

Alaska Seed Potatoes Going 'Outside' for Cultivation

SEATTLE—The first car-load of Alaska seed potatoes to move into the lower 48 were delivered to three Lynden, Washington growers at Bellingham, Washington recently.

These spuds sold for \$5.50 per hundred FOB Palmer, Alaska.

A producer for Alaska growers since 1953, George Crowther of Palmer, moved test samples into Washington, Oregon and California areas for the 1967 growing season.

"The results were great," he said. "Reports show that our seed, which we call 'Virus - X - Free Foundation Seed Stock' produced a faster growing, heavier yield, better grade product than the seed

compared with.

"You can attribute this, in part, to the insect free conditions created by our cool winter weather," he said.

A special incentive rate to encourage the development of this new market for Alaskan seed potatoes was created by the Alaska Trainship Corporation in conjunction with the Alaska Railroad and Great Northern Railway.

The initial shipment of 40,000 pounds moved south by rail car on the Trainship Alaska and will be delivered by the Great Northern at Bellingham to the Lynden-growers-Art and Herb Nordland, Gene Crabtree and Gordon Bedlington.