

REPORT on a MEETING of the
"CONDITIONS" sub-COMMITTEE of the
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION
in the Ice Rink, PERTH at 11 a.m.
on Thursday, 27th AUGUST, 1992.

PRESENT: Messrs. R. Doig and D. Smith (both ex officio), G.S. Brass, A.C. Galbraith, and J.O. Robertson, with R.D. Hunter (Secretary) and D. Blackmore (Assistant) in attendance.

APOLOGIES: Mr. Hunter intimated apologies for absence received from Messrs. K.A. McKenzie and J.M. Swinton.

REPORT ON PREVIOUS MEETING: Copies of the Report on the meeting on 18th June, 1992 (which had been pre-copied to each member with a copy of the Conditions of Sale for ware potatoes) were taken as read.

MATTERS ARISING: (a) Post-delivery complaints inspections - Mr. Hunter reported that MAFF had not replied to his written enquiry. It was agreed to write a reminder.

(b) Food Safety Act 1990 - Mr. Hunter reported that a Paper had now been drafted which he felt should be officially vetted. It was agreed this matter be referred to this afternoon's meeting of Council.

(c) Conditions of Sale for ware potatoes - The sub-Committee decided that a review of the ware Conditions be treated as a second priority following completion of the revision of Conditions of Sale and Purchase of seed.

CONDITIONS OF SALE FOR SEED:

Mr. Hunter explained that the draft Conditions of Sale for Seed pre-copied to each sub-Committee member incorporated all the changes instructed at the last meeting and he pointed these out in a step-by-step progress through the draft.

In discussion during this process the following further changes were agreed:-

Condition 2(4) - replaced the word "fuel" with "transport" in lines 2 and 5;

Condition 4 - amend the heading to read CLASSIFIED SEED POTATOES;

Condition 7 N.B. - it was decided not to deviate from the official definition used;

Condition 8(6) - it was decided not to insert NASPM's definition of "destination" and to leave this section unchanged as drafted;

Condition 9(2) - Mr. Hunter explained the first part of this new section is, in his opinion the best that could be devised but warned that in practice, provisions of this nature are notoriously difficult to enforce. The second part of this section is the same as NASPM's relative Condition and complements the first part. It was agreed this section should stand as drafted.

Conditions 11 & 12 - incorporating extension of the complaints period for skin spot, gangrene and dry rot from ten days to fourteen days was agreed.

Condition/

Condition 15 - the incorporated alteration of "Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate" to "Bank of Scotland Base Lending Rate" was agreed.

Following discussion of a future timetable it was agreed to recommend that Council approve and adopt the now revised Conditions of Sale. It was also agreed that Mr. Hunter proceed with a corresponding draft revision of the Conditions of Purchase and submit this to the sub-Committee in readiness for a further meeting in early course. Since this would lead to an approach to NFUS for continuation of its approval of the Conditions of Purchase, it was felt it would help to save time if Council empowered the sub-Committee to negotiate with NFUS.

N.A.S.P.M.:

Mr. Hunter read a letter from NASPM proposing an all-parties end-October meeting solely to discuss extending the ten days complaints period to fourteen days. The sub-Committee recognised this would be dealt with during this afternoon's meeting of Council but regarded the proposed meeting as now unnecessary as well as being inconveniently timed and dated.

The meeting then concluded.