286.684.new Planting seed potatoes in combined seed lots; certified seed required; exception; conditions; permission.

Sec. 4. (1) Beginning January 1, 2021, and except as otherwise permitted under this section, seed potatoes in combined seed lots that are sufficient to plant 1 or more acres as determined by the director by rule may only be planted if the seed potatoes are certified seed. Seed potatoes imported into this state must meet the minimum standards in the state national harmonization program and in any active applicable quarantine or rule.

(2) Beginning January 1, 2021, a potato grower may plant uncertified potatoes if both of the following conditions are met:
   (a) The potatoes were grown and stored as part of that grower’s farming operations.
   (b) The uncertified potatoes are no more than 1 field year from certified seed potatoes.

(3) Beginning January 1, 2021, in any year that there is an insufficient volume of any cultivar of certified seed potatoes and seed potatoes meeting the requirements of this section, potato growers may apply to the advisory committee for permission to plant uncertified seed potatoes. Upon recommendation from the advisory committee, the director may grant applying growers permission to plant uncertified seed potatoes for only that growing season.