

## Agricultural Produce Storage Box Terminology (potato boxes)

**Aspect ratio:** - a measure of stability of boxes in a *block stack*, aspect ratio is the height of the vertical stacks divided by the shortest side of the multiple boxes, eg. 6 metres / 2 metres = 3

**Block stacking:** vertical stacking of equal size empty boxes without recourse to intermediate shelves or rack beams, but with the tier of boxes restrained on at least one side and one end by adjacent stacks/tiers

**Brace:** a wooden diagonal to resist racking forces. Can be double or X-bracing or steel nailplate

**Nailplate:** punched sheet metal plate (for boxes) at least 300mm long, with each pressing forming a short nail, used to strengthen box sides, applied with a mechanical or hydraulic press. See illustration in drop box - *Nails and nailplates*.

**Racking:** the forcing out-of-square of box sides or box ends by a lateral force. This also occurs during BS 7611 test loading.

**Side:** one of the two longer panels in a potato storage box. Side length and height are given as overall size including the base height. When assembled the *side length* is known as the *box length*. For square plan boxes, the side is the panel with the intermediate post, if fitted, if no intermediate post is fitted, then the side is defined as the panel below which fork lift entry is made.

**Slatted box:** a style of construction in which vertical or horizontal side boarding has distinct gaps usually for ventilation purposes, this also weakens boxes in bowing and racking

**Stack width:** distance from left to right of a block of stacked boxes facing from the access isle.

**Stack depth:** distance from front to back of a block of stacked boxes facing from the isle.

**Tier:** a single freestanding column of vertically stacked boxes.

**Tightboarded:** boards wedged together during box assembly to temporarily increase racking resistance due to friction between the board edges. On wood drying this friction disappears, so boxes should be allowed to dry undercover for a week before any test

**Vertical stacking:** boxes of equal size superimposed upon each other.

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