FIELD COMPARISONS OF THE GROWTH AND TUBER YIELDS OF SEVEN POTATO CULTIVARS

L.W. BLACKMORE, J.A. DOUGLAS, E.N. HONORE AND

C.C. McLEOD

FIELD RESEARCH SECTION, RESEARCH DIVISION

NEW ZEALAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SUMMARY

Five new potato cultivars; Toru, Wha, Rima, Ono and Whitu bred at Crop Research Division, D.S.I.R., Lincoln, were compared in trials conducted by the Field Research Section, Research Division, Department of Agriculture, throughout New Zealand during the period 1965 to 1970.

Toru, Wha and Whitu were superior and Rima similar in yield to the standard Ilam Hardy. Ono was slightly superior in a small number of trials.

It is suggested that an important part of the increased yields of these new cultivars is a reflection of their greater resistance to late blight than has Ilam Hardy.

If quality aspects are satisfactory the recently released cultivars should prove of considerable advantage to the New Zealand potato industry.