

**FRUIT 2016
LOGISTICA
BERLIN**
3|4|5 FEBRUARY



AHDB
POTATOES

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India

**GB potatoes at
Fruit Logistica 2016**

Plant health update:
Annual *Dickeya* survey

WORLD SERVICE

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EXPORT

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GB potatoes at Fruit Logistica 2016

Show-casing GB's potato varieties and crop research expertise - HALL 8.2, STAND B-06



Over three days in February 2016 at Berlin's Messe, the worldwide fresh produce industry will be able to meet leading potato and horticulture organisations on the large Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) stand. AHDB will be located in the same place - HALL 8.2, STAND B-06 - show-casing GB's potato varieties and crop research expertise to over 67,000 trade visitors.

Our co-exhibitors this year include commercial, research and government organisations, including Moorhouse & Mohan, Skea Organics, James Hutton Ltd, Cranfield University and SASA (Scottish Government), alongside some of the UK's leading fresh produce companies.

The AHDB Exports brand develops agricultural and horticultural export opportunities from Britain and provides a marketing platform at overseas events for our industry to promote, do business and network.

Robert Burns, of AHDB Potatoes says "Eighty per-cent of all GB seed potatoes (500,000 tonnes) are grown in Scotland, supported by strong plant health credentials and the largest high-health region in the EU. Seed exports from Scotland are growing year-on-year and last season peaked at 120,000 tonnes with a value of around £42million."

"We're excited about our newly-branded AHDB Exports stand at Fruit Logistica, which features more exhibitors than ever this year. The stand will feature a range of organisations from the UK's fresh produce and potato industries, plus crop science and government plant

“We're excited about our newly-branded AHDB Exports stand at Fruit Logistica, which features more exhibitors than ever this year. The stand will feature a range of organisations from the UK's fresh produce and potatoes industries”
Robert Burns
head of seed and export

health experts. Our joint industry endeavour shows the strengths of the UK potato and horticulture sectors at Fruit Logistica and we look forward to supporting our industry in Berlin next February."

Storage is key to potato production in most countries. About 3.25m tonnes of potatoes are stored each year in GB and crops can spend as long in the store as they do in the ground. Implementation of best practice is critical to ensure that the storage phase is cost-effective for businesses and delivers the quality that markets and consumers demand. Visitors can meet with our expert colleagues from Sutton Bridge Crop Storage Research on the stand to get technical expertise and information on storage and services.



UK Industry Reception at Fruit Logistica

Thursday 4th Feb
4.00 - 6.00pm
Hall 8.2, stand B-06,
Messe Berlin
Supported by UKTI

The UK Stand Reception is one of Fruit Logistica's leading business-social events, and will be opened officially by the head of UKTI Tony Sims OBE, alongside AHDB's chairman, Sir Peter Kendall and AHDB's export marketing team.

Explore export opportunities, meet UK producers, talk to technical experts or discuss future UK stands with AHDB.

Join us on 4th February at this popular Reception for informal networking, a warm welcome and some great British produce! Find us in HALL 8.2, STAND B-06.

More information:
potatoes.ahdb.org.uk/events/FL2016



Plant health update

The bacteria *Dickeya* spp. can bring about a condition similar to Blackleg which causes wilts, stem rots and various types of soft rots in tubers, and which is particularly expressed in warm conditions.

Scottish Government has announced the results of its annual *Dickeya* survey and once again has confirmed that the largest seed growing area in GB is free of the *Dickeya* organism.

Dickeya is of particular concern to growers in warmer climates such as Egypt, a key destination for GB seed potatoes. In Israel, where "hamzeen" conditions occur (five days when the temperature is over 20°C) *Dickeya* can result in catastrophic crop loss.

The GB seed supply chain is free of *Dickeya* and the only reports of *Dickeya* in England have been from ware crops.

NEW! Market spotlight

India

AHDB Potatoes had the pleasure recently of hosting overseas potato industry visitors from India.

Being a warm tropical climate zone, India sows seed potatoes mostly during October and November and harvests between January and March. Varieties that are day-neutral (ie: not sensitive to day length) and heat-tolerant perform better. This is because the Indian potato season starts in the Autumn and progresses into Winter with shorter, cold days which challenge tuber growth and skin development. The seed size requirement is mostly for well-graded smaller sizes: 25mm, 30mm, 35mm and 45mm while the 55mm is hard to sell.

Our visitors were from Sangha Seeds, Mr Jang Sangha and from Technico Agri-Sciences Ltd, Mr Sachid Madan. These two Indian companies represent around 33% of India's quality seed industry, and they outlined seed growing requirements and the opportunities that are available in India.

Sachid Madan advised, "The factors any seed exporter to India needs to consider are firstly the physiological age of the seed for October planting as the seed growing season is very short. Secondly, the cost economics for the importer are important given the lower yields and the preference for small-size seed." Further commercial opportunities exist in India. Besides healthy seed, Indian growers are seeking agronomy expertise and diagnostics, quality inputs such as effective fertilisers and also agricultural equipment and storage expertise.

Jang Sangha advised, "Indian consumers are highly conscious about their potato variety preference with distinct varieties grown and consumed regionally. The Indian potato market is ever growing, crossing the 45m tonne level and is thus worth exploring and engaging with."



(l. to r.) Fiona Fell, AHDB Potatoes Chair; Robert Burns, AHDB Potatoes; Sachid Madan, Technico Agri-Sciences, India.



Diary dates

3-5 February 2016
Fruit Logistica, Berlin

13 August 2016
Potatoes in Practice, (GB's largest potato technical field event), Scotland

14-15 September 2016
Potato Europe, France

AHDB Potatoes events calendar:
potatoes.ahdb.org.uk/events

Variety database

Get independent potato variety data at the click of a button

- Data for Independent Variety Trials (IVT) tested and non-IVT tested varieties
- Resistance data, images, breeders, agents and industry organisations
- View single variety data and 2-perpage comparisons
- Simplified search functions
- Added character sets: dormancy, dry matter, determinacy and cooking type
- Updates on varieties undergoing IVT tests
- Information on GB-certified seed potatoes, Seed Potato Classification Scheme and Safe Haven scheme
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- Mobile device-friendly

Access our free, online resource for independently-tested pests and disease data

varieties.ahdb.org.uk



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