USE OF CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES

Benefits of Quality Seed Potatoes

Quality seed potatoes are known to have a varietal identity and be free of harmful organisms. The use of high-quality planting material is the most important strategy available to potato growers to ensure high yields whilst minimising inputs, particularly pesticides, and avoiding crop losses due to disease and other quality issues.

**PEOPLE**
- Better quality potatoes
- Affordable and reliable supply of potatoes to consumers
- Enhanced food security through sustainable production

**PLANET**
- Reduced reliance on pesticides
- More efficient use of natural resources (land and water)
- Sustainable potato production
  - Less wastage in potato production due to pests and disease

**PROFIT**
- Increased profitability from high yielding potato crops
- Improved, reliable and dependable seed performance
- Mitigation of yield limiting risk factors resulting in the improved crop performance and quality
- Enhanced partnership between seed potato producers and growers

The use of quality seed potatoes contributes to increased yield and marketability of potato crops by managing seed borne potato diseases and pests. Other benefits include limiting the spread and introduction of pests and diseases into new potato production areas.

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

Examples of pests and disease issues mitigated by the use of quality seed potatoes:

- **Potato Leaf Roll Virus**
- **Brown Rot**
- **Potato Cyst Nematode**