

SCHEDULE 2

PART 5

Measures for the control of Potato ring rot

Official surveys and testing

18.—(1) The Department must ensure that systematic official surveys for Potato ring rot are carried out in Northern Ireland on tubers of *Solanum tuberosum* L. and, where appropriate, on plants of *Solanum tuberosum* L., in accordance with Article 2(1) of [Directive 93/85/EEC](#).

(2) Where the presence of Potato ring rot in susceptible material is suspected, the Department must ensure that—

- (a) official testing is carried out using the method set out in Annex 1 to [Directive 93/85/EEC](#) and in accordance with the conditions specified in point 1 of Annex 2 to [Directive 93/85/EEC](#) to confirm whether or not it is present;
 - (b) the following are retained and appropriately conserved pending completion of the official testing—
 - (i) all tubers sampled, and wherever possible, all plants sampled;
 - (ii) any remaining extract and additional preparation material for the screening tests;
 - (iii) all relevant documentation; and
 - (c) pending the confirmation of its presence or the refutation of its suspected presence, where suspect diagnostic visual symptoms of Potato ring rot have been seen or symptoms of Potato ring rot have been identified by a positive immunofluorescence test or other appropriate positive test—
 - (i) the movement of all lots or consignments from which the samples have been taken, other than those which are under official control, is prohibited, except where it has been established that there is no identifiable risk of Potato ring rot spreading;
 - (ii) steps are taken to trace the origin of the suspected occurrence; and
 - (iii) additional appropriate precautionary measures based on the level of estimated risk are taken to prevent any spread of the plant pest.
- (3) A notice may contain measures for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(c)(i) to (iii).