



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
16 February 2023

Original: English only

Economic Commission for Europe

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes

Fiftieth session

Geneva, 16–17 March 2023

Item 9 (a) of the provisional agenda

Knowledge-sharing and capacity-building:

Seed potato webinar series

Proposals for webinars

Submitted by the rapporteur's group

Summary

At its 2022 session, the Specialized Section decided to set up a working group to develop an online webinar series (Australia (rapporteur), Finland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America). This note lists the proposals for webinars discussed so far.

The Specialized Section is invited to discuss these proposals and provide additional proposals for capacity-building.

Proposed topics and speakers for the seed potato webinar series

The rapporteur's group has proposed for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) to collaborate with the World Potato Congress in developing and hosting the webinar series, with the Specialized Section taking the lead on identifying topics and speakers, and the World Potato Congress providing the online platform and assisting with outreach.

The webinars would be held in English only due to a lack of resources for interpretation.

The proposed topics and speakers are listed below. The Specialized Section is invited to discuss these proposals, suggest additional or alternative topics or speakers, as well as provide other proposals for capacity-building.

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Proposed speaker(s)</i>
The UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes	Specialized Section Bureau: Hanna Kortemaa, Nigel Crump, Nina Zidack
Herbicide damage	Dr. Andy Robinson, Associate Professor/Agronomist-Potatoes, University of North Dakota, United States
Blackleg	Dr. Steven Johnson, Crops Specialist and Extension Professor, Maine Food and Agriculture Center, University of Maine, United States
	Dr. Ian Toth, Senior Scientist, Cell and Molecular Sciences, The James Hutton Institute, Scotland, United Kingdom
<i>Liberibacter</i> (Zebra Chip)	Dr. Jessica Dohmen-Vereijssen, Science Team Leader / Senior Scientist, The New Zealand Institute for Plant and Food Research, New Zealand
Potato virus Y (dormant tuber)	Dr. Christophe Lacomme, Senior Virologist, SASA, Scottish Government Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate, Scotland, United Kingdom
Potato mop-top virus	Prof. Lesley Torrance, Director of Science, The James Hutton Institute, Scotland, United Kingdom
	Dr. Lea Hiltunen, Senior Research Scientist, Natural Resources Institute, Finland