

REPORT on a MEETING of the joint
SEED TRADE COMMITTEE held in the
City Mills Hotel, PERTH at 2.30 p.m
on Thursday, 13th NOVEMBER, 1980.

PRESENT: N.F.U.S. - Messrs. J.W. Hay and J.A. McLaren with P. Tait in attendance.

S.P.T.A. - Messrs. J.G.H. Fenton and J.R. McArthur, with D. Blackmore in attendance.

S.S.P.A. - Mr. A.A. Arubkcle, with Mr. R. Smith in attendance.

V.T.S.C.G.A. - Messrs. J. Marshall and I. McKenzie, with H.A.C Davie in attendance.

Mr. J.G.H. Fenton occupied the Chair and tendered an apology on behalf of Mr. D.H. Lindsay (SPTA)

BLACKLEG

Opening discussions, the Chairman referred to second inspection of some AA crops in 1980 and possible future repetition. It was agreed this was probable and laudable in intent, but essential to have earlier first and second inspections (especially of early varieties) and by full-time inspectors. It was also agreed that boldly printed warning be printed in Scheme Instructions to all growers and that burning off between inspections be uniformly permitted.

The Meeting decided that each Organisation will submit a list of all points jointly agreed and ratified to DAFS prior to the next meeting of the Seed Potato Consultative Panel on 15th December, 1980. Each Organisation's views on any points not so agreed are to form separate submissions to the Department.

GRADE
STRUCTURE
FOR 1982
CROP:

V.T.S.C. - As previously unanimously agreed, year numbering and restricted to 1 and 2 (and initially to 3 in certain varieties only) should be introduced.

F.S. - After prolonged further discussion it was jointly agreed to press for year-numbering 1,2 and 3 only. Thereafter, to replace FS4, a new "Super AA" grade should be introduced, subject to two inspections with health tolerances mid-way between present FS4 and AA1 grades. It was agreed not to press for Tobacco Veinal Necrosis and Virus Y infections to be classified together, and that Super AA Grade should have a low TVN tolerance at first inspection and a Nil TVN tolerance at second inspection. The new grade will be continued, without year numbering, for as long as the disease tolerances can be maintained.

A.A - To be retained, ineligible for entry into the Scottish Inspection Scheme, as at present.

BAN ON
PLANTING
UNCERTIFIED
SEED:

N.F.U.S representatives reported support in principle but, to take account of their South of the Forth ware-grower members' interests could not accord their agreement to a one step total Scottish ban (with certain specified exceptions) after due notice. If those members can be persuaded before the Consultative Panel meets other Organisations will be notified, each of whom meantime will separately submit their own individual views.

V.T.S.C FARM
PLANTING
RESTRICTIONS

The Meeting agreed unanimously that V.T. raisers should continue to be permitted to grow their own VTSC 1 and 2 and FS1 and 2 stocks on their own farm units but that any stocks "bought in" must be grown, stored and handled away from their own stocks. It was decided the VTSCGA only will submit this view as having the full support of the other Organisations.

TUBER

Agreement/

TUBER
HEALTH
STANDARDS:

Agreement on this matter having been reached in earlier meetings, further discussion was felt to be un-necessary and each Organisation will submit the agreed proposal to DAFS.

LICENSING
OF V.T.S.C
RAISERS:

There was unanimous agreement that DAFS should withdraw its Licence from any raiser who, following one warning, failed to maintain the necessary standards. To counter DAFS' reluctance to accept this task (which, it claims requires legislative means) it was pointed out that it would be effectively implemented by terminating the supply of clones to an offending raiser. The meeting decided to apply any necessary pressure on the Department.

TUBER
INSPECTIONS:

The meeting re-affirmed its decision to press DAFS to arrange a wider-spread random system of inspections concentrated on "suspect" sources. It was accepted this would lower the percentage of tonnage inspected in favour of an increased number of different visits made.

BURNING
DOWN

All Organisations agreed to oppose any compulsory scheme, preferring continuation of present voluntary arrangements under official advisory guidance.

SUBMISSIONS:

To standardise the format of each Organisation submission the respective Secretary's together agreed the order of eight common headings to be used.

The meeting closed with a Vote of thanks to the Chair.