "Special Permit" and shall detail the reason.
- (g) The shipper receiving such a special permit shall comply with such terms and conditions as the Department deems appropriate in issuing the special permit.

(5) Bulk Shipments

- (a) Bulk shipment of Certified and Foundation Class seed potatoes is permitted, provided such shipments are identified by a bulk certificate issued by a Seed Potato Inspector.

4. PACKING REQUIREMENTS

A. Tolerances and Tagging

(1) Grade of Seed Potatoes

- (a) All Certified or Foundation Seed Class seed potatoes must be packed to meet the official seed potato grade as defined in Department Rule, Chapter 253 - *Official Seed Potato Grade for Maine Certified Seed Potatoes*.
- (b) All seed potatoes not meeting the Maine Seed Potato Grade will not be issued a Shipping Inspection Tag and cannot be sold as seed.

(2) Size of Seed Potatoes

- (a) Sizes and identification of seed potatoes in the Certified Seed Class shall be as follows:

Size	Identification on Tag
1" - 3 1/4"	Blue tag + Grade + Size + + Variety Name + the word "Certified"
B 1 1/2" - 2"	Blue tag + Grade + Size + + Variety Name + the word "Certified"

- (b) Sizes and identification of seed potatoes in the Foundation Seed Class shall be as follows:

Size	Identification on Tag
1" - 3 1/4"	Blue tag+ Grade + Size + Grower Name + Variety Name + the word "Foundation"
B 1 1/2" - 2"	Blue tag+ Grade + Size + Grower Name + Variety Name + the word "Foundation"

- (c) There are no restrictions on size and shape requirements for fingerling seed potatoes.

(3) Shipments for Out of State Export for Commercial Plantings

- (a) Seed potatoes may be certified and shipped for out-of-state export, excluding the Post-Harvest Test results, based upon the tolerances allowed during the field inspections providing all other certification requirements are met according to Chapter 253: **OFFICIAL SEED POTATO GRADE FOR MAINE CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES**.

B. Records and Bin Identification**(1) Required Procedures**

- (a) Accurate records of amounts of certified seed potatoes harvested must be kept by the grower.
- (b) Seed potatoes of different field years, classes or varieties must be kept in separate storage bins.
- (c) Bins containing seed potatoes shall be separated from each other and easily identified to enable Inspectors to locate all certified seed potatoes stored in bins and to post bin cards.
- (d) Bin cards identifying the seed potatoes must be completed and posted by the Seed Potato Inspector upon examining the seed potatoes in the storage bins.
- (e) Bin cards must show the amount of seed potatoes stored in each bin, field certification number, and the Post-Harvest Test sample number which represents the potatoes in the storage bin.

C. Sprout Inhibitors on Tablestock/Processing Potatoes in Storages Containing Seed Potatoes**(1) Sprout Inhibitors Applied as a Gas**

- (a) All seed potatoes in a storage treated with any gaseous applied sprout inhibitor will be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

(2) Sprout Inhibitors Applied as a Liquid

- (a) Sprout inhibitors may be applied as a liquid to tablestock/processing potatoes in the same storage as seed potatoes providing the application is approved by an Inspector and is in accordance with this section.
- (b) Liquid sprout inhibitors applied at time of shipment must be applied at a rate not to exceed the rate that is recommended by the manufacturer.
- (c) Liquid sprout inhibitors may be applied on the packing line by a contact applicator.
- (d) Liquid sprout inhibitors may be applied on the packing line as a spray providing the spray is hooded and exhausted, and further providing this spray is applied in an area and in a manner, such that stored seed potatoes cannot be contaminated.
- (e) All seed potatoes in a storage where sprout inhibitor has not been applied according to the specifications described in this section will be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

authorized under this Chapter. Potatoes not so certified or authorized do not meet the minimum standards for planting under 7 M.R.S. §951-A.

(3) Certification of Experimental Varieties and Seedlings

- (a) The Commissioner may allow for certification of Experimental new varieties or seedlings which are produced or imported by Maine growers for the purpose of testing their adaptability for commercial use in the state and which are not available from an authorized Nuclear Seed Origination Source and not currently commercially produced in the state.
- (b) Varieties or seedlings shall be deemed to be commercially produced when a total of one hundred acres or more have been certified in the State in the current or in any previous year.
- (c) Any person seeking such certification shall apply to the Commissioner in writing and shall provide such information and comply with the terms and conditions as the Commissioner may require, including meeting all pertinent requirements of the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (d) Varieties or seedlings accepted for certification as Experimental will be designated Experimental in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (e) Production from a Research and/or Experimental facility cannot be sold as seed. Seed produced at these facilities can be used for evaluation and commercial trials if part of a breeding or program but, not entered for recertification. Each facility that ships seed for evaluation and or commercial trials must file a report with the Commissioner by July 1st of each year on the volume, variety and location of all shipments of seed.

3. STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

A. Storage Sanitation

(1) Disinfection and Disease Control

- (a) Bins, handling equipment and all the immediate surroundings in which Certified or Foundation Seed Classes are to be stored or handled shall be cleaned and disinfected before the potatoes are brought into storage or are handled.
- (b) No class of certified seed can be stored in a storage with potato lots known to be infected with the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen. Any seed potatoes placed in a storage with potato lots known to be infected with the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen will immediately lose their certification status.

- (iv) The economic impact on the industry through loss of contracts, established markets, and other relevant information if the waiver is not granted.
- (v) Possible impacts of the waiver on the seed industry.
- (c) If the Commissioner grants such waiver, the grower(s) shall comply with the terms and conditions required by the Commissioner.
- (d) The Commissioner shall give public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the potatoes are to be grown and in such other publications or forms as the Commissioner finds appropriate of all requests for waivers under this section and shall provide a minimum of five days for interested persons to comment. Any person making request to receive copies of all such notices shall be provided with them.
- (e) Prior to granting any waiver the Commissioner must review all waiver requests with the Maine Potato Board's Seed Executive Council. The Commissioner must provide all the information on each waiver to the Council prior to the review. The Seed Executive Council shall make recommendations to the Commissioner regarding if the waiver should be granted and any conditions that should be applied to the waiver. If the Commissioner's decision on waivers is different than the recommendation of the Seed Executive Council, the Commissioner will provide the Seed Council with an explanation as to why the recommendations were not followed.

(2) Certification of Grower Seed Plot

- (a) Growers may seek certification for seed potatoes grown by them exclusively for their own use and not for sale. Such certification may be allowed regardless of the field year, provided all other requirements are met for certification.
- (b) In order to qualify for "Grower's Own Seed" lot, a grower must produce tablestock and/or processing potatoes in the farming operation.
- (c) The seed produced from the seed plots will be designated as "Grower's Own" providing it meets the requirements of the Certified Seed Class.
- (d) The seed plot used to produce "Grower's Own" must be entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and pass all of the requirements for the Certified Seed Class.
- (e) Seed potatoes classified as "Grower's Own" cannot be sold as seed.
- (f) Seed lots not meeting all requirements of this section will not qualify for the "Grower's Own" designation.
- (g) All potatoes used as seed on any farm in Maine must qualify as "Grower's Own" under this section or otherwise be certified or

- (i) See also the Packing Requirements (4.A.(3)) for out-of-state export shipments.

G. Other Seed Potato Production Requirements

(1) Sprout Inhibitor

Any field or seed in storage treated or partially treated with any sprout inhibitor applied to the growing crop or seed while in storage, shall be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and cannot be sold as seed potatoes.

(2) Other Diseases and Pests

Any disease or pest not covered by these rules that might adversely affect the Maine potato industry or Maine agriculture in the judgment of the Commissioner will be cause for potatoes to be rejected or withdrawn from certification, provided that action by the Commissioner shall become final after opportunity for a hearing is afforded the grower(s).

(3) Special Conditions

Any condition such as foliage diseases, excess weed, hail injury, foreign plants, chemical damage, insect damage or soil conditions that interfere with proper inspection may be cause for rejection from certification.

H. Waivers and Special Certifications

(1) General Waiver

- (a) The Commissioner may, upon application of one or more growers and for good cause, temporarily waive any of the requirements for the field year designation and/or Post-Harvest Testing, provided that seed potato quality in Maine is not thereby jeopardized.
- (b) Any such waiver may be granted only upon written application of the grower(s) involved, providing the following information:
 - (i) The specific request including the amount, variety, generation, Post-Harvest Test results, and other specific information.
 - (ii) Documentation must be provided by the person requesting the waiver of the quantity and availability of seed of the variety, both in-state and in other states and provinces.
 - (iii) The disease content of the available seed, both in-state and in other states and provinces.

- (i) Any such request must be made in writing to the Commissioner within 10 business days of receipt of the grower's Post-Harvest Test results.
- (ii) Retesting will be conducted on the originally submitted PHT sample utilizing a different method of testing as the initial test (i.e. if initial test was conducted using ELISA method, the retest may be conducted by PCR method or other suitable molecular method).
- (iii) All testing costs will be paid by the grower requesting the test.

(8) Averaging of Lots

- (a) If two of more Post-Harvest Test samples are collected from the same lot of seed potatoes, Post-Harvest Test results from these samples will automatically be averaged unless the grower can demonstrate that the seed potatoes represented by those samples have been segregated in storage.
- (b) Averaging of the Post-Harvest Test results of two or more samples which have been segregated in storage will be allowed at the discretion of the Inspector and under the following conditions:
 - (i) Lots of potatoes represented by Post-Harvest Test samples which have no more than a 0.5% difference in total virus readings require no blending to be averaged.
 - (ii) Lots of potatoes represented by Post-Harvest Test samples with a total virus reading greater than a 0.5% difference must be blended in order to be averaged.
 - (iii) Lots of potatoes represented by Post-Harvest Test samples with a total virus reading greater than 1% may not be averaged to meet Foundation tolerance.
 - (iv) Lots of potatoes represented by Post-Harvest Test samples with a total virus reading greater than 5% may not be averaged to meet Certified tolerance.
- (c) If two or more lots are to be blended to meet Foundation tolerance, then amounts of each lot involved must be mixed proportionally, under the direction of the Seed Potato Inspector, to meet this tolerance.

(9) Shipments for Out of State Export for Commercial Planting

- (a) Seed potatoes may be certified and shipped for out-of-state export, excluding the Post-Harvest Test results, based upon the tolerances allowed during the field inspections providing all other certification requirements are met according to Chapter 253: **OFFICIAL SEED POTATO GRADE FOR MAINE CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES.**

- (ii) The disease tolerances for Foundation Seed in the Post-Harvest Test are:

Disease	Tolerance
Leafroll (PLRV)	1/2%
Mosaic (PVY)	1/2%
Total Virus	1/2%
Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid*	Zero Tolerance
Bacterial Ring Rot*	Zero Tolerance
Root Knot Nematode*	Zero Tolerance

- (iii) Seed represented by the samples not meeting the tolerances listed in 2.F.(6)(a)(i) and (ii) above will be designated as Certified Class Seed providing it meets the tolerances and other requirements of this Class.

- (iv) See also the Additional Requirements for Foundation Seed Class, Section 5.

(b) Certified Seed Class

- (i) Seed potatoes from which samples show 5% or less total of the virus diseases Leafroll (PLRV) and Mosaic (PVY) in the Post-Harvest Test, and no Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid or Bacterial Ring Rot in Field Inspections will be designated as Certified Seed Class providing they meet the other requirements of this class.
- (ii) The disease tolerances for Certified Seed in the Post-Harvest Test are:

Disease	Tolerance
Leafroll (PLRV)	5%
Mosaic (PVY)	5%
Total Virus	5%
Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid*	Zero Tolerance
Bacterial Ring Rot*	Zero Tolerance
Root Knot Nematode*	Zero Tolerance

(7) Rejection from Maine Seed Potato Certification Program

- (a) Seed potatoes represented by a sample in the Post-Harvest Test not passing the tolerances for the Certified Seed Class defined in this section will be rejected from certification and cannot be sold as seed.
- (b) Samples having a Post-Harvest Test result of no greater than 9% can elect to have their sample retested.

- (i) The Post-Harvest Test requirement is waived for seed potatoes of any variety or seedling grown on an aggregate of no more than one acre by any grower, provided that such seed potatoes are not to be sold as seed potatoes during the year that the requirement is waived.
- (ii) The Post-Harvest Test requirement is waived for Field Year 1 Seed providing that such seed potatoes are not sold as seed during the year that the requirement is waived.
- (iii) The Post-Harvest Test requirement is waived for seed potatoes of any variety and field year for out of state export that meet the requirements of (2 .9. (a)). Seed lots must be entered for Post-Harvest testing immediately after harvest as defined by the Department, or the samples will not be eligible for post-harvest testing.

(2) Size of Sample

Samples will be lab tested at the following rates: 200 tuber sample for 0-4.9 acres, 250 tuber sample for 5-40 acres, 250 tuber sample plus 10 tubers for each addition acre over 40 acres. The sample(s) must be representative of the field and/or stored seed potatoes tested.

(3) Size of Tubers

The size of the tubers for the Post-Harvest Test must be not less than 1 ½” in diameter and should not exceed 3 ¼ “ in diameter.

(4) Representative Sample

The sample taken for the Post-Harvest Test must be representative of the field and/or stored seed potatoes to be tested.

(5) Sample Quality Requirement

Samples with less than 50% ability to test owing to such factors as sample degradation or lack of suitable plant tissue to conduct testing will be granted certification on the basis of the results of the summer field inspection.

(6) Disease Tolerances

(a) Foundation Seed Class

- (i) Seed potatoes from which samples show 1/2% or less total virus diseases Leafroll (PLRV) and Mosaic (PVY) in the Post-Harvest Test, and no Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid, Bacterial Ring Rot, or Root Knot Nematode in Inspections will be designated as Foundation Seed Class providing they meet the other requirements of this class.

(5) **Intentions to Vine Kill**

- (a) Growers shall notify the Inspector at least two days prior to commencing vine kill.

(6) **Inspection of Processing and Tablestock Fields**

- (a) In order for seed potatoes produced on a farming operation on which some lots are not entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program to be offered for sale in the state, either of the following must occur:
- (i) all lots not entered for certification must be visually inspected by the Department and found free of Bacterial Ring Rot; or
 - (ii) any lot otherwise passing all the requirements of the Certified Seed Class must also have 400 randomly selected tubers per 40 acres of production tested by a USDA-APHIS approved laboratory and found free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen according to the protocol in 6.A.(1)
 - (iii) The grower or his/her representative must contact his/her Inspector to verify that a correct sample has been taken. The grower must submit the sample to the laboratory and he/she and the Department must directly receive the results of the laboratory evaluation. The cost of the testing will be borne by the grower or his/her representative.
- (b) These requirements are waived for seed that is produced for a grower's own use or that is sold out-of-state.
- (c) These requirements are also waived for the non-seed portion of a lot on a farming operation provided that a portion of the same lot is entered in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program on that farming operation.
- (d) If the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is found during either of the options specified in 2.E.(6)(a) of this section, the requirements contained in 6.A.(2) and 6.A.(3) must also be met.

F. **Post-Harvest Test Requirements**

(1) **Varieties, Classes and Field Years of Seed Potatoes to be Tested**

- (a) The Post-Harvest Test will be conducted as a laboratory evaluation of the appropriate number of plants/tubers specified in 2.F.(2). The number of tubers to be tested must comply with the requirements of this Chapter. The testing costs of a USDA-APHIS approved laboratory will be borne by the producer.
- (b) All varieties, classes and field years of seed potatoes must be Post-Harvest Tested to be eligible for certification, except as specified below:

(3) Tolerances for Certified Seed Class

- (a) Maximum tolerances allowed for the Certified Seed Class during field inspections are:

Disease or Condition	First Inspection	Second Inspection	
Leafroll	2%	1%	
Mosaic	3%	2%	
Total Virus	3%	3%	
Varietal Mixture	1%	0.25%	
Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid	Zero	Zero	
Bacterial Ring Rot	Zero	Zero	
Root Knot Nematode	Zero	Zero	
Blackleg FY1	0.1%	0.1%	
FY2	0.2%	0.2%	
FY3	1.0%	1.0%	
FY4	2.0%	2.0%	
FY5	2.0%	2.0%	

- (b) Any field which according to the Department's sampling methods, exceeds the maximum tolerances, for all the diseases listed except blackleg, allowed for the Certified Seed Class during any field inspections will be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (c) Any field exceeding the blackleg tolerance for that particular generation will be downgraded to the next generation in which it meets that blackleg tolerance.

(4) Appeal of Inspections

- (a) Any grower of Certified Seed may appeal the decision of an Inspector by making such appeal in writing to the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program, in the Department. Such appeal must be received within one week following the inspection and must state clearly the reason for the appeal and show cause why a re-inspection, or lab test (at the grower's expense) should be conducted. Roguing or sorting will not be permitted between the time of inspection and examination following appeal.
- (b) Upon receipt of the appeal notice, the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program will re-inspect the lot within three working days, providing the plants are healthy enough to be re-inspected, and will notify the grower of the results.

- (b) Field Year 1, 2, and 3 Seed of each variety must be stored separately and must be segregated from non-nuclear potatoes in storage.
- (c) When packed for shipment, Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed must meet the grade requirements for certified seed (Department Rule Chapter 253 - *Official Seed Potato Grade for Maine Certified Seed Potatoes*), except the undersize tolerance is waived for Field Year 1 and 2 Seed. Growers who purchase Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed are encouraged to separate the seed sizes before planting for uniform emergence.
- (d) Any sanitary practices which the Inspector deems necessary during sizing or packing to avoid disease and contamination must be followed.

(8) **Requirements Not Met**

- (a) Nuclear Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed that is not produced in accordance with the requirements specified in this Chapter will not be eligible for propagation as Field Year 2 and 3 Seed. Seed potatoes produced in such instances and which pass the requirements for the Certified or Foundation Seed Class will be designated Field Year Seed 3, except that seed potatoes designated as Field Year 3 Seed at planting will be designated Field Year 4.

E. **Field Inspection for Certified and Foundation Seed Classes**

(1) **Frequency of Inspection**

- (a) Each field entered in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program shall receive at least two field inspections by the Department, spaced approximately one month apart during the growing season.
- (b) One or more additional inspections by the Department for Bacterial Ring Rot will be made after the second inspection and before top kill.
- (c) One or more additional inspections by the Department for Bacterial Ring Rot may be made during harvest.

(2) **Field Inspection for Foundation Seed Class**

- (a) To be eligible for the Foundation Seed Class, seed potatoes must be inspected in the field during the growing season in the same manner as the Certified Seed Class and must meet the tolerances for the Certified Seed Class.
- (b) Maine does not designate the Foundation Seed Class based upon tolerances during field inspection but designates this class based upon disease levels observed in the Post-Harvest Test and other requirements set forth herein for the Foundation Seed Class.

(5) **Field Disease Tolerances for Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed**

- (a) Foliage of plants produced from Nuclear Seed must be visually inspected and must contain no more than 0.1% total virus. In fields in which this tolerance is exceeded, growers will be given the opportunity to rogue the field to bring it within the tolerance specified.
- (b) If upon re-inspection of fields which exceed the tolerance specified in 2.D.(6)(a) of this section the Inspector finds that the virus level still exceeds 0.1%, the lot will drop to the next appropriate field year.
- (c) Foliage of plants produced from Field Year 1 must be visually inspected and must contain no more than 0.25% total virus. In fields in which this tolerance is exceeded, growers will be given the opportunity to rogue the field to bring it within the tolerance specified.
- (d) If upon re-inspection of fields which exceed the tolerance specified in 2.D.(6)(c) of this section the Inspector finds that the virus level still exceeds 0.25%, the lot will drop to the next appropriate field year.
- (e) If Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid is found during the inspection of Nuclear Seed, all plants derived from the same mother plant, mother tuber or meristem shall be rejected from the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (f) Plants produced from Field Year 2, 3, and 4 must be inspected in the field during the growing season in the same manner and must meet the same standards as the Foundation Seed Class.

(6) **Post-Harvest Testing of Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed on a Foundation Farming Operation**

- (a) The Post-Harvest Testing requirement is waived for Field Year 1 Seed providing that such seed potatoes are not sold as seed during the year that this requirement is waived.
- (b) All lots of Field Year 2 and 3 Seed must be Post-Harvest tested. Field Year 1 may be tested upon request of the producing grower.
- (c) Sample sizes and disease tolerances for the Post-Harvest Testing of Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed are discussed in the Post-Harvest section of Production Requirements, 2.F.(2)(a) and 2.F.(6)(a) respectively.

(7) **Storage and Sizing of Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed on a Foundation Farming Operation**

- (a) Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed must be stored and handled in a seed potato storage facility where all potatoes have been inspected and found to be free from Bacterial Ring Rot during the growing season.

- (c) Nuclear Seed derived from the same mother plant, mother tuber, or meristem must be planted together in segregated units. Subunits may be established for testing purposes at the request of the grower.
- (d) Within a row different units must be separated by a minimum of three feet, and must be permanently marked and labeled at both ends. A field map must be submitted with the Inspection Application.
- (e) All units planted with Nuclear Seed and/or Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed must have at least one blank row between different field years of the same variety.
- (f) Field Year 1 Seed of the same variety may be composited at harvest.
- (g) All plots planted with Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed should be planted before other potato fields. In cases where this is not possible, crop handling equipment must be thoroughly washed and completely disinfected prior to planting Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 plots.
- (h) All plots planted with Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed must be harvested before other potato fields.
- (i) Crop handling equipment used in the production of the Foundation Class of seed may be used for Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed provided that the machinery is thoroughly washed and completely disinfected under the direction of a Seed Potato Inspector prior to entry into Foundation Seed fields. Crop handling equipment used in the production of the Certified Class of seed may not be used in the production of Field Year 1, 2, and 3 Seed unless these seed lots are planted at least 500 feet from any Field Year 1, 2 or 3 Seed field as provided by 2.D.(2)(d) of this section.
- (j) All cultural operations and spraying must be completed in fields planted with Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed before working in other fields.
- (k) Growers must notify their inspector when herbicides or insecticides are applied to their seed and/or fields. Field notification must be done prior to Inspector entering their field.
- (l) Crop handling equipment must be thoroughly washed to remove soil and organic matter and completely disinfected between fields containing different varieties and seedlings of Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed.
- (m) Crop handling equipment must be thoroughly washed to remove soil and organic matter and completely disinfected prior to harvesting fields containing Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed.

6.A.(2) for additional requirements when the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is confirmed.

- (c) All potato fields planted on a Foundation Farming Operation producing Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 must be entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
 - (d) All seed lots planted on the Foundation Farming Operation Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 must be of the Foundation Class except that seed lots of the Certified Class which were produced on a farming operation where all potatoes were checked for Bacterial Ring Rot may be planted provided that:
 - (i) These seed lots are rogued such that they contain no more than 0.5% total virus prior to the first inspection.
 - (ii) These seed lots are planted at least 500 feet from any Field Year 1, 2 or 3 field.
 - (iii) If either 1 or 2 above is not met, then all Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 lots within 500 feet of the Certified Class lot on the farm or farming operation will be designated Field Year 3, except that seed potatoes designated as Field Year 3 at planting will be designated Field Year 4.
 - (e) All plots planted with and/or Field Year 1,2 and 3 must be located on sod ground or on ground where potatoes were not grown the previous year.
 - (f) Fields planted with Field Year 2 must be located on ground where potatoes were not grown the previous year or on ground where Field Year 2 of the same variety was harvested the previous year.
- (3) **Designation of Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed produced on a Foundation Farming Operation that meet the requirements of this Chapter will be designated as follows:**
- (a) Field Year 1 seed will be designated as: Field Year 2
 - (b) Field Year 2 seed will be designated as: Field Year 3
 - (c) Field Year 3 seed will be designated as: Field Year 4
- (4) **Production and Sanitation Requirements**
- (a) Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed produced on a Foundation Farming Operation shall be entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and must be in conformity with the requirements of this Chapter.
 - (b) All plots planted with Nuclear Seed and/or Field Year 1, 2 and 3 Seed should be free of volunteer plants.

- (b) If, pursuant to Section 6.A., the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen is confirmed in two out of three succeeding years on a Foundation Farming Operation producing Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3, such farming operation:
- (i) cannot sell Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 for one year following confirmation of the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen the second time;
 - (ii) cannot sell Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 for the second and third years following confirmation of the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen for the second time, unless the operation:
 - 1. eliminates all seed lots on the farming operation each of the two years following the year that the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen was confirmed for the second time; and
 - 2. is free of Bacterial Ring Rot disease during the summer field inspection program and during storage, in all the new lots obtained, each of the two years following the year that the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen was confirmed. If Bacterial Ring Rot disease is present in any of the new lots obtained on the Foundation Farming Operation, all Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 lots on the operation drop to Field Year 4, except for Field Year Seed 1 and 2 lots which are free of Bacterial Ring Rot disease and which are to be replanted on the same operation. The field year of such lots drops to Field Year 3 if younger than Field Year 3. See also 6.A.(2) for additional requirements when the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is confirmed.
 - 3. submits to a USDA-APHIS approved laboratory, at grower's cost, a 400-tuber sample of the progeny of all the new lots which were free of the Bacterial Ring Rot disease during summer field inspection each of the two years following the year that the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen was confirmed for the second time, per 15 acres of production. The USDA-APHIS approved laboratory must find these samples free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen through the testing protocol specified in 6.A.(1) of this Chapter prior to sale of such progeny as Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3. If the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is confirmed during laboratory testing of the progeny of any of the new lots, all Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 lots on the Foundation Farming Operation drop to Field Year 4, except for Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 lots which are free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen and which are to be replanted on the same Foundation Farming Operation. The field year of such lots drops to Field Year 3 if younger than Field Year 3. See also

D. Production and Sale of Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 on a Foundation Farming Operation**(1) Authorization of a Foundation Farming Operation**

- (a) The Commissioner shall authorize Maine potato growers to produce Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 only when they can demonstrate the capability of producing such.
- (b) Any person seeking authorization to produce or import Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 into Maine shall apply to the Department and comply with all terms and conditions as the Commissioner may require.

(2) Additional Criteria for Authorization of Production and Sale of Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 on a Foundation Farming Operation in Maine

- (a) If, pursuant to Section 6.A., the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen is confirmed on a Foundation Farming Operation producing Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3, such Foundation Farming Operation is prohibited from selling Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 for three years following confirmation of the disease or pathogen, unless the operation:
 - (i) eliminates all seed lots on the farming operation the year that the Bacterial Ring Rot disease or pathogen is confirmed; and
 - (ii) is free of Bacterial Ring Rot disease during the summer field inspection program and during storage in all the new lots obtained. If Bacterial Ring Rot disease is found in any of the new lots obtained on the Foundation Farming Operation, all Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3 lots on the operation drop to Field Year 4, except for Field Year Seed 1 and 2 lots which are free of Bacterial Ring Rot disease and which are to be replanted on the same operation. The field year of such lots drops to Field Year 3 if younger than Field Year 3. See also 6.A.(2) for additional requirements when the Bacterial Ring Rot disease is confirmed; and
 - (iii) submits to a USDA-APHIS approved laboratory a 400 tuber sample of the progeny of all the new lots which were free of the Bacterial Ring Rot disease during summer field inspection per 15 acres of production. The Department must find these samples free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen through the testing protocol specified in 6.A.(1) of this Chapter prior to sale of such progeny as Field Year Seed 1, 2 and 3. If the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is confirmed during laboratory testing of the progeny of any of the new lots, all Field Year 1, 2 and 3 lots on the Foundation Farming Operation drop to Field Year 4 except for Field Year Seed 1 and 2 lots which are free of the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen and which are to be replanted on the same operation. The field year of such lots drops to Field Year 3 if younger than Field Year 3. See also 6.A.(2) for additional requirements when the Bacterial Ring Rot pathogen is confirmed.

C. Production and Importation of Nuclear Seed**(1) Authorization**

- (a) The Commissioner may authorize Nuclear Seed Origination Sources in Maine to produce Nuclear Seed from Disease Tested Tuber(s).
- (b) Any person seeking authorization to produce, import or sell Nuclear Seed in Maine shall apply to the Department and comply with all terms and conditions as the Commissioner may require.

(2) Methods of Propagation

- (a) Nuclear Seed shall be propagated from Disease Tested Tuber(s). Methods of propagation may include meristem tissue culture or any other existing or new method of vegetative propagation approved by the Commissioner, which breaks the normal tuber-to-tuber cycle of propagation.

(3) Testing Requirements

- (a) The initial Disease Tested Tuber(s) must be tested and found free of the following diseases and pathogens: Bacterial Ring Rot (*Clavibacter spp.*), Blackleg (*Pectobacterium spp. and Dickeya spp.*), Bacterial Wilt (*Ralstonia spp.*) and Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid.
- (b) Plants produced from Disease Tested Tuber(s) must be tested and found free of the following diseases and pathogens: Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid, the Necrotic Strain of Potato Virus Y (PVY-N), Potato Mop Top Virus, Leafroll and Mosaic viruses.

(4) Importation Requirements

- (a) No shipper, handler or importer of Nuclear Seed or person selling such material shall bring into the State of Maine any Nuclear Seed unless a Seed Potato Import Permit has been issued, the Nuclear seed inspected and appears to be free from all injurious insects and diseases issued to the shipper, handler or importer.
- (b) Any Nuclear Seed, except Disease Tested Tuber(s) transported into the State must have been grown in a soilless pasteurized potting mix or from an approved hydroponic greenhouse production system.
- (c) Seed Potato Inspectors may inspect, at the point of destination, all Nuclear Seed coming into the State whether under certificate or not, and if such seed is found to be infested or infected with any injurious insect or disease, shall cause it to be destroyed or returned to the consignor at the consignor's expense.

(2) Propagation of Nuclear Seed

- (a) The number of years of propagation from Disease Tested Tuber(s) must be designated at an approved Nuclear Seed Origination Source.
- (b) Nuclear Seed may be propagated on an approved Nuclear Seed Origination Source, using meristem tissue culture or any other existing or new methods of vegetative propagation approved by the Commissioner.
- (c) Nuclear Seed shall be increased in the laboratory/greenhouse and planted into the field at an approved Nuclear Seed Origination Source.

(3) Field Propagation of Seed on a Foundation Farming Operation that Passes the Requirements for Foundation Seed Class

- (a) Mini-tubers or plantlets will be designated as: Field Year 1
- (b) Field Year 1 planted will be designated as: Field Year 2
- (c) Field Year 2 planted will be designated as: Field Year 3

(4) Propagation of seed that passes the requirements for Certified or Foundation Seed Classes

- (a) Field Year 3 passing seed requirements will be designated as: Field Year 4
- (b) Field Year 4 passing seed requirements will be designated as: Field Year 5

(5) Field Year Designation for Imported Seed

- (a) All seed from an out-of-state source shall comply with Department Rule Chapter 255 - *Imported Seed Potatoes*.
- (b) Seed potatoes imported into the state shall meet all the requirements for certification under the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program, including the Post-Harvest Test requirement as prescribed by this Chapter.
- (c) All import certificates shall specify the imported seed's field year, which shall meet or exceed the criteria for its equivalent field year in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (d) The Commissioner shall determine and designate the field year of the imported seed, which will be given the same field year designation as equivalent Maine seed in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.

(g) Seed potatoes that pass the field inspection requirements in Maine shall be entered into the Post-Harvest Test unless otherwise provided in this Chapter.

(3) **Post-Harvest Test**

(a) Applications for the Post-Harvest Testing of samples of seed potatoes must be made on forms available from the Department

(b) All information required on the application form must be complete and accurate.

(c) The application form and the entire fee for the Post-Harvest Test must be received by the Department prior to testing as determined by the Department. The Department can extend this deadline for the entire industry or for designated geographic areas if unusual weather or unforeseeable problems make it difficult for the deadline date to be met.

(d) The fee schedule for the Post-Harvest Test appears on the application form (see Fee Schedule).

B. Designation of Field Years in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program

(1) **Seed Originating from a Foundation Farming Operation**

Year Produced in Field	Field Year Designation	Production Information
Year 0	Nuclear Seed	An approved laboratory producing Nuclear Seed minitubers and/or plantlets; See Appendix I for Nuclear laboratory procedures.
Year 1	Field Year 1	Planting of mini-tubers or transplants in soil
Year 2	Field Year 2	General release of most varieties from an approved Nuclear seed origination source.
Year 3	Field Year 3	
Year 4	Field Year 4	
Year 5	Field Year 5	
Flush out	Tablestock/Processing potato producers	

Growers Own Seed

All years, Pursuant to (2)(H)(2)(a-g)

not intended, nor may it be construed to mean, that the lot inspected is free from the disease in question.

2. PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS

A. Application(s) and Eligibility

(1) Generally

- (a) The requirements to certify seed potatoes in the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program include a Field Year Designation, Field Inspections, Post-Harvest Testing and a Shipping Point Inspection as provided in these rules. If planting a protected variety, documentation must be supplied indicating that the grower has permission to plant the protected variety and certify the seed.

(2) Field Inspections

- (a) Applications for inspection of potato fields to be entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program must be made on forms available from the Department.
- (b) All the information required on the application form shall be complete and accurate.
- (c) Full payment of the entry fee is required with the application. For a listing of the entry fees for the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program, see Section 8. Fee Schedule, A.
- (d) The application and deposit must be received by the Department by June 15 of the current crop year. Applications not received by this date will be accepted at the discretion of the Department, but will be withheld if payment is due on past accounts.
- (e) Applications that are not accompanied by the full entry fee will be held and not be entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program until the full entry fee is paid.
- (f) Evidence satisfactory to the Department proving origin and quality of seed must accompany the application including:
 - (i) Import Permit numbers or certification numbers in the case of growers using their own seed.
 - (ii) Designation of field year as defined in this Chapter.
 - (iii) Class of seed as either Certified or Foundation Seed Class.
 - (iv) Variety of seed potatoes.

various types of mottling and stunting in above-ground portions of infected plants.

- (v) **Production or Crop Handling Equipment** means equipment used in producing potatoes that contacts either the foliage or the tubers of potato plants.
- (w) **Roguing** means the removal of diseased and off-type potato plants from a field of seed potatoes.
- (x) **Root Knot Nematode** means the nematode species belonging to the genus *Meloidogyne*.
- (y) **Separate Farming Operation** means distinct production units which use the same crop handling equipment but which clean and disinfect the equipment between use on each production unit. Separate farming operations must be established and separated by identifiable physical boundaries (i.e. a road, woods, field devoted to a different crop) and must remain the same once established, unless approval for a change is requested by the producer and approved by the Department.
- (z) **Shipping Inspection Tags** means the tags or bulk certificates identifying the variety name, grade, size, and class of seed potatoes, which are issued by department staff prior to shipment.
- (aa) **Single Hill Selection** means the method of seed potato propagation whereby tubers are selected, tested to ensure freedom from certain pathogens, and retained for planting as Nuclear Seed.
- (bb) **Sod Ground** means land on which grass and/or legume species were produced the previous year.
- (cc) **Spindle Tuber** means the potato disease caused by the Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid pathogen.
- (dd) **Tobacco Rattle Virus** means a virus vectored by the stubby root nematode which can cause stem mottling of potato foliage and discoloration or necrotic rings in infected tubers.
- (ee) **Tolerance** means the allowable upper limit of observed disease during field inspection, post-harvest test, and laboratory evaluation.
- (ff) **Total Virus** means the sum or total of the virus diseases Leafroll and Mosaic.
- (gg) **Vine kill** means treating the vines mechanically or chemically to cause them to die.
- (hh) **Zero Tolerance** means that the disease or related pathogen was not found during the inspection and testing process in the case of Bacterial Ring Rot, Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid, or Root Knot Nematode. This is

Leafroll, Potato Mop Top Virus and the Necrotic Strain of Potato Virus Y (PVY-N).

- (h) **Field Year** means a seed potato classification designating the number of years a particular lot has been grown in the field after greenhouse propagation, not to exceed six years after 2011.
- (i) **Foundation Farming Operation** means all potato acreage on the farm has been entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (j) **Foundation Seed Class** means seed potatoes entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program with an appropriate field year designation and passing field inspection, Post-Harvest Test and other requirements established in this Chapter for this class of seed potatoes.
- (k) **Inspector or Seed Potato Inspector** means a representative of the Department who is duly authorized to carry-out the services of the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program.
- (l) **Leafroll** means a potato disease caused by the potato leafroll virus.
- (m) **Lot** means a population of certified seed potatoes of one variety, field year and class that is identified by one certification number.
- (n) **Maine Seed Potato Certification Program** means the program established in this Chapter for certification of seed potatoes.
- (o) **Mini-tuber** means a tuber produced in a greenhouse from nuclear stock.
- (p) **Mosaic** means potato disease caused by potato virus A, potato virus X, potato virus Y, potato virus M or a combination of potato viruses A, X, M and Y.
- (q) **Necrotic Strain of Potato Virus Y (PVY-N)** means a strain of Potato Virus Y that causes a necrotic reaction in certain varieties of tobacco.
- (r) **Nuclear Seed** means propagation material, including mini-tubers and plantlets, which involves in vitro techniques and is grown under controlled conditions.
- (s) **Nuclear Seed Origination Source** means any farm or operation that is authorized by the Commissioner for such production.
- (t) **Post-Harvest Test** means the test authorized by the Department for determining the disease content of recently harvested samples of seed potatoes. Each sample must represent a specific lot of seed potatoes in storage.
- (u) **Potato Mop Top Virus** means a soil-borne virus in the pomovirus group which may cause discoloration or necrotic rings in infected tubers, and

Chapter 252: RULES GOVERNING CERTIFICATION OF SEED POTATOES IN THE
STATE OF MAINE

SUMMARY: This chapter outlines the procedures and standards governing the certification of seed potatoes in the State of Maine.

1. **INTRODUCTION**

A. **Definitions**

(1) **The Terms**

- (a) **Bacterial Ring Rot** means a tuber-borne potato disease caused by the bacterium, *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* also known as *Clavibacter michiganense* pv. *sepedonicum*.
- (b) **Certification** means the act of endorsing that the potatoes have been inspected and at the time of inspection met the standards or requirements specified in this Chapter for seed potatoes. Certification does not mean or constitute any warranty that the potatoes are merchantable, disease free, or fit for a particular purpose. Except where the Commissioner has indicated other tests are superior, the measurement method or basis for determining compliance with the standards is visual inspection of the fields and post- harvest laboratory testing using ELISA, PCR or other suitable molecular method.
- (c) **Certified Seed** means seed potatoes entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program and passing the field year field inspection, and Post-Harvest Test requirements as well as the other requirements established in this Chapter.
- (d) **Certified Seed Class** means seed potatoes entered into the Maine Seed Potato Certification Program with an appropriate field year designation and passing field inspection, Post-Harvest Test and other requirements established in this Chapter for this class of seed potatoes.
- (e) **Commissioner** means the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.
- (f) **Department** means the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.
- (g) **Disease Tested Tuber(s)** means potato tuber(s) selected and tested for freedom from the following diseases and pathogens: Bacterial Ring Rot, Blackleg, Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid, Potato viruses X, Y, A, M, S,

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY

Chapter 253: OFFICIAL SEED POTATO GRADE FOR MAINE CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES

Summary: This is the official description of the Maine Seed Potato Grade.

I. Inspections

All shipments of Maine Certified Seed Potatoes are required to be inspected by an authorized Maine Seed Potato Inspector at time of packing and must meet the requirements of the prescribed grade in order to be issued official tag or bulk shipping permits.

II. Maine Seed Potato Grade

The "Maine Seed Potato Grade" shall consist of unwashed potatoes identified as certified seed of one variety by the State of Maine which meet the following requirements as to quality and size:

- A. Fairly well shaped
- B. Free from:
 - 1. Freezing injury
 - 2. Blackheart
 - 3. Late blight tuber rot
 - 4. Nematode or tuber moth injury
 - 5. Bacterial ring rot
 - 6. Soft rot or wet breakdown
- C. Free from serious damage caused by:
 - 1. Hollow heart
 - 2. Vascular ring discoloration
- D. Free from damage by other causes (see Table I & II).

III. Size

- A. Minimum diameter, unless otherwise specified, shall be not less than 1 1/2 inches.
- B. Maximum size, unless otherwise specified, shall not exceed 3 1/4 inches in diameter or 12 oz. in weight.

IV. Tolerances

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling in the foregoing grade, the following tolerances, by weight, are provided:

A. For defects

- 1. 10 percent for potatoes in any lot which are seriously damaged by hollow heart.
- 2. 5 percent for potatoes in any lot which are seriously damaged by vascular ring discoloration.
- 3. 10 percent for potatoes which fail to meet the remaining requirements of the grade including, therein, not more than 5 percent for external defects and not more than 5 percent for internal defects: Provided, that, included in these tolerances not more than the following percentages shall be allowed for the defects listed:

	Percent
a. Bacterial Ring Rot	0.00
b. Serious damage caused by dry or moist type Fusarium Tuber Rot	2.00
c. Late Blight Tuber Rot	1.00
d. Nematode or Tuber Moth Injury	0.00
e. Varietal Mixture	0.25
f. Frozen Soft Rot or Wet Breakdown	0.50

Provided, that en route or at destination an additional 0.50 percent or a total of 1 percent shall be allowed for potatoes which are frozen or affected by soft rot or wet breakdown.

B. For off-size

- 1. **For undersize** - Three percent for potatoes in any lot which fail to meet the required or specified minimum diameter except that 5 percent shall be allowed when the specified minimum diameter is 2 1/4 inches or more or 5 oz. or more minimum weight.
- 2. **For oversize** - Ten percent for potatoes in any lot which fail to meet the required or specified maximum size.

V. Application of Tolerances

Individual samples shall have not more than double the tolerances specified, except that at least one defective or offsize potato may be permitted in any sample: Provided, that en route or act destination one-tenth of the samples may contain three times the tolerances permitted for potatoes which are frozen or affected by soft rot or wet breakdown; and provided further, that the averages for the entire lot are within the tolerances specified for the grade.

VI. Samples for Grade and Size Determination

Individual samples shall consist of at least 20 pounds. The number of such individual samples drawn for grade and size determination will vary with the size of the lot.

VII. Definitions**A. Fairly well shaped**

"Fairly well shaped" means that the potato is not materially pointed, dumbbell-shaped or otherwise materially deformed.

B. Nematode or Tuber Moth Injury

"Nematode or tuber Moth Injury" means the presence of or any evidence of Nematode or Tuber Moth.

C. Damage

"Damage" means any defect or any combination of defects specified in Tables I and II of this Chapter which materially detracts from the internal or external appearance of the potato, or any external or internal defect which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 5 percent of the total weight of the potato.

D. Serious Damage

"Serious damage" means any defect or any combination of defects specified in Table I and II of this Chapter which seriously detracts from the internal or external appearance of the potato, or any external or internal defect which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 10 percent of the total weight of the potato.

E. Freezing Injury

"Freezing injury" means that the potato is frozen or shows evidence of having been frozen.

F. **Zero Tolerance**

"Zero tolerance (0.00) means none found during the normal inspecting procedures. Certification of a lot is not a guarantee that the lot inspected is free of a zero tolerance disease or injury.

G. **Shriveling**

Damage by shriveling means that the individual potato is more than moderately shriveled, spongy or flabby.

H. **Soft Rot or Wet Breakdown**

"Soft rot or wet breakdown' means any soft, mushy, or leaky condition of the tissue.

I. **External Defects**

"External defects" are defects which can be detected externally. However, cutting may be required to determine the extent of the injury. See Table I.

J. **Internal Defects**

"Internal Defects" are defects which cannot be detected without cutting the potato. See Table II.

K. **Permanent Defects**

"Permanent defects" are defects which are not subject to change during storage or shipment.

L. "Condition defects" are defects which may develop or change during storage or shipment.

Table 1. External Defects

Defect	When Materially detracting from the appearance of potato	When removal causes a loss of more than 5 percent of the total weight of the potato
Air Carck	X.....	
Bruises	X.....	X
Cuts or trimming	X.....	
Enlarged Lenticels	X.....	
Folded ends	X.....	
External Discoloration	X.....	
Surface cracking	X.....	X
Plea Beetle Injury	X.....	X
Dry rots	X
Rhizoctonia	X.....	
Scab, pitted	X.....	X
Scab, russet	X.....	
Scab, surface	When more than 5 percent of surface affected.	
Second growth	X.....	
Growth cracks	X.....	
Wireworm or grass damage	When any hole in a potato 2 1/2 inches in diameter or 6 ounces in weight is more than 3/4-inch long, or when the aggregate length of all holes is more than 1 1/4 inches, or correspondingly shorter or longer holes in smaller or larger potatoes.	
Dirt	Dirt or other foreign matter is considered as causing damage when the individual potato is more than slightly dirty or slightly stained, or when more than a moderate amount of loose dirt or other foreign matter is present in the sample.	
Insects or worms	When present inside the potato.	
Shriveling.....	When more than moderately shriveled, spongy or flabby.	
Sprouts	When more than 10 percent of the potatoes in any lot have any sprout more than 1 inch in length.	
Pressure bruises and sunken areas-with underlying flesh discolored. When removal causes a loss of more than 10% of the total weight.	

Table II. Internal Defects

Defect	Damage
Ingrown sprouts	When removal causes a loss of more than 5 percent of the total weight of the potato.
Internal discoloration occurring interior to the vascular ring	When more than the equivalent of three scattered light brown spots 1/8 inch in diameter in a potato 2 1/2 inches in diameter or 6 ounces in weight, or correspondingly lesser or greater number of spots in smaller or larger potatoes.
Defect	Serious Damage
Internal discoloration confined to the vascular ring	When removal causes a loss of more than 10 percent of the total weight of the potato.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Title 7, ' § 2101-2105

EFFECTIVE DATE:

November 1, 1976 (Filed 10-16-78)

AMENDED:

May 1, 1991

EFFECTIVE DATE (ELECTRONIC CONVERSION):

May 4, 1996

CONVERTED TO MS WORD:

May 15, 2008

CORRECTIONS:

February, 2014 – agency names, formatting

01-001 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY

Chapter 255: IMPORTED SEED POTATOES

1. DEFINITIONS

The terms used in this Chapter shall have the same meaning as those defined in CMR 01-001, Chapter 252.

2. IMPORT PERMIT REQUIRED

An import permit will be required on all imported seed potatoes planted or intended to be planted in Maine. Applications for an import permit can be obtained from the Division of Plant Industry, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. No import permit will be granted unless the Department determines that the seed potatoes to be imported meet all applicable standards for Maine certified seed potatoes.

3. ISSUANCE OF PERMIT REQUIRED

Upon approval of application by the Department, an import permit will be issued. Seven days prior to expected arrival date, the importer must notify the Division of Plant Industry's Inspector Supervisor at the Presque Isle office. The person to whom seed potatoes are being shipped shall be responsible for obtaining the proper permits.

4. PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE ALSO REQUIRED

In addition to the import permit required by section 1, the incoming shipment shall be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the exporting state or country affirming that:

A. Bacterial Ring Rot

1. The farm or farming operation on which the seed was produced has been free from bacterial ring rot (*Corynebacterium sepedonicum* or *Clavibacter michiganense* pv. *sepedonicum*) for the previous five (5) growing seasons.
2. The seed lot was found free of bacterial ring rot during the current growing and packing season inspection.

- B.** The seed lot was produced in an area free of Golden Nematode (*Globodera rostochiensis*), the Columbia Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne chitwoodi*) and potato wart (*Synchytrium endobioticum*).

5. TAGGING

All imported shipments of seed must be tagged as "Certified Seed Potatoes" or a similar designation indicating a higher quality. Certification must be done by a legal certifying agency in the State or country of origin. All shipments must be in new containers provided that in the case of bulk shipments, new trucks are not required where an inspector of the shipping state or country certifies that the truck has been satisfactorily cleaned and disinfected.

6. INSPECTION BEFORE DELIVERY

Any and all lots or shipments of imported seed potatoes must be held and not delivered until inspected by a member of Division of Plant Industry's Certified Seed Inspection Staff.

7. SAMPLE PLANTED AND OBSERVED

A sample taken at time of inspection of incoming seed will be planted and observed during the growing season for disease. content.

8. FORFEITURE

Any seed potatoes imported into the State of Maine in violation of this regulation shall immediately be sent out of the state or destroyed at the option and expense of the owners, his or their responsible agents and under the direction of the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

9. FEE

In 2007, the fee for an import permit shall be \$25.00 per application plus an additional \$0.10 per hundred weight except the additional per hundred weight fee is not charged when the application is for minitubers or plantlets. In 2008 and subsequent years, the fee for an import permit shall be \$25.00 per application plus an additional \$0.20 per hundred weight except the additional per hundred weight fee is not charged when the application is for minitubers or plantlets.

10. VIOLATIONS

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Chapter is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$500.00.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 7 M.R.S.A. §§ 2101 - 2105; 7 M.R.S.A. Chapter 1, §12; and
7 M.R.S.A. Chapter 411, §2352

EFFECTIVE DATE:
November 28, 1981 (Ch. 254)

AMENDED:
February 24, 1982 (EMERGENCY)
April 27, 1982 (repeal of Ch. 254 & Adoption of Ch. 255)
May 1, 1991

EFFECTIVE DATE (ELECTRONIC CONVERSION):
May 4, 1996

AMENDED:
July 8, 2007 – effective date of major substantive final adoption, filing 2007-238

CORRECTIONS:
February, 2014 – agency names, formatting

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
 Division of Animal and Plant Health
 744 Main Street, Suite 9
 Presque Isle, Maine 04769

Grower# 161

Inspector: Richards

Farm Name: Hemphill Farms, Inc.

CERTIFIED SEED POTATO INSPECTION APPLICATION

Application Due by June 14, 2024

I hereby apply for inspection of my seed potato acreage and agree to abide by the rules and regulations as prescribed by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (The Department). Copies of rules available upon request. The Department does the inspection work and must be regarded as a distri agency which, under no circumstances, assumes any business responsibility. In the event of a disagreement on the fitness of a particular seed lot, any settler must be between the grower and buyer of that seed. The Department, Division of Animal and Plant Health and its employees MAKE NO WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, either express or implied, including the IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, as to the quality of the seed or the quality of the crop produced from the certified seed potatoes. Certification represents only that the seed potatoes were inspected and certified in accordance with the laws and rules governing the certification of seed potatoes in the State of Maine.

Acres to Certify	BRR Acres Only	Variety	Cert # or Permit #	Seed Source	Field Year	Tuber Unit Planted?	Location on Farm
79.8		Russet B. ●	121	Whole seed Farms (NE)	FY2	✓	Allen Rd PI ^{Turner Farm}
24.4		Russet B. ●	161A	Hemphill Farms	FY3	✓	Allen Rd PI
21.8		Russet B. MT ●	120	Dodge Farms G2	FY3	✓	Turner Farm and Swinburn
6.2		Caribou Russet ●	122	CSS	FY2	✓	Swinburn Chapman
7.3		Caribou Russet ●	900I	MSPB	FY2	✓	Swinburn Chapman
84.7		Caribou Russet ●	161D	Hemphill Farms	FY3	✓	Swinburn Chapman
83.0		Caribou Russet ●	161E	Hemphill Farms	FY3	✓	Black Farm Castle
	133.1	Russet B. *	161A	Hemphill Farms	FY3	✓	Home Farm ^{Osgood} _{White Farm}
	58.7	Caribou Russet ●	161F	Hemphill Farms	FY4	✓	Home Farm Home PI
310.2	141.8	← Total Acreage					

Have you entered the total potato acreage? Yes No

Seed Class Qualifications

Foundation Seed - ALL POTATOES on the farm or farming operation MUST BE ENTERED for either certification or for Bacterial Ring Rot check.
 Nuclear Seed - ALL POTATOES on the farm or farming operation MUST BE ENTERED for certification, and any seed lot having a total virus content greater than 0.5% must be rogued prior to the first inspection.

Fees For 2024: Pre-Nuclear Seed: \$50/acre Field Year 1-5 Seed: \$50/acre Ring Rot Inspection only: \$25/acre

Full payment of the certification fee is required with application. Make your check payable to: "Treasurer, State of Maine". If the full application fee is not paid within 30 days, I agree to pay a one-time late fee of 10% and interest of 8% per annum on balances more than 30 days overdue.

Applicant: _____ Signed by: _____

Applicant must be the name that will appear on the tag. PLEASE NOTE: If the grower name at the top and applicant do not match we will change all records to applicant name.

Address: 49 Egypt Road Presque Isle ME 04769 E-mail: hemphillseedfarms@gmail.com

Telephone: (207) 768-1469 Fax: _____ Cell: 768-1468 Potato House Phone: 227-7757

For Office Use Only	# Prenuc: x \$50/acre =	# FY 1-5: x \$50/acre =	# Brr: x \$25/acre =
Date Rec'd:	Total \$ Due:	Amount Rec'd:	Balance Due:

Operations Center



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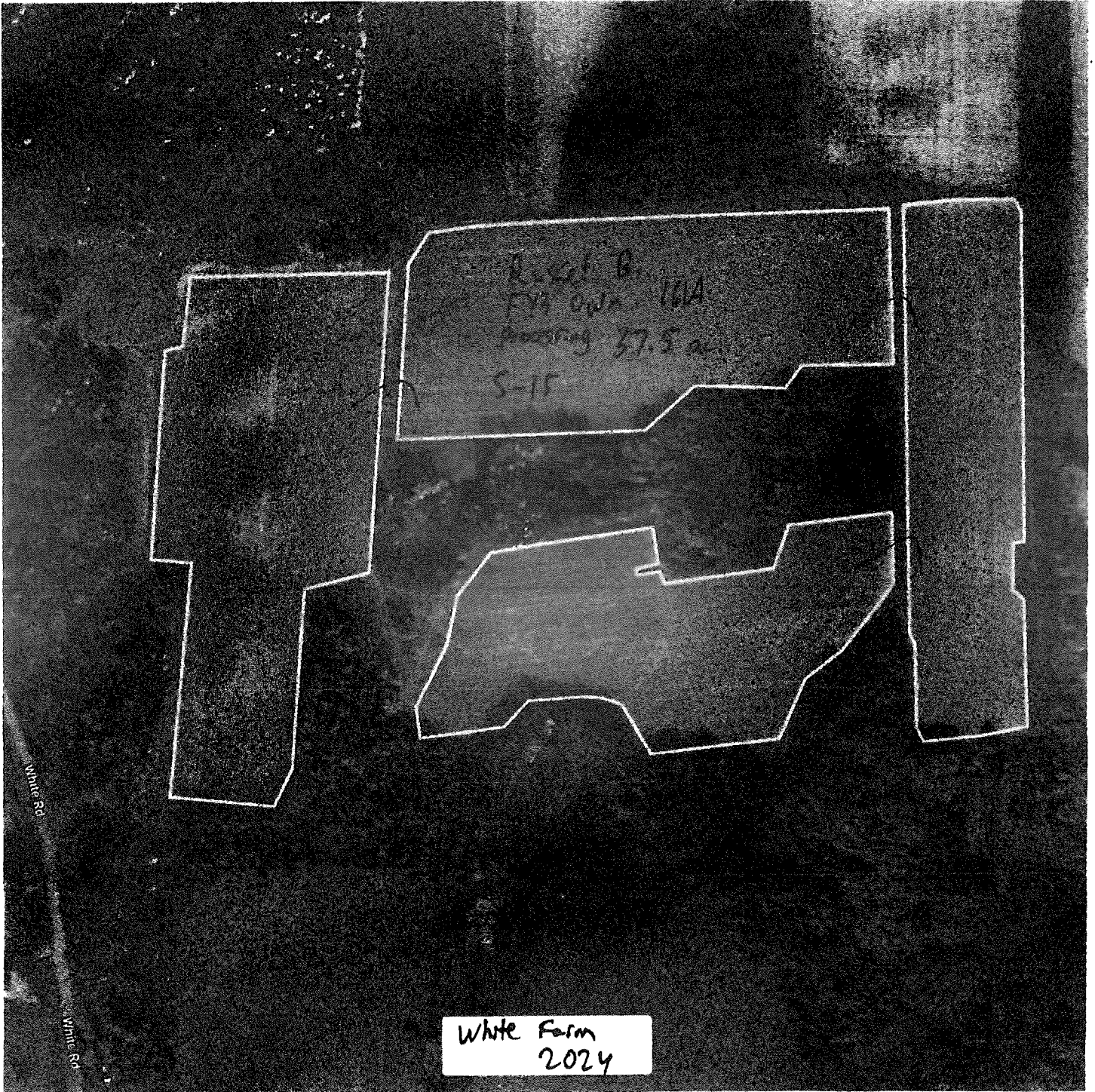
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Search



Operations Center



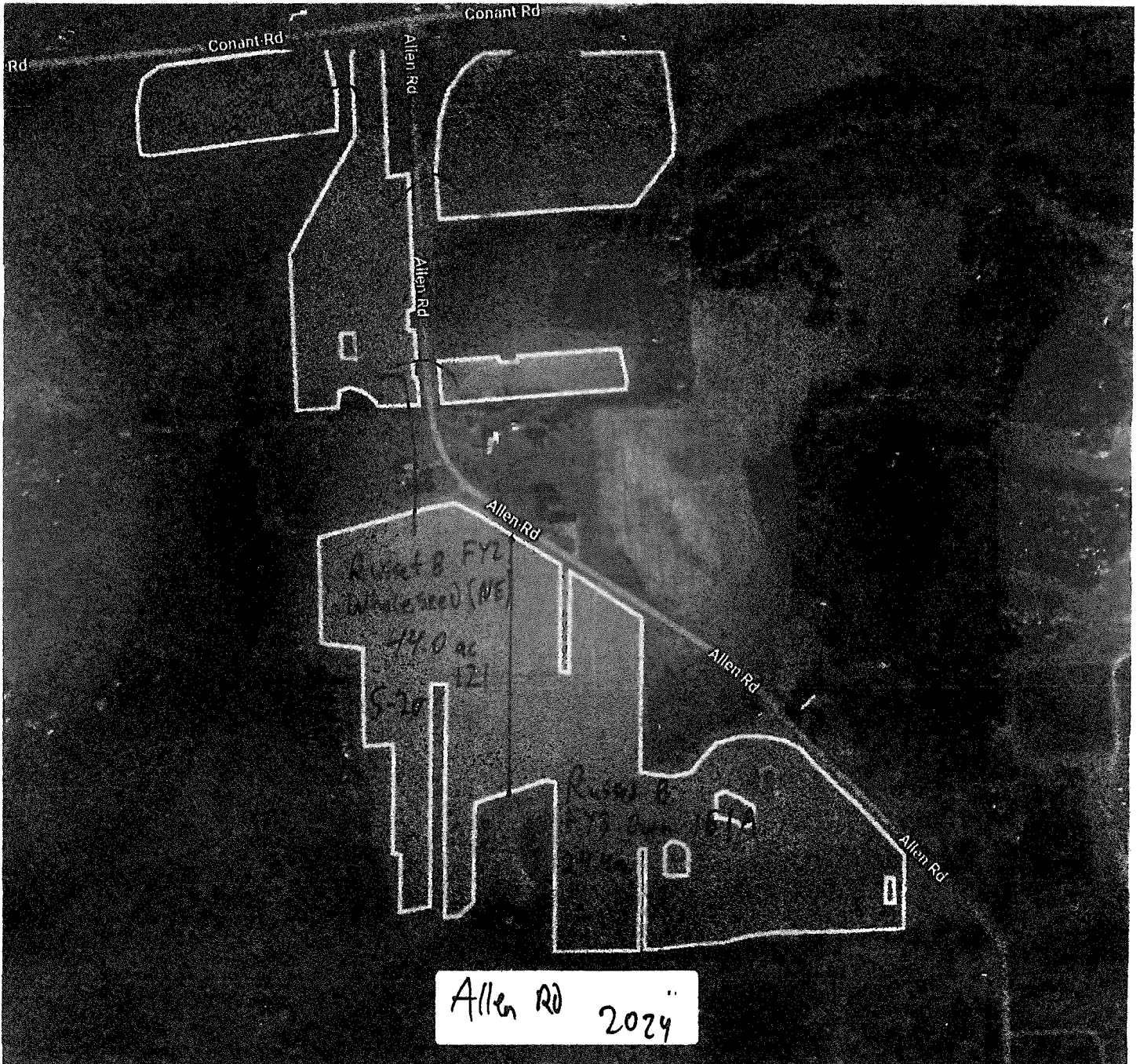
Map Setup ▾ Plan ▾ Analyze ▾ Sustainability ▾ More ▾



New ⓘ



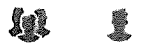
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Fields Equipment

Q Search

Operations Center



Map

Setup ▾

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Sustainability ▾

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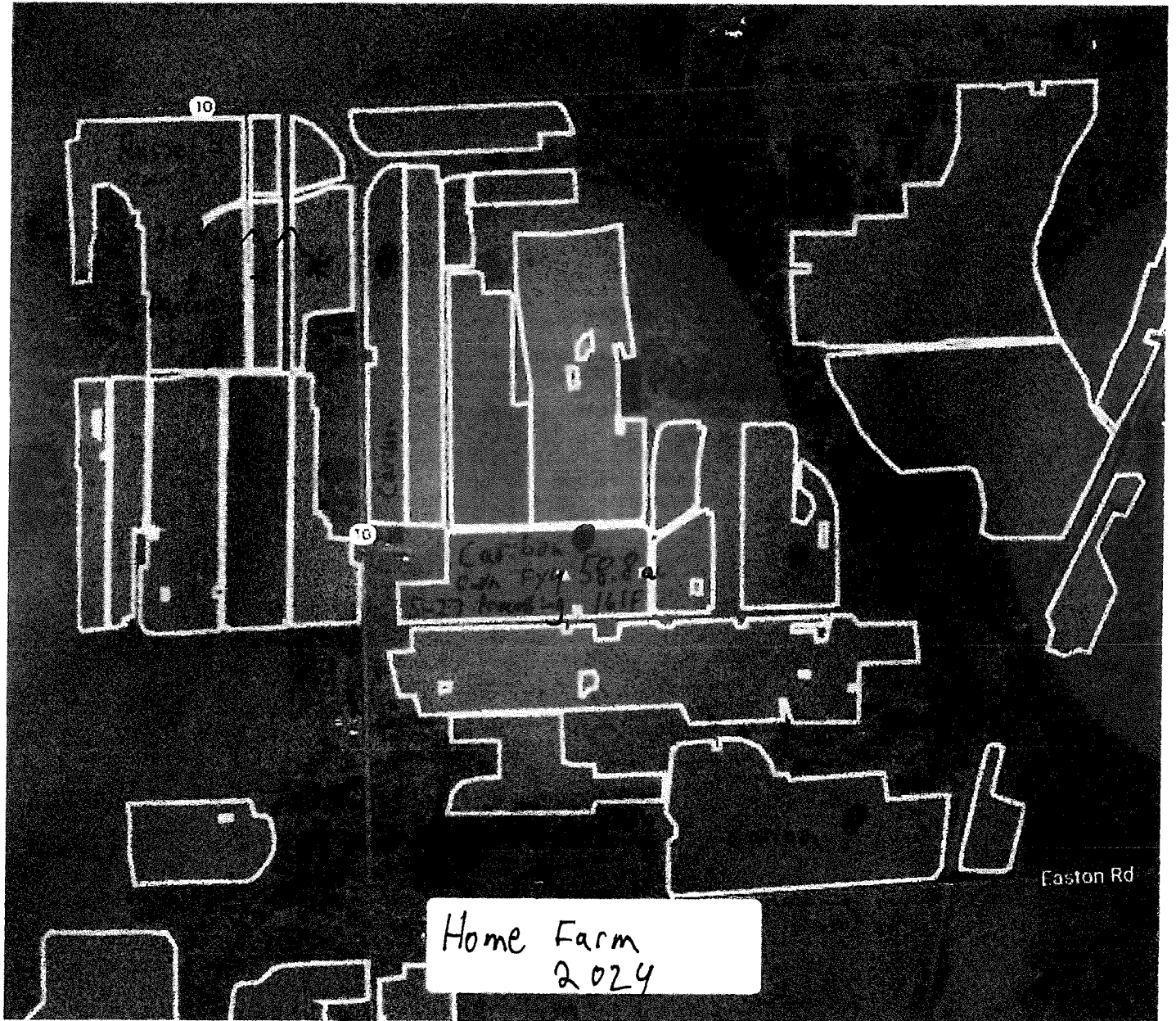


New ⓘ



12:00 AM

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Fields

Equipment

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Map

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Sustainability ▾

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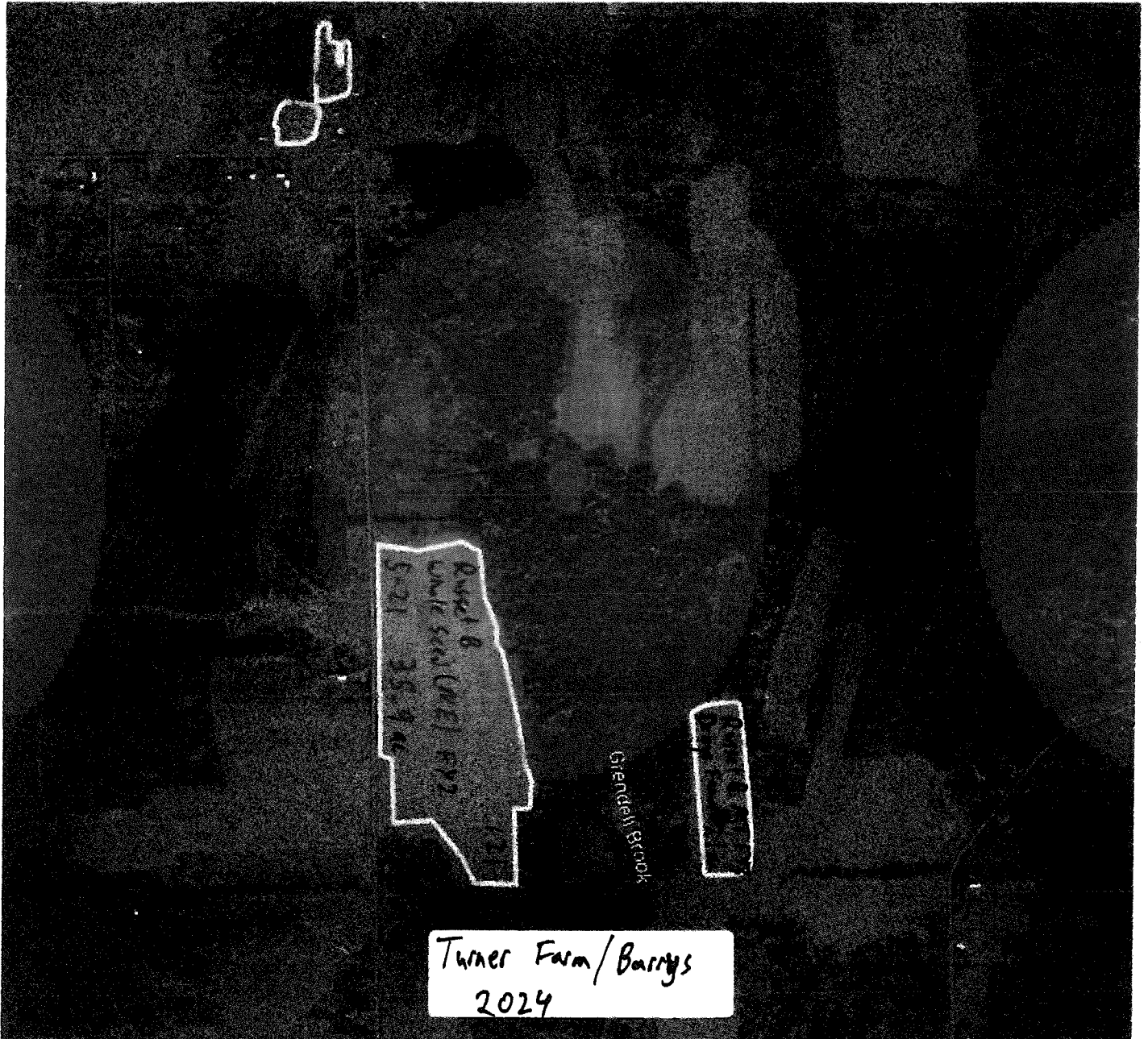


New ⓘ



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Fields

Equipment

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Operations Center



Map

Setup ▾

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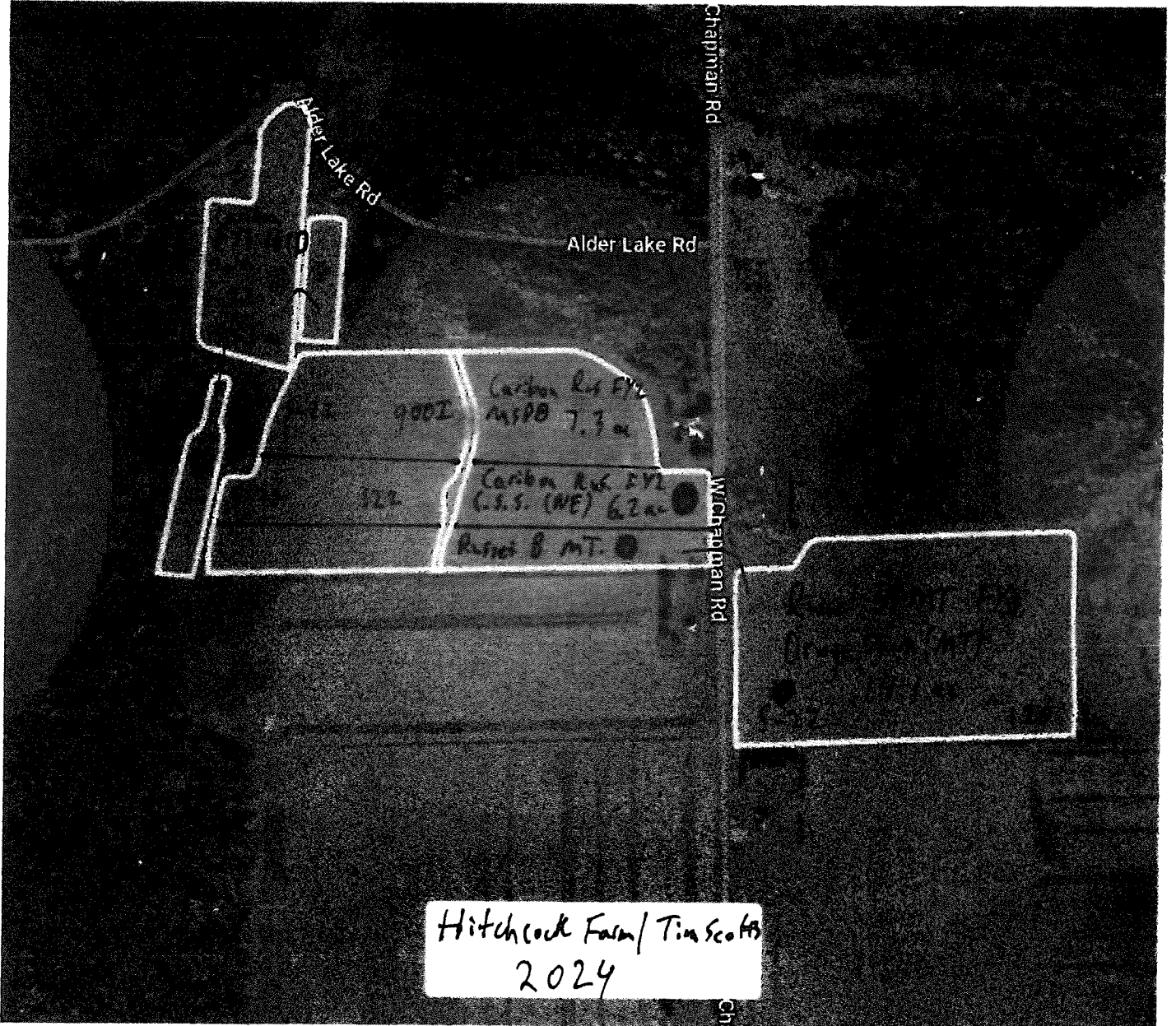


New ?



12:00 AM

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Fields

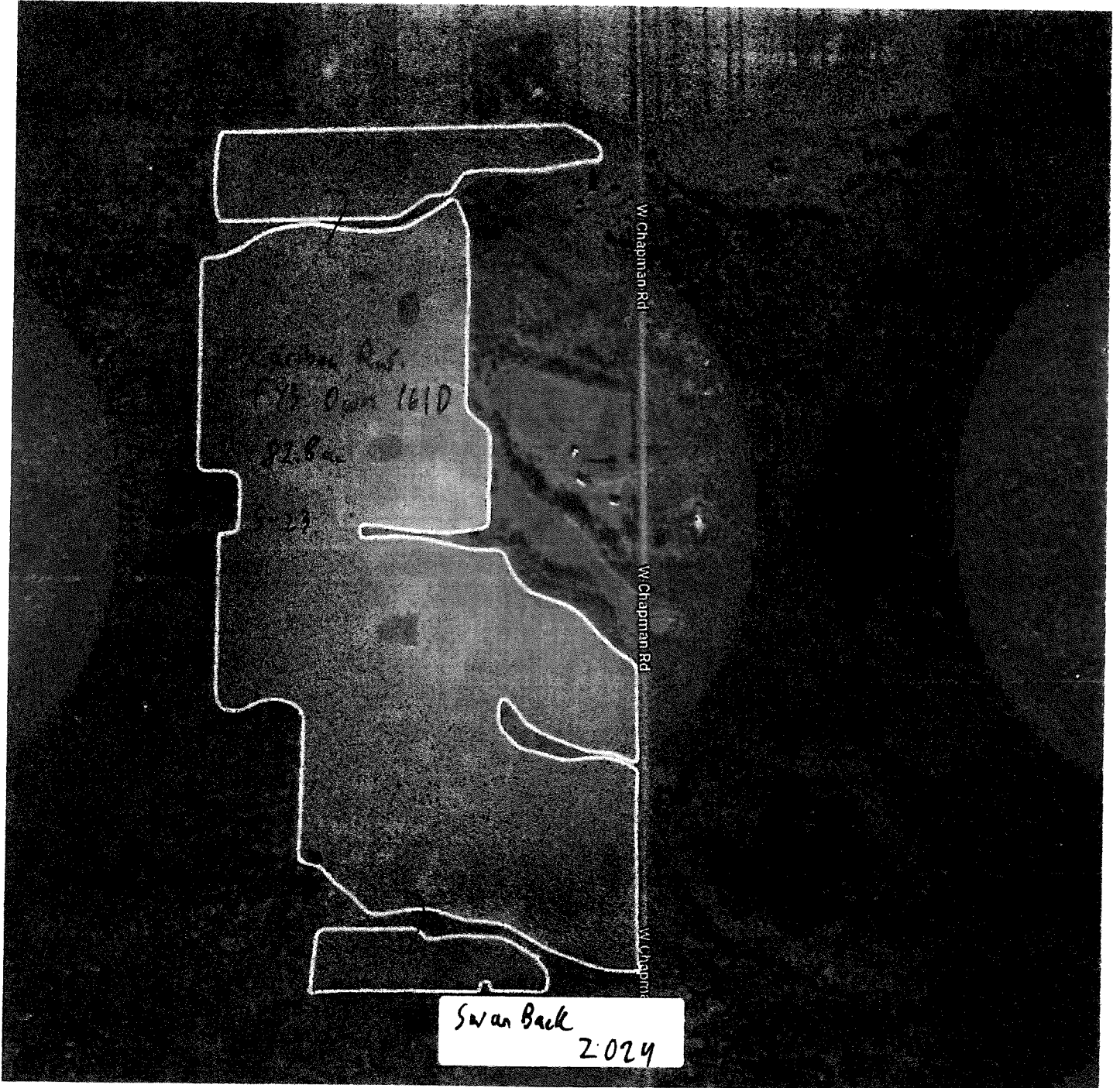
Equipment

🔍 Search



10:00 AM

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Fields Equipment

🔍 Search

Operations Center



Map Setup ▾ Plan ▾ Analyze ▾ Sustainability ▾ More ▾

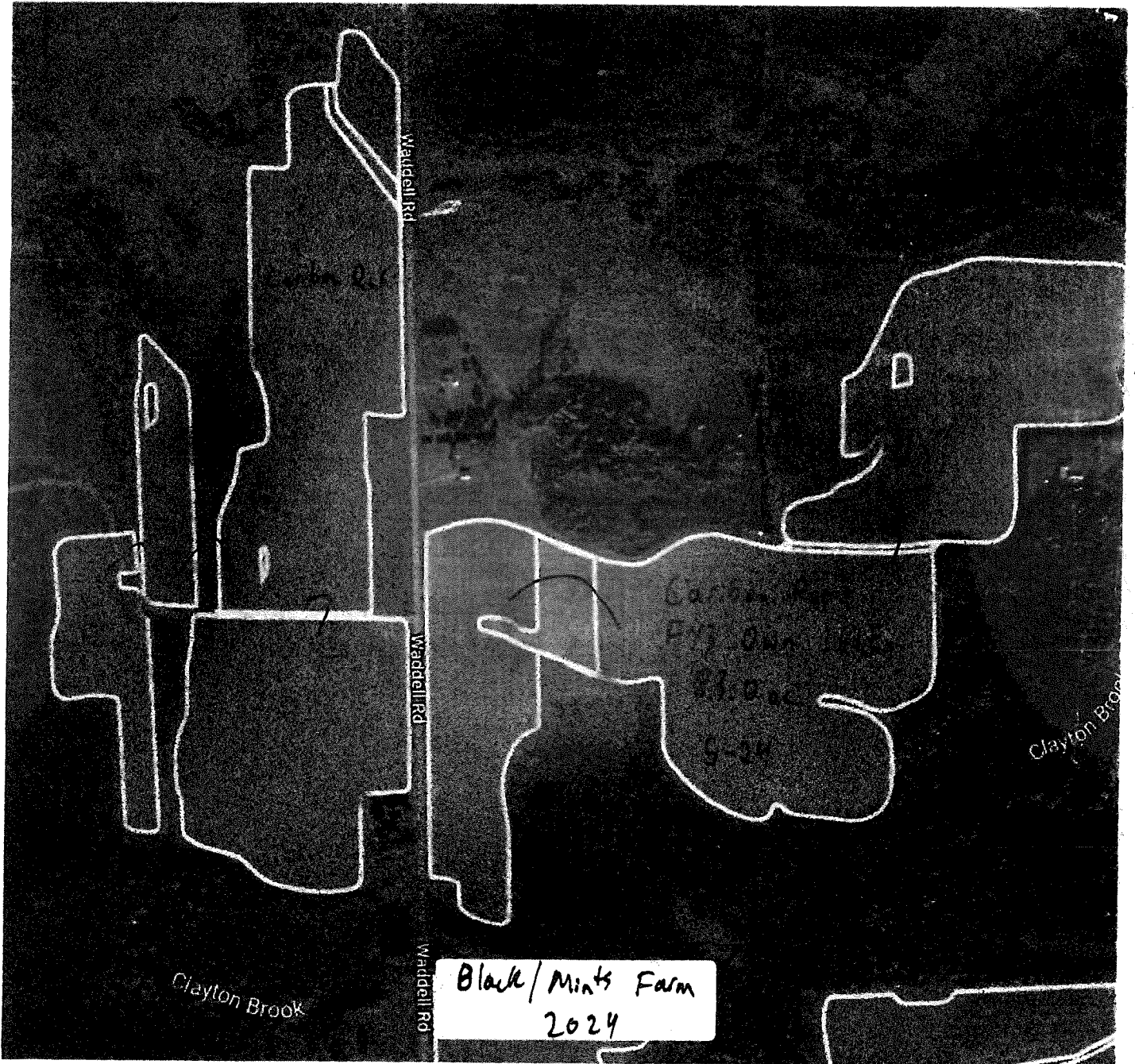


New ⓘ



12:00 PM

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Fields

Equipment

🔍 Search

Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry
 Division of Animal and Plant Health
 Field Inspection for Seed Potatoes



Crop Year: 2024
 Inspector: Richards

Gr#: 161

Hemphill Farms, Inc.
 49 Egypt Road, Presque Isle, ME 04769

Are all acres entered for inspection? Total Acres Entered in June: 502

Cert #	# Acres Certified	PN	BRR	TU	Variety	Seed Source	1st Reading %				Date of Insp	2nd Reading %				Date of Insp	Passed Y/N	Qualifies for Gen #
							Mos	LR	Mix	BL		Mos	LR	Mix	BL			
161A	79.8	0	0	N	Russet Burbank	IP121-WHOLE SEED FARM-2	0.01	/	/	/	7/18/24	0.01	/	/	/	8/8	Y	FY 3
161B	24.4	0	0	N	Russet Burbank	161A-OWN-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Y	FY 4
161C	21.8	0	0	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	IP120-DROGE FARMS-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Y	FY 4
161D	6.2	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	IP122-CSS FARMS-2	0.4	/	/	/		0.7	/	/	/		Y	FY 3
161E	7.3	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	900I-MSPB-2	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Y	FY 3
161F	87.7	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	161D-OWN-3	0.2	/	0.01	/		0.8	/	0.01	/		Y	FY 4
161G	83	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	161E-OWN-3	0.3	/	/	/		0.3	/	/	/		Y	FY 4
161H	0	0	133.1	N	Russet Burbank	161A-OWN-3												
161I	0	0	58.7	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	161F-OWN-4												
Totals:	310.2	0	192															

1) Location of seedlots: See Map 2) Where applicable, the grower claims these strains and numbered seedlings to be as written. These seed potato inspections are for disease and varietal purposes only.

Inspector signature

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
Division of Animal and Plant Health
Field Inspection for Seed Potatoes

Crop Year: 2022
 Inspector: Richards
 Gr#: 161

Hemphill Farms, Inc.
 49 Egypt Road, Presque Isle, ME 04769

Are all acres entered for inspection? Total Acres Entered in June: 314.1

Cert #	# Acres Certified	PN	BRR	TU	Variety	Seed Source	1st Reading %				Date of Insp	2nd Reading %				Date of Insp	Passed Y/N	Qualifies for Gen #
							Mos	LR	Mix	BL		Mos	LR	Mix	BL			
161A	42.8	0	0	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	IP71-DROGE FARMS-3	/	/	/	/	7/23	/	/	/	/	8/24	Yes	FT 4
161B	76.1	0	0	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	161F-OWN-4	0x	/	/	/		0.5	/	/	/		Yes	FT 5
161C	5.7	0	0	N	Atlantic	900I-MSPB-2	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FT 3
161D	8.2	0	0	N	Atlantic	900J-MSPB-3	0.5	/	/	/		0.8	/	/	/		Yes	FT 4
161E	38.3	0	0	N	Atlantic	161A-OWN-4	1.0	/	/	/		1.6	/	/	/		Yes	FT 5
161F	15.2	0	0	N	Lamoka (PVP)	900U-MSPB-73	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FT 4
161G	16.5	0	0	N	Snowden	900(2)J-MSPB-3	0.5	/	/	/		0.5	/	/	/		Yes	FT 4
161H	10.8	0	0	N	Waneta (PVP)	900(2)Q-MSPB-3	/	/	/	/		.01	/	/	/		Yes	FT 4
161I	18.2	0	0	N	Waneta (PVP)	161K-OWN-4	0.5	/	/	/		0.5	/	/	/		Yes	FT 5
161J	0	0	19.9	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	216B-BILL BOYD-4												
161K	0	0	62.4	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	161F-OWN-4												
Totals:	231.8	0	82.3															

1) Location of seedlots: See Map 2) Where applicable, the grower claims these strains and numbered seedlings to be as written. These seed potato inspections are for disease and varietal purposes only. _____ Inspector signature

Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry
Division of Animal and Plant Health
Field Inspection for Seed Potatoes

Crop Year: 2023
 Inspector: Richards

Gr#: 161

Hemphill Farms, Inc.
 49 Egypt Road, Presque Isle, ME 04769

Are all acres entered for inspection? Total Acres Entered in June: 496.9

Cert #	# Acres Certified	PN	BRR	TU	Variety	Seed Source	1st Reading %				Date of Insp	2nd Reading %				Date of Insp	Passed Y/N	Qualifies for Gen #
							Mos	LR	Mix	BL		Mos	LR	Mix	BL			
161A	22.3	0	0	N	Russet Burbank	IP56-WHOLE SEED FARM-2	.01	/	/	/	7/24/23	.01	/	/	/	8/3	Yes	FY3
161B	21.5	0	0	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	IP57-DRUGE FARM-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161C	101.3	0	0	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	161A-OWN-4	0.8	/	/	/		1.0	/	/	/		Yes	FY5
161D	7.1	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	IP55-CSS FARM-2	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY3
161E	7.8	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	900I-MSPB-2	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY3
161F	89.1	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	44C-WC DOYEN-3	0.2	/	/	/		0.4	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161G	11.6	0	0	N	Snowden	900(2)F-MSPB-3	.01	/	/	/		.01	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161H	15.6	0	0	N	Snowden	44C-WC DOYEN-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161I	4.6	0	0	N	Waneta (PVP)	900(2)H-MSPB-2	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY3
161J	10.6	0	0	N	Waneta (PVP)	900(2)H-MSPB-3	.01	/	/	/		.01	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161K	18.5	0	0	N	Waneta (PVP)	44S-WC DOYEN-3	0.2	/	/	/		0.2	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161L	11	0	0	N	Atlantic	900G-MSPB-2	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY3
161M	8.7	0	0	N	Atlantic	900H-MSPB-3	.01	/	/	/		.01	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161N	38	0	0	N	Atlantic	44A-WC DOYEN-3	0.5	/	/	/		0.7	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161O	41.7	0	0	N	Atlantic	161C-OWN-3	0.4	/	/	/		0.7	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161P	17.8	0	0	N	Lamoka (PVP)	900R-MSPB-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161Q	12	0	0	N	Lamoka (PVP)	44H-WC DOYEN-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Yes	FY4
161R	0	0	57.7	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	161A-OWN-4												
Totals:	439.2	0	57.7															

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Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry
Division of Animal and Plant Health
Field Inspection for Seed Potatoes

Crop Year: 2024
 Inspector: Richards

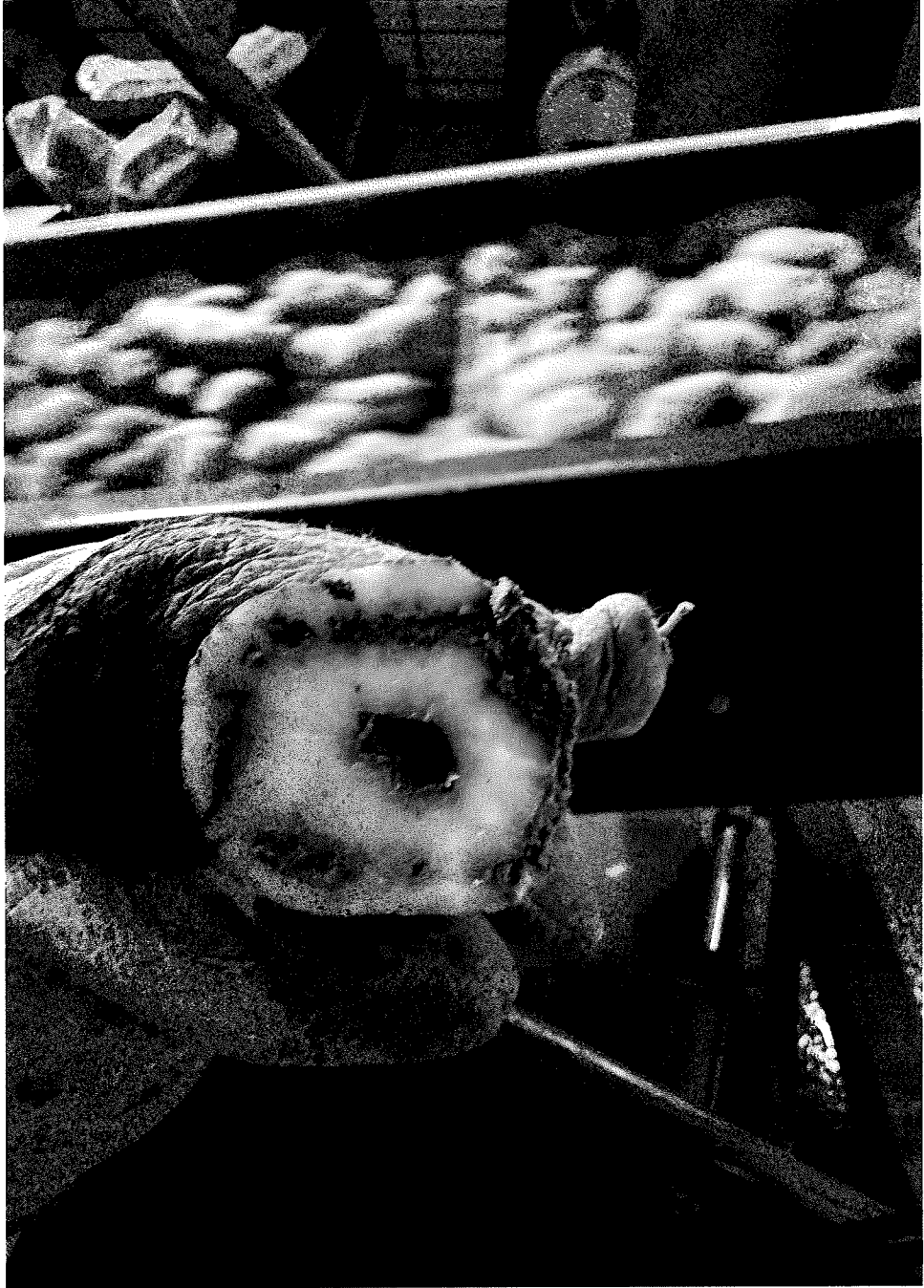
Gr#: 161

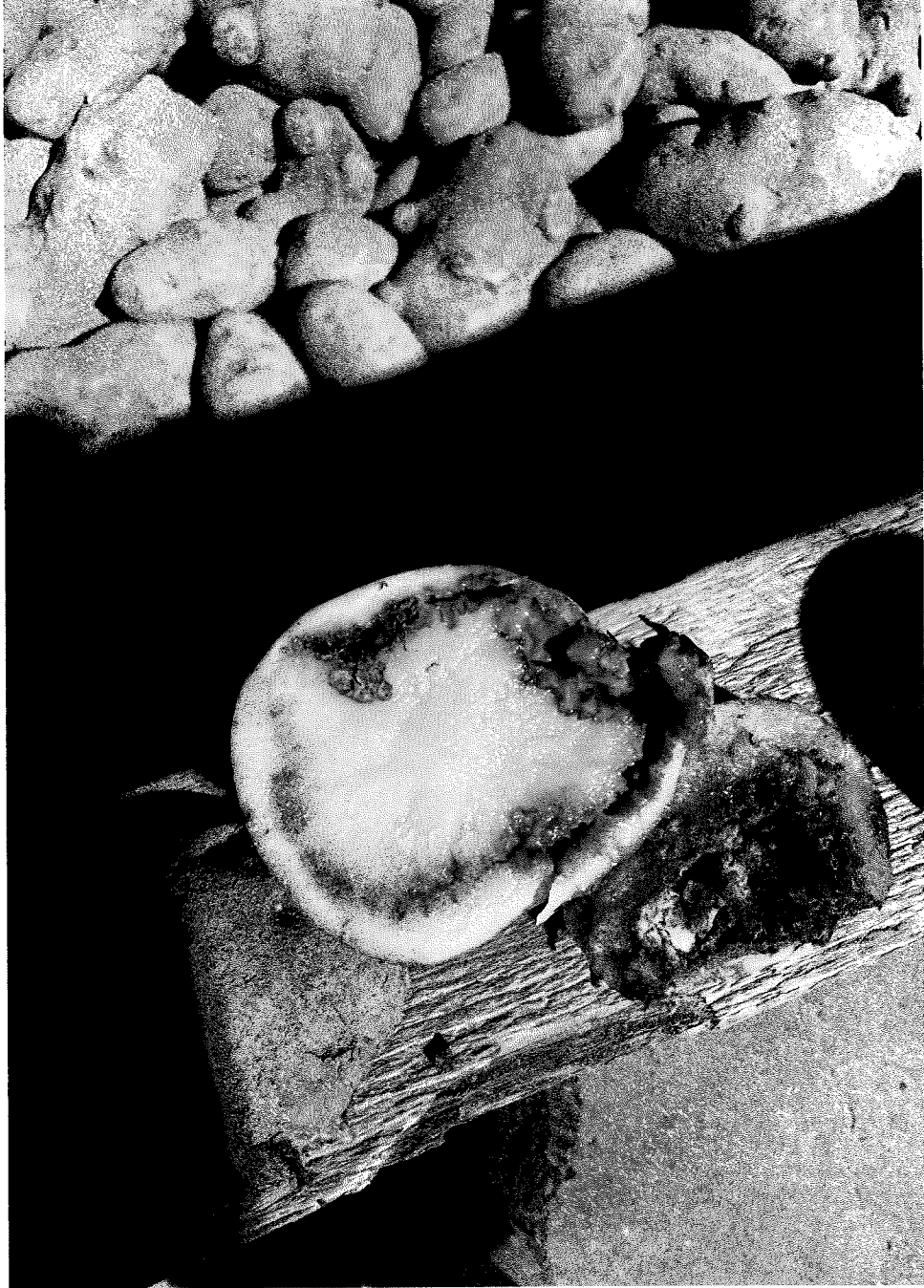
Hemphill Farms, Inc.
 49 Egypt Road, Presque Isle, ME 04769

Are all acres entered for inspection? Total Acres Entered in June: 502

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							Mos	LR	Mix	BL		Mos	LR	Mix	BL			
161A	79.8	0	0	N	Russet Burbank	IP121-WHOLE SEED FARM-2	.01	/	/	/	7/8/24	.01	/	/	/	8/8	Y	FY 3
161B	24.4	0	0	N	Russet Burbank	161A-OWN-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Y	FY 4
161C	21.8	0	0	N	Russet Burbank (MT Strain)	IP120-DROGE FARMS-3	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Y	FY 4
161D	6.2	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	IP122-CSS FARMS-2	0.4	/	/	/		0.7	/	/	/		Y	FY 3
161E	7.3	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	900I-MSPB-2	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/		Y	FY 3
161F	87.7	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	161D-OWN-3	0.1	/	.01	/		0.8	/	.01	/		Y	FY 4
161G	83	0	0	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	161E-OWN-3	0.3	/	/	/		0.3	/	/	/		Y	FY 4
161H	0	0	133.1	N	Russet Burbank	161A-OWN-3												
161I	0	0	58.7	N	Caribou Russet (PVP)	161F-OWN-4												
Totals:	310.2	0	192															

1) Location of seedlots: See Map 2) Where applicable, the grower claims these strains and numbered seedlings to be as written. These seed potato inspections are for disease and varietal purposes only. _____ Inspector signature

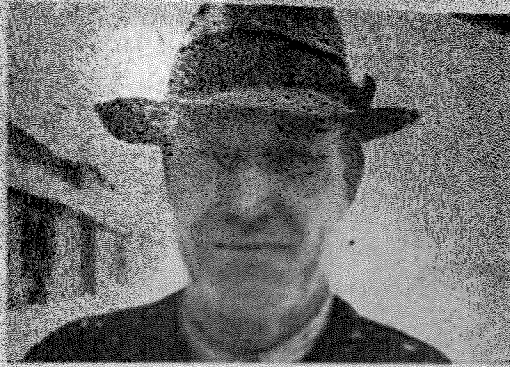






ned seed." November 28, 1944.

Robert M. Heath



R. S. HEMPHILL, Easton

"I raised 10 acres Cobblers and 14 acres Sebagos this season that were certified." December 15, 1944.

R. S. Hemphill

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