

## Organic Seed Production of Root Crops

Presented by Karen Davidge, Greg Wingate and Richard Behm

Karen Davidge (Good Spring Farm, Keswick Ridge, NB)

### Potatoes

- . Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) federal mandate is essential to follow for growing seed

- 0. It is illegal in New Brunswick to plant potatoes that are not CFIA certified seed

Zero. Without this system, viruses would decrease yields and quality of tablestock potatoes

- . Every year that a potato goes into the ground, it loses a classification as determined by the CFIA

- 0. New Brunswick seed potato categories - virus, disease and foreign tolerance increases as classification moves from pre-elite to “certified”

Zero. Pre-elite

- . Elite 1

- 0. Elite 2

- 0. Elite 3

- 0. Elite 4

- 0. Foundation

- . Certified

- . 15 step process

- 0. Place an order to Bon Accord Elite Seed Potato Centre (December)

Zero. Select, “Elite 1”, if available

- 0. Select Nuclear tuber stock, if no elite 1 seed is available

Zero. Plantlets

- . Deceive decision from seed allocation committee (February)

Zero. Submit deposit (25%) to Bon Accord order (early May)

- Zero. Contact CFIA and declare intent to certify
  - 0. Arrange seed pick up from Bon accord (end of April)
- Zero. Receive seed certificates (May at the latest)
- Zero. Complete the Application for Inspection form
  - 0. Information included is variety, class
  - 0. Plant seed (May and June)
- Zero. Inspections from CFIA (throughout growing season)
  - Zero. 2 or more visits
    - 0. Create a report, looking at weeds, disease, pests, viruses etc.
- Zero. Harvest of seed (must wait until last inspection is satisfactory)