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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations amend the Vegetable Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994, [S.R. 1994 No. 250](#) as amended by [S.R. 1996 No. 313](#), [S.R. 1997 No. 240](#) and [S.R. 2000 No. 56](#) (the 1994 Regulations).

The amendments to the 1994 Regulations give effect to Council Directive [98/95/EC](#) (O.J. No. L25, 1.2.1999, p. 1) in respect of the consolidation of the internal market, genetically modified plant resources and plant genetic resources. This directive amended Council Directive [70/458/EEC](#) (O.J. No. L225, 12.10.1970, p. 7) on the marketing of vegetable seed.

These amending Regulations—

- (a) amend definitions in the 1994 Regulations, including the definitions of “marketing” and “official examination”;
- (b) include provisions in regulation 5 in relation to marketing and marketing authorisations, tests and trials, seed as grown, selection work and other scientific purposes; and make consequential amendments to regulation 4;
- (c) include in regulation 5 provision in relation to the marketing of genetically modified vegetable seeds;
- (d) amend regulation 9 to make provisions in relation to clear indications for genetically modified varieties; and
- (e) amend Schedule 6 to make provision for the supply of information about imported seeds.