

It was amended in 1996 by the Food Standards (Potatoes)(Amendment) Regulations 1996 (S.I. No. 4 of 1996) to clarify “potato size” issues related with packaging . Regulation 5 (1) provides that “a person shall not sell potatoes which pass without pressure through a square mesh each side of which measures 25 millimeters; 5(2) provides that a person shall not sell potatoes unless the range of potato sizes comprised in the sale is not greater than 35 millimeters.»

Regulation 7(1) requires that potatoes packed in a bag, box, carton, envelope, net, sack, wrapper or other container shall not be sold unless — (a) the container or (if there is an inner container or containers and an outer container) at least one container bears a notice or inscription which is easily visible without removing or opening any container and states clearly and legibly— (i) the variety of the potatoes and (ii) the range of potato sizes and (b) the container or (if there is an inner container or containers and an outer container) each container is either permeable to moisture or admits air to the next inner container or to the potatoes, as the case may be. The regulation was further amended in 2003 as the Food Standards (Potatoes) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.1. No. 406 of 2003), to provide guidelines for harvesting potatoes.

• **Local Food Policy and Quality Standards**

In Uganda, there are no explicit quality standards for ware potato though a regulatory framework is in place especially for potato seed. The potato seed sector is largely regulated by the Draft National Agricultural Seed Policy (2011) and the Seed and Plant Act (2006). This provides a legal framework that provides for the promotion, regulation and control of plant breeding and variety release, seed multiplication and marketing and quality assurance of seeds and planting materials.

AGRI-QUEST aims at having a better agribusiness climate in Uganda’s agricultural value chains. It provides state-of-the-art information resources, analyses & policy recommendations on topics related to ethics, quality standards, sustainability, and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The project is funded by The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO-WOTRO).

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Strengthening
 Agribusiness Ethics,
 Quality Standards,
 & ICT Usage in
 Uganda’s Value Chains



INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL FOOD POLICY AND QUALITY STANDARDS
Potato Value Chain

Compiled by

“Strengthening Agribusiness Ethics, Quality Standards & ICT usage in Uganda’s value chains” (AGRI-QUEST) Research Project together with stakeholders in the Cassava Value Chain

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Preamble:

Food policies, best practices and standards exist at both International and local level. Their focus is to ensure public safety, facilitate trade and ensure sustainability. In this vain, harmonization of standards has been done to ease movement of goods and they become more stringent over time as indicated in the amendments. Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) is the custodian of standards in Uganda. Though access to them is only possible after payment. This limits public awareness and uptake of the recommended codes of practice and guidelines. However, basic information has to be passed on to players who cannot easily access or buy these standards since they participate in agribusiness. This will make them appreciate these policies and standards hence contributing to having a better agribusiness climate.

Hence, “Strengthening Agribusiness Ethics, Quality Standards & ICT usage in Uganda’s value chains” (AGRI-QUEST) project presents this basic information on policies and standards in a simplified form in order to facilitate small scale (bottom of the pyramid) players access it so as to actively participate in agribusiness in a way which penetrates up to international level. This is hoped to aide them in decision-

making with respect to procedures observing international food and agriculture policy and practices, but acting at local level.

Irish Potato Value Chain

- **International Food Policy and Quality Standards**

The most outstanding policy is the Ireland

Food Standards	What is a standard
Food standards can be defined as guidelines, measures, or rules that concern food from raw material to finished products or retail presentation. Food standards seek: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. To promote safety and protect the consumer; ii. To limit the sale of unwholesome products; and iii. To simplify the marketing of food products. 	ISO/IEC Guide 2:1996 defines a standard as a document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context. Standards are varied in character, subject, and medium.

Food Standards (Potatoes) Regulations, 1977, (S.I. No. 367 of 1977) that is itself enshrined in the broader Food Standards Act, 1974 (No. 11 of 1974). The Food Standards (Potatoes) Regulations 1977 (S.I. No. 367 of 1977) provides guidelines on physical quality attributes, potato size, quantity of potatoes and packaging among others.



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