

Decree Nr 1062/1
conditions to import potato seeds
for the 2012-2013 season

The Minister of Agriculture,
Based on Decree Nr 5818 dated 3.6.2011 (forming of the Government)
Based on Decree Nr 5246 dated 20.6.1994 (organization of the Ministry of Agriculture)
Based on Law Nr 31.01.1955 (specifying the role of the Ministry of Agriculture)
Based on Law Nr 778 dated 28.11.2006 (Plant Quarantine & Phytosanitary Measures)
Based on Decree Nr 24/1 dated 19.1.2010 (Forming of a committee to improve the potato crop)
Based on the study established by the Agricultural Resources Directorate on 1.11.2012 under Nr 4942/4
Based on the recommendation of the Director General of Agriculture
Decreases the following :

Article 1 : Import of potato seeds for the 2012-2013 season is allowed within the conditions and specifications stated in the following articles
Seed potatoes for the 2011-2012 season are allowed to be imported from the following countries : NETHERLANDS, GERMANY, FRANCE, UNITED KINGDOM, IRELAND, SCOTLAND, CANADA (Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick), BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG, DENMARK, AUSTRIA.

Article 2 : Import period of the potato seeds is fixed as from 1st December 2012 until 1st February 2013 inclusive

Article 3 : It is allowed only to import the varieties listed in Annex 1.

Article 4 : It is allowed to import potato seeds within the following sizes :
28 - 35 mm and 35-55 mm.

Article 5 : The potato seeds are imported according to the following specifications :

- 1- Soil in each bag should not exceed one per cent of the net weight and the potato seeds tubers should be fully mature with all the characteristics of the variety
- 2- The tubers should be complete and not damaged by insects or machines, with mechanical damage not to exceed 2% of the number of tubers per each bag.
- 3- Sprouts on the tubers should not exceed 15 mm – applicable for not more than 20% of tubers in the each bag.
- 4- The tubers should be treated with an agricultural fungicide.
- 5- The seed should be of the 2012 year's production
- 6- The bags should be jute bags, same size, clean, new and not used, The weight of a bag should be 25kg or 50 kg sealed by the official authorities in the country of origin.
- 7- Each bag should contain, on the outside, a label or "étiquette" from the official authorities in the country of origin containing the following information: species, variety, class, size, net weight, origin, year of production, grower's number, bagging date and a statement that the tubers are treated with an agricultural fungicide and mention the name of the fungicide used.

Article 6: Potato seeds are allowed to be imported only in selected Class Super Elite and/or Class Elite.

Article 7 : Every potato seeds shipment should be accompanied by the following certificates to be presented to the inspection committee formed by the Minister of Agriculture as mentioned in Article 11 of this decree :

- 1- Original phytosanitary certificate – a copy of same is not accepted – to state that the shipment is free from Quarantine diseases mentioned in **Annex (2)** and tubers are treated with fungicides. An additional declaration for Phytosanitary Certificate is required indicating that the consignment comply with percentage of diseases mentioned in **Annex (3)**.
The additional declaration of the phytosanitary certificate should include the following statement: “The potato seeds are produced in an area free from *Synchytrium endobioticum* (sholb) and *Ralstonia Solanacerum* for at least five years and from *Clavibacter michiganensis* for at least three years
- 2- Certificate of origin or EUR.1 certificate or certificate from an approved exporter authorized by customs.
- 3- Certificate mention that producer or exporter of tubers is specialized in production or exportation of potato seeds.
- 4- Original Certificate attesting that potato seeds imported are produced under the control of the NPPO or the Body nominated by the official authority, and the norms and standards of consignment is equivalent to this decree
- 5- A register/report of the temperature of the container or vessel during all the shipping period.
- 6- A list showing the growers names in the country of origin and their growing regions and their numbers on the labels

Article 8 : Potato seeds can be imported into Lebanon through following borders: Beirut Port and Tripoli Port.

Article 9 : The Potato seeds are allowed to be imported;

- 1- In reefer containers stowed on pallets covered with a suitable mesh (net) cover.
- 2- In reefer vessels according to the following conditions:
 - a) Stowed on pallets covered with a suitable mesh (net) cover.
 - b) The content of each pallet is for one single farmer.
 - c) The vessel will be unloaded in layers. It is forbidden to unload any layer before the previous layer is inspected and the lab results are issued and are acceptable.

Article 10 : Each importer should inform the Potato seeds inspection committee stated in Article 11 about each seed consignment’s arrival, at least 3 days before its arrival to the border point, as well as about any change which might occur in the arrival date.

Article 11 : The Potato seeds consignments are inspected as follows:

- 1- **In Lebanese border points:** By a committee to be appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, and called “Potato seeds inspection committee”. This committee has the right to control, inspect and reject any consignment not in conformity with the technical conditions stated in this decree. In case of any quantity or shipment’s rejection, it is re-exported at the importing company’s expenses
- 2- The committee has to take Potato seeds samples and submit them to laboratory analysis (for Quarantine Diseases – Brown Rot & Ring Rot) at the laboratory of the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute, or any other laboratory the committee sees appropriate, all this at the importer’s expenses. No clearing of the imported seed potatoes from the

Customs premises is allowed before the laboratory analysis results are obtained and thus getting the committee's approval.

- 3- Any company or party proved to have imported seed not in conformity with the specifications required or not according to the class specified or showing that the accompanying documents are not fit to reality, such an infringing company or party is bound for appropriate penalties.

Article 12 : To facilitate the inspection operations and supervision before and after planting operations, the importers of Potato seeds should supply the Plant Resources Directorate in the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture a list covering the names of the Lebanese farmers to whom the Potato seeds quantity has been distributed, together with the growers numbers of the potato seeds in the country of origin as stated on the labels (“**étiquettes**”), and that before the first of March 2013 for Farmers of Akkar and before the first of May 2013 for Farmers of Bekaa. The importers who do not abide by this rule will be forbidden to import in the coming season.

Article 13: The necessary legal measures will be taken against whoever does not abide by the conditions of this decree,

Article 14 : It is canceled any text coming in contradiction with the content of this decree

Article 15: This decree will be published in the official journal and comes into force upon its issuance and notified wherever needed

Beiruton 2/11/2012
Minister of Agriculture
Dr. Hussein ElHage Hassan

Copies to be notified to :

Presidency of the Council of Ministers
Official Journal
Central Inspection Council
Agricultural Inspection
Ministry of Economy and Trade
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Customs High Council
Customs General Directorate
Lebanese Institute of Agronomical Research
Chamber of Trade, Industry, and Agriculture
Agricultural Resources Directorate
Central and regional agricultural units
Agricultural quarantine points
Importing companies
Members of the committee to improve the potato crop
Records

Annex N : (1)

Potato Seeds Varieties Allowed to be Imported for the Season 2012 - 2013

Variety Name	اسم الصنف
Agata	أغاتا
Agria	أغريا
Alaska	ألاسكا
Albata	ألباتا
Algeria	ألجيريا
Almera	ألميرا
Arinda	أريندا
Arnova	ارنوبا
Asterix	استيريكس
Atlantic	أتلنتيك
Atlas	أطلس
Barchelona	برشلونة
Bellini	بيليني
Binella	بينلا
Burren	بورين
Cal white	كول وايت
Challenger	شالنجر
Chipody	شيبودي
Courage	كوراج
Daifla	دايفلا
Daisy	دايزي
Diamant	ديامونت
Disco	ديسكو
Draga	دراغا
Elodie	إيلودي
Emma	إيما
Everest	إفرست
Fabula	فابولا
Faluka	فالوكا
Folva	فولفا
Fontane	فونتين
Fridor	فريدور
Hanna	حنا
Hermes	هرمس
Innovator	إنوفايتر
Jelly	جيلي
Kennebec	كينيبك
Kentia	كنيتا
Lady Lenora	لايدي لينورا
Lady Olympia	لايدي أولمبيا
Lady rosetta	لايدي روزيتا
Liseta	ليسيتا

Marabel	مارابيل
Marfona	مارفونا
Markies	ماركيز
Marlen	مارلين
Melody	ميلودي
Miss Bianka	مس بيانكا
Miss Malina	مس مالىنا
Mustang	موسٽينغ
Nicola	نيكولا
Oceana	اوسيانا
Orchestra	اوركسترا
Orla	اورلا
Quincy	كوينسي
Remarka	ريماركا
Royal	رويال
Rubis	روبي
Safari	سفاري
Safrane	سفران
Sagitta	ساجيتا
Santana	سانتانا
Savanna	سافانا
Sifra	سيفرا
Slaney	سلاني
Spunta	سبونٽا
Sylvana	سيلفانا
Tango	تانغو
Toros	توروس
Triplo	تريبلو
Victoria	فكتوريا
Vivaldi	فيفالدي
Vivi	فيفي
Zorba	زوربا
Brook	بروك
Snowden	سنودان
Andover	اندوفر
Diego	دييغو
Universa	اونيفرسا
Florice	فلوريس

Annex No : (2)
Quarantine pest List

Scientific Name	Latin Name	Diseases
Colorado potato beetle	<i>Leptinotarsa decemlineata</i>	Insects
Potato tuber moth	<i>Phthorimaea operculella</i>	
Japanese beetle	<i>Papilla japonica</i>	
Sugar beet weevil	<i>Asproparthenis punctiventris</i>	
Potato Rot Nematode	<i>Ditylenchus destructor</i>	Nematodes
Stem and bulb nematode	<i>Ditylenchus dipsaci</i>	
White potato cyst nematode	<i>Globodera pallida</i>	
Golden nematode	<i>Globodera rostochiensis</i>	
Root knot nematode	<i>Meloidogyne</i> spp.	
Silver scurf	<i>Helminthosporium solani</i>	Fungal Diseases
Potato gangrene	<i>Phoma foveata</i>	
Tomato foot rot	<i>Phytophthora cryptogea</i>	
Pink tuber rot	<i>Phytophthora erythroseptica</i> var. <i>erythroseptica</i>	
Wart disease of potato	<i>Synchytrium endobioticum</i>	
Corm scab	<i>Burkholderia gladioli</i> pv. <i>gladioli</i>	Bacterial Diseases
Potato ring rot	<i>Clavibacter michiganensis</i> subsp. <i>sepedonicus</i>	
Bacterial wilt of Dahlia spp.	<i>Erwinia chrysanthemi</i> pv. <i>chrysanthemi</i>	
Black leg	<i>Erwinia carotovora</i> subsp. <i>Atroseptica</i> (<i>Pectobacterium atrosepticum</i>)	
Soft rot	<i>Erwinia carotovora</i> subsp. <i>carotovora</i>	
Lettuce marginal leaf blight	<i>Pseudomonas marginalis</i> pv. <i>marginalis</i>	
Brown rot	<i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i>	
Potato Spindle Tuber Viroid	PSTVd	Viroides

Annex No : 3
Regulated Non-quarantine pests List

Maximum Percentage accepted		Scientific Name	Latin Name	Diseases
Elite	Super Elite			
% 1	% 1, 10	Potato Virus Y, A, X, M, S and Potato Leaf Roll Virus	PVY, PVA, PVX, PVM, PVS and PLRV	Viruses
less than 0.5%		Fusarium dry rot	<i>Fusarium</i> spp.	Fungal Diseases
		Verticillium wilt	<i>Verticillium</i> spp.	
		Late blight	<i>Phytophthora infestans</i>	
		Early blight	<i>Alternaria solani</i>	
Less than 5% of the total tubers. And the tuber is considered infected when the infection is over 10% of its area		Skin spot	<i>Polyscytalum pustulans</i>	
		Black scurf	<i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>	
33% of tubers are free and. And the tubers infected in the 66% do not exceed 4-2 slight wounds covering an area less than 1/16 of the tuber area		Powdery Scab	<i>Spongospora subterranea</i>	Bacterial Diseases
No any single tuber wrinkled		Silver scurf	<i>Helminthosporium solani</i>	
33% of tubers are free and. And the tubers infected in the 66% do not exceed 4-2 slight wounds covering an area less than 1/16 of the tuber area		Common scab	<i>Streptomyces scabies</i>	Bacterial Diseases