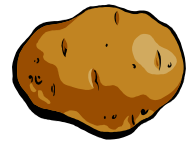


NEW ZEALAND SEED POTATO CERTIFICATION AUTHORITY



Newsletter – November 2009

Reminders and field day information on 26th November 2009. The field day info is printed on the reverse side.

REMINDER ABOUT NZ GAP

The August newsletter included the following information about the NZGAP quality assurance program. Growers are reminded of the requirement for certified seed growers to be NZGAP registered by 31st of October this year (a week ago!!) there is a tick box on the field day attendance section on the reverse of this newsletter to be completed so we can confirm those that have completed the initial NZGAP application process.

New Zealand Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) is a quality assurance programme that provides a traceable, accountable system for fruit, vegetables, olives and flowers.

In the marketplace, accreditation to a quality assurance programme is increasingly a condition of supply; GAP gives you that. It also adds to the traceability and quality assurance requirements of the seed potato certification scheme.

Potatoes New Zealand and the New Zealand Seed Potato Certification Authority are working together to ensure all growers producing certified seed are registered for NZ GAP before 31 October 2009. We're aiming for approval to be finalised before 31st October 2010.

What are the benefits to you?

- Providing customers with assurance that your produce is safe
- Proof that you're committed to food safety, environmental and quality assurance
- Support from all major fresh produce retailers and wholesalers in New Zealand, by making accreditation as an Approved Supplier a condition of market access
- Support from the New Zealand Food Safety Authority
- Use of GAP logos and promotional material for your own marketing
- Reassuring overseas retailers that you are committed to good agricultural practice
- Having a useful management tool to bring together processes, policies and regulatory requirements
- Improving business practices, and
- Saving time and money.

GAP is run by Horticulture NZ. More information can be found online at: www.newzealandgap.co.nz

FEES and APPLICATIONS FOR THE COMING SEASON:

The fee summary sheet and Grower applications were sent out with the August newsletter. Please contact Evan Johnston if you have any queries or need further copies.

The fee for this season will be **\$220 per hectare (excluding GST)**. Payment of this is 50% with application and 50% on May 31st 2010.

Where there are multiple plantings in one paddock, please indicate the planting positions in the plan box on the reverse side of the application form and don't forget the markers in the paddock!!!!

Please remember to enter the IVA you have chosen for the PCN/Wart compliance programme. ALL certified seed crops must be entered into the programme (rule 16).

The closing date of 21 days after planting continues. **A certification tag from each seedline entered must be included with your completed application.** Acceptance of late seed certification entries is at the discretion ofASUREQuality and SGS.

NOVEMBER 26th FIELD DAY – BACK TO SCHOOL!!!

A draft agenda for the field day (1/2 day) on November 26th has been completed. We have booked a computer lecture room at Lincoln University. This will allow each attendee the opportunity to use a computer terminal and log into the Potatoes NZ and MAF BNZ websites. The agenda is:

Date: November 26th 2009
Venue: Lincoln University (meet at AsureQuality office)
Time: 1.30pm

Welcome

- 1.45 pm. NZGAP program – Quality Assurance / Market Access
- 2.15 pm. Leaf Sampling
- 2.30 pm. Potatoes NZ / MAF BNZ websites
- 3.30 pm. Mystery Guest
- 4.30 pm. Close

There are a limited number of computer terminals in the lecture room so I need to know the numbers attending (in case we need to 'buddy up' for some terminals). **Could you please fill in the section below and fax back to: Evan Johnston – 03 325 7088 thank you.**

First Name	Surname	Phone or Cell Contact Number

<input type="checkbox"/>	I / We will be attending the field day	<input type="checkbox"/>	I will not be attending the field day
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have registered for NZGAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have not registered for NZGAP

CONTACTS:

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