STANDARDS FOR CERTIFIED TOMATO SEED

I. General Requirements:

A. Certification is limited to only those varieties which are approved by the College of Agriculture Seed Committee and the Certifying Agency.

B. Each applicant will be required to furnish information as to the source of his seed stock and to furnish a reasonable and satisfactory guaranty as to its identity. Stock seed for the production of Certified seed must be hot water treated.

II. Field Requirements:

A. The term "field" as used herein applies to the area occupied by one variety of tomatoes planted or handled as a continuous operation which is covered by one inspection report. A portion of a field will not be accepted for inspection. Varieties must be separated by at least 30 feet.

B. Certification may be denied to any field within 30 feet of a field where tomatoes were grown the previous year.

C. Evidence of poor cultural care, or poor and uneven growth, or a serious injury by insects, or other conditions which make accurate inspection impossible will disqualify a field.

III. Field Inspections:

A. There will be at least two field inspections, the first of which shall be before the first picking. Fields are subject to inspection at any time without notice to the grower.

B. General conformity to type of the variety named, as is described in the National Tomato Type Book (*) - or, when this does not apply, in any other accepted standard - will be the guide in making inspections.

C. Not over 1% mixture (distinctly off-type plants) will be allowed on first inspection. Not more than 0.5% mixture shall be allowed on second inspection. All rogued plants and fruits shall be removed immediately from the fields.

(*) Description of Types of Principal American Varieties of Tomatoes U.S.D.A. Miscel. Publication 160:1933.

* Different from 1950 only by 2 deletions, Section V, sub-sect. B, items 1 and 2.
D. Fields showing any bacterial canker or bacterial fruit spot will be rejected. Any field showing a total of more than 2% of streak, Fusarium wilt, or buckeye rot (Phytophthora footrot) shall be disqualified. Any field showing more than 20% of the foliage affected by Septoria blight or more than 5% of the fruit affected by potato late blight at any one inspection shall be rejected. The presence of an unusually large number of weak plants, the cause of which might be a diseased condition shall disqualify a field.

IV. Seed Samples and Seed Standard:

A. A representative one-ounce sample of the seed of each field (or blended lots of two or more fields) shall be taken for laboratory analysis by an authorized representative of the Certifying Agency. The sample shall be clearly marked with the grower's name and address and with the words "For Certification" and shall be sent prepaid to the State Seed Laboratory, Geneva, New York for such tests as may be required.

B. The minimum germination allowed for Certified seed shall be 80%.

V. Rules Governing the Sale of Certified Seed:

A. New York Certified tomato seed must conform to all provisions of this standard, also to all rules and regulations of the Certifying Agency and to the New York State Seed Law, and, when shipped outside the State, to the Federal Seed Act.

B. Every package containing New York Certified tomato seed shall be marked clearly with all required information, including:

1. Kind and variety.
2. Percentage germination and date of test.
3. Grower's name and address, or registered identification number.

C. Certification tags, labels or stamps, appropriate for the grade will be furnished or authorized by the Certifying Agency and shall be attached to all packages containing Certified seed.

D. Seed held over more than 12 months beyond the original date of certification shall not be recognized as Certified. However, it shall be eligible for recertification provided a representative sample of regular size be submitted which meets the current certification requirements. Furthermore, the grower and owner shall declare to the New York Certified Seed Growers' Cooperative, Inc., in writing, and on forms provided by the Cooperative, that it is the seed and no other seed than that originally Certified. In case of recertification, new tags bearing date of last germination test and other data required by the State and Federal Seed Laws may be issued.