EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations increase the fees payable to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in respect of the certification of seed potato crops arising under the Seed Potatoes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2001 (regulation 2 and Schedule).

In the case of an application received by the Department on or before the 30th May in any calendar year:

- (a) where the total area of the crop does not exceed 1 hectare the fee is increased from £33.00 to £38.50;
- (b) where the total area of the crop exceeds 1 hectare the fee is increased from £16·50 to £19·25 per half hectare or part of a half hectare.

In the case of an application received by the Department after 30th May in any calendar year:

- (a) where the total area of the crop does not exceed 1 hectare the fee is increased from £49·50 to £57·75;
- (b) where the total area of the crop exceeds 1 hectare the fee is increased from £24.75 to £28.88 per half hectare or part of a half hectare.

The Regulations also revoke the Seed Potatoes (Crop Fees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002 (regulation 3).