

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY

A1

TRENTON

TOMATO SEED CERTIFICATION REGULATIONS FOR THE YEAR OF 1954

Individuals and firms not previously identified with tomato seed certification in New Jersey must inform the Division of Plant Industry, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Trenton, not later than June 15, if inspection for certification is desired. Individuals and firms previously identified with the tomato seed certification work need merely inform the Department or inspector of the time the inspection is desired.

The approved varieties accepted for certification are Pritchard, Valiant, Rutgers, Improved Garden State, Bonny Best, Marglobe, Baltimore, Stokesdale, Queens and Century. Any seedsman wishing to present for certification a variety other than those listed above must: (1) at least one year in advance of the formal request for certification, submit to the Department of Vegetable Crops of the Agricultural Experiment Station in New Brunswick, a sample of such seed for the growing of plants to be included in the Experiment Station tomato variety trials and (2) prepare and submit to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, not later than May 1 of the year in which certification is requested, a description, either typed or printed, of such variety specifically setting forth its distinctiveness whereby a claim to the classification of a new variety is supported. This Department with the advice of the vegetable specialists of the Agricultural Experiment Station in New Brunswick will pass judgment upon such a request.

Seed to be certified must conform to the demands of a progressive three generation plan:-

- I. SEED OF THE FIRST GENERATION must be hill selected from plants which conform, to the satisfaction of the inspector, in vine structure and fruit type with the accepted standard for the variety.
- II. SEED OF THE SECOND GENERATION must be produced on plants grown from first generation seed. Hill selection is not required but careful roguing is essential.
- III. SEED OF THE THIRD GENERATION must be produced on plants grown from second generation seed. Roguings must be made when necessary. Third generation seed will not be eligible for further production of seed for certification provided, however, that concessions may be made in extreme cases involving crop failure, etc.

Tomato seed shipped into New Jersey for certified seed production must meet unqualifiedly the demands prescribed in the three generation plan outlined above. New Jersey seedsmen, who propose to enter for inspection and certification fields grown from seed not certified by this Department, must produce a written statement from the out-of-state sponsor of this joint effort, setting

forth specifically the selection and improvement work performed in the two generations immediately preceding the seed to be planted.

The inspection and certification of fields of tomatoes shall be restricted to farms on which only one variety is being grown. This regulation, however, shall not preclude (1) the growing of an extra-early variety, the crop of which shall have been completely picked before the first picking for seed from an approved field is made and (2) first and second generation seed stocks under immediate supervision of the grower.

One field inspection, preferably at the time of the first picking, shall be made. The first inspection shall be delayed until practically all the plants in a given field presented for inspection have attained a stage of development which will reveal conveniently to the inspector the fruits mature or nearly so. Additional inspections, depending on the duration of the picking season, etc., may be made whenever considered advisable. These inspections shall be made for varietal mixtures, agreement with varietal standards, Bacterial Canker, Corynebacterium michiganense and virus diseases. Fields having any Bacterial Canker infected plants will be rejected. The status of the field shall be at the discretion of the inspector. The grower must have facilities for properly drying the seed.

Tomatoes for seed purpose shall not be picked from fields devitalized because of disease, etc., this consideration being more applicable to the latter pickings. Seed from fruit matured under such circumstances is small, weak, and of a lowered germination. Fields to be accepted for certification must have suffered little foliage damage because of insect feeding and diseases and be reasonably free from weeds. Growers are hereby notified that the inspector will make no compromise in cases where plants, in fields presented for inspection and certification, are obscured by the luxuriance of weeds.

Each seedsman, for whom tomato seed has been certified and the seed has been saved shall maintain a record of the total weight of cleaned seed saved of each variety certified by this Department. At the close of the inspection season, a copy of this record shall be forwarded to the Department at Trenton.

The Department shall make the following charges:-

Field Inspections:

Thirty (30) dollars per day.  
Fifteen (15) dollars for one-half day or less.

Seals:

Will be issued by this Department upon request  
of the seedsman and billed at cost.

The Department shall bill the seedsman for the indebtedness he has incurred. The grower must provide, for the inspector, transportation from his place of business to the fields to be inspected.

Each seedsman for whom tomato seed has been certified must supply for himself and at his expense tags sufficient to meet his needs.

The seed is to be marketed in new containers, each of which is to carry one of the official certification tags. Tags to be valid must bear the grower's signature, stamp, or certification number. Units of seed of one pound or more must be marketed in (1) cloth bags to which the certification tag must be affixed by seal or (2) other containers and their accompanying labels which have been approved by this Department. Used bags may be substituted for new bags, as prescribed by this paragraph, by a seedsman for a lot of seed so long as such shipments are specifically within the company transfer rather than admission to the trade.

The seedsmen and their agents are hereby authorized to affix, at their New Jersey headquarters, with the issued seals, certification tags to containers of eligible seed.

Each seedsman shall submit, semi-annually, on forms provided by this Department, a notarized statement of disposition of the issued seals.

The requirements for seed certification do not include seed treatment. New Improved Ceresan or Ceresan M, used according to instructions separately provided, satisfies the domestic demands and most of the foreign demands.

Seedsmen may, for the facility of movement of certified seed within the trade, use, on the certification tags, a certification number in place of the regularly required signature or stamp. The use of a seedsman's certification number on a certification tag has for its purpose the protection of the business interests of jobbers and dealers merchandising this seed. Therefore, this Department will not divulge, except in cases of justified complaint, the name of a seedsman identified with a specific certification number.

The name of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, except by specific permission, shall not appear on any label, tag, etc., attached to any container into which New Jersey certified or uncertified tomato seed has been repackaged. Such permission may be obtained by writing the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Trenton, New Jersey, describing the type of new container to be used.

Individuals and firms identified with tomato seed certification in New Jersey are requested to refrain from the use of the word "certified" in all cases when such seed has not been inspected and certified by an officially recognized certification agency.

The affixation of New Jersey Department of Agriculture certification seals to containers of certified tomato seed shall be restricted to the seedsmen for whom the seed has been certified.

Retailers wishing to repackage New Jersey certified tomato seed into units of less than one pound and wishing to retain the certification identity, may affix, by sticker or printing, to the new container, the following declaration:

"The \_\_\_\_\_ Seed Company certifies that the tomato seed in this container is part of a lot for which certification was allowed by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture."

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