Agriculture, Food and Rural Communities Directorate
Agriculture and Rural Development Division

T: 0300-244 9692 F: 0300-244 6777
E: yvonne.hay@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

The Scottish Government

To Potato Merchants

Our Ref: A2858305
18 April 2012

Dear Sir

THE SEED POTATOES (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2000

I am writing to inform you of the requirements of Regulation 6 of the Seed Potatoes (Scotland) Regulations 2000.

The purpose of Regulation 6 is to protect the health of seed potatoes particularly from the devastating diseases brown rot and ring rot by controlling their contact with farm saved seed potatoes, ware potatoes and with any plant, machinery, equipment, container, store or vehicle previously used in the production of ware potatoes. Failure to comply with this Regulation may result in prosecution and/or withdrawal of the certificate of classification of the seed potatoes.

The Regulation does not apply where the seed and ware potatoes are produced on the same agricultural unit as both types of potato are likely to enjoy the same plant health status. The Regulation also provides for exemption in other circumstances specifically and individually approved by the Scottish Government (SG) on application. This may include the off-farm grading on processors' premises of seed potatoes and the return to growers of tubers for planting, this practice is likely to be permitted only where the SG are satisfied that there is no risk of cross-contamination of the seed from the ware potatoes. Any approval granted may be subject to compliance with specified conditions.

If your company wishes to apply for exemption from Regulation 6 for the period 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2013 you should do so as soon as possible and in any event no later than 30 June 2012 by completing and returning the enclosed application to the local area office. To avoid any delay in processing your application please also provide a brief summary outlining your procedures.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Yvonne Hay
Plants, Horticulture and Potatoes

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE
POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE