

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New Draft of H.P. 249, L.D. 303)  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1572

H.P. 1080

House of Representatives, May 23, 1985

Reported by the Minority from the Committee on Agriculture and  
printed under Joint Rule 2. Original bill presented by Representative Tardy of  
Palmyra.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Revise Rules Governing  
Certification of Seed Potatoes.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as  
follows:

7 MRSA §2103-A, as amended by PL 19783, c. 727,  
is further amended to read:

§2103-A. Certification of seed potatoes

~~Foundation seed~~ Seed potatoes ~~purchased~~ acquired  
from the state seed potato farm, or from another nu-  
clear seed generation source, shall not be ~~designated~~  
~~"certified seed"~~ certified beyond 5 generations of  
the seed originally acquired. Seed potatoes imported  
into the State shall meet the state's certification  
standards and all import certificates shall designate  
the imported seed's generation, which shall equal and  
compare to a state certified seed designation. The  
imported seed shall "flush out" at the same rate as

1 the equivalent state seed generation. Imported seed  
2 potatoes, where the generation cannot be demon-  
3 strated, shall be eligible for certification for no  
4 more than one generation of in-state propagation.

5 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the commissioner  
6 shall designate as experimental those seed potato va-  
7 rieties and seedlings which originally derive from  
8 sources other than the State's seed potato farm or  
9 another known nuclear seed generation source; pro-  
10 vided that the designation shall not be applied to  
11 seed potatoes of a variety or seedling which were  
12 certified on more than 100 acres in the immediately  
13 preceding growing year; and provided further that  
14 seed potatoes, once designated as experimental, shall  
15 be subject to certification for up to 7 generations  
16 as long as all other certification requirements con-  
17 tinue to be met.

18 No seed potato may be designated "certified seed"  
19 certified which has not been winter tested. Seed  
20 shipped before winter test results are available will  
21 be "certified" based on field certification.

22 The commissioner may withhold from certification  
23 for in-state sales for that year any seed potatoes  
24 grown on a farm on which bacterial ring rot has been  
25 detected.

26 The commissioner may, upon application of one or  
27 more growers, and for good cause, temporarily waive  
28 ~~either~~ any or all of these requirements.

#### 29 STATEMENT OF FACT

30 The purpose of this new draft is to uphold and  
31 clarify the purposes of the State's seed potato cer-  
32 tification program, while providing for an extended  
33 "flush-out" program for experimental varieties of  
34 seed potatoes.

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