

40-4-8-.01 Definitions Repealed.

- ~~(1) Certified Sweet Potato Growing Area: that area located outside a one mile radius from any find of sweet potato weevil for the twelve months following such find, to be determined by trapping at the discretion of the area inspector.~~
- ~~(2) Commissioner: the Commissioner of Agriculture or any employee authorized to act on his behalf.~~
- ~~(3) Department: the Georgia Department of Agriculture.~~
- ~~(4) Find: the detection of a sweet potato weevil in any life stage, whether by visual inspection or as a result of an area being trapped.~~
- ~~(5) Grower's Affidavit: a form issued by the Department in which a grower attests that all seed sweet potatoes bedded were certified and treated with a fungicide specified by the Department, and that all seed sweet potatoes and sweet potato plants had passed all field and storage inspections.~~
- ~~(6) Register: to notify the Department of an intention to grow certified sweet potato plants or certified seed sweet potatoes. The Department will make a decision as to whether or not the area the grower plans to plant in can be declared a Certified Sweet Potato Growing Area.~~
- ~~(7) Sweet potato: *Ipomoea batatas* and other members of the genus *Ipomoea* that are grown for eating purposes.~~
- ~~(8) Sweet Potato Weevil: *Cylas formicarius elegantulus* Sum. in any life stage.~~
- ~~(9) Trapped: surveyed or monitored, and found by the use of pheromone lures for the detection of sweet potato weevil.~~

40-4-8.02 Production of Certified Seed Sweet Potatoes. Repealed.

- ~~(1) Producers of certified seed sweet potatoes must register with the Department prior to setting vines.~~
- ~~(2) Certified seed sweet potatoes may be produced only from vine cuttings taken from field grown plants, and may be produced only in accordance with the following rules:~~
 - ~~(a) No planting of vine cuttings will be made unless the area has been approved by the Department as a Certified Sweet Potato Growing Area.~~
 - ~~(b) Plants must be in a physical and cultural condition which would allow the reliable detection of insects and diseases by the Department.~~
 - ~~(c) A five foot spacing must be made between varieties at the time of planting. Each separate variety constitutes a field, and must be marked as to variety by the posting of a field card supplied by the Department. Cutting of the card by the Department indicates that the field is not eligible for certification.~~
 - ~~(d) If a trace of sweet potato mosaic is found in a field, that field will not be eligible for certification. The grower must rogue the field and apply insecticide recommended by the area inspector. Such rogued fields will be eligible for use only by the grower. If a second trace of sweet potato mosaic is found in the same field, the original field and all other fields within one-quarter mile of that field will not be eligible for certification.~~
 - ~~(e) If sweet potatoes being grown for certification are found to be within a one mile radius of a field of sweet potato weevil, such sweet potatoes will not be eligible for certification.~~
 - ~~(f) Additional inspections of any field may be performed at the discretion of the area inspector.~~
 - ~~(g) Plants showing symptoms of mosaic, stem rot, bacterial soft rot, sweet potato weevil or any other injurious insects or diseases will not be certified.~~

40-4-8-.03 Storage of Certified Seed Sweet Potatoes. Repealed.

~~(1) Certified seed sweet potatoes and non-certified sweet potatoes may not be stored in the same facility.~~

~~(2) No storage of certified seed sweet potatoes will be allowed in any storage facility in which sweet potato weevils have been found unless the facility has been cleaned of all sweet potatoes, and trapped and found free of sweet potato weevil for at least 90 days.~~

~~(3) All facilities used for storing certified seed sweet potatoes will be trapped by the Department and must be found free of sweet potato weevil during storage of sweet potatoes, or certification will be withdrawn.~~

~~(4) Stored certified seed sweet potatoes which are not free of black rot, scurf, bacterial soft rot, sweet potato weevil, or other injurious insects or diseases will have their certification withdrawn.~~

40-4-8-.04 Production of Certified Sweet Potato Plants. Repealed.

- ~~(1) Producers of certified sweet potato plants must register with the Department prior to bedding of seed sweet potatoes.~~
- ~~(2) Certified sweet potato plants may be produced only from certified seed sweet potatoes.~~
- ~~(3) All certified seed sweet potatoes must be treated with a fungicide approved by the Department prior to bedding.~~
- ~~(4) Certified seed sweet potatoes may be bedded for the production of certified sweet potato plants only in a Certified Sweet Potato Growing Area.~~
- ~~(5) Bedded certified seed sweet potatoes must be staked at the time of bedding to show the variety and number of bushels bedded. The identity of the sweet potato varieties must be maintained at all times.~~
- ~~(6) If uncertified seed sweet potatoes are bedded on the same farm as certified seed sweet potatoes, they must be bedded at least ten feet away from the certified seed sweet potatoes, trapped and found free of sweet potato weevil. The identity of each as to certified or uncertified must be maintained at all times.~~
- ~~(7) Plants grown from certified seed sweet potatoes will be inspected in beds. If not found free of stem rot, black rot, bacterial soft rot, sweet potato mosaic, southern blight, or sweet potato weevil, such plants will not be eligible for certification.~~
- ~~(8) Beds in which any insects or diseases of sweet potato are found must be destroyed in whole or part. The amount to be destroyed will be determined by the area inspector.~~
- ~~(9) If sweet potato plants being grown for certification are found to be within one mile of a find of sweet potato weevil, such plants will not be eligible for certification.~~

40-4-8-.05 ~~Transfer and Movement of Certified Seed Sweet Potatoes.~~ Repealed.

~~(1) Growers wanting to transfer certified seed sweet potatoes to another grower for propagation purposes must complete a Transfer of Certified Seed Sweet Potatoes Form available from the Department. The Form must be completed by the original grower and issued to the purchaser at the time of transfer, with a duplicate copy sent to the Department. Each grower will supply to the Department a complete list showing the name and address of each purchaser, and the amount of sweet potatoes for all transfers.~~

~~(2) For interstate movement of uncertified sweet potatoes grown for eating purposes, the grower must notify the Department at time of planting so that the specific requirements of other states can be met by the grower.~~

40-4-8-.06 Fees. Repealed.

~~(1) All growers of certified seed sweet potatoes or growers who participate in an inspection program, must pay an annual fee of \$10 per acre, with a minimum annual fee of \$50.~~

~~(2) If trapping for freedom from sweet potato weevil is required for movement of sweet potatoes to another state, a fee of \$10 per acre will be charged by the Department for growers who do not participate in a certification or inspection program.~~

~~(3) No fees will be refunded in whole or in part for sweet potatoes or sweet potato plants which do not pass inspection or for which certification is withdrawn.~~

40-4-8-.07 Certificates. Repealed.

- ~~(1) Every package, crate, or container of seed sweet potatoes, sweet potato plants, vines, or cuttings sold as Georgia Certified, including those shipped by common carrier, must have been produced according to these Rules, must be labeled as to variety, and must have attached to it a valid Sweet Potato Certificate issued by the Department.~~
- ~~(2) Georgia Certified Sweet Potato Certificates are available from the Department to growers of certified seed sweet potatoes or certified sweet potato plants upon completion of a Growers Affidavit, approval of certification by the Department, and payment of the cost of printing.~~
- ~~(3) Georgia Inspected Sweet Potato Tags are available from the Department to growers of Inspected Sweet Potatoes upon approval of inspection by the Department, and payment of the cost of printing.~~

40-4-8-.08 Revocation of Certification. Repealed.

~~The Commissioner may revoke or deny certification and may recall outstanding certificates for cause, including but not limited to any violation of these Rules, or the use of Certificates on sweet potato plants or seed sweet potatoes that have not been certified by the Department.~~

40-4-8-.09 Inspected Sweet Potatoes. Repealed.

~~For movement of sweet potato plants or seed sweet potatoes to other states which do not regulate sweet potato weevil separately, but do regulate the interstate movement of live plant material for plant pests, the following requirements apply.~~

~~(a) All requirements of the certification program except for complete freedom from the sweet potato weevil must be met.~~

~~(b) A program of pesticide application using pesticides approved by the Department for suppression of the sweet potato weevil must be complied with.~~

~~(c) Pesticide spray records and purchase receipts must be maintained by the grower and made available to the Department upon request.~~

~~(d) If sweet potato weevils are found during the growing season, the determination whether or not to approve the sweet potato plants or seed sweet potatoes for movement to another state will be based upon the decision of the area inspector in consultation with the plant protection official of that state.~~

~~(e) Every package, crate, or container of seed sweet potatoes, sweet potato plants, vines, or cuttings sold as Georgia Inspected, including those shipped by common carrier, must have been produced according to these Rules, must be labeled as to variety, and must have attached to it a valid Sweet Potato Inspection Tag issued by the Department.~~