

News from the Potato Lab

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September, 2010

Montana Seed Potato Seminar

The 45th Seed Seminar will be held at the GranTree on November 9-10. The Montana Growers meeting is Tuesday AM, November 9, followed by a workshop on weather monitoring and disease forecasting by Oregon State University Integrated Pest Management Specialist Len Coop. At noon we will have lunch sponsored by United Potato Growers followed by a presentation on their program. Representatives from the NPC, Tri-State and UPB will round out the afternoon. A reception will be held late Tuesday afternoon in the trade show area. For the Wednesday seminar, speakers will include Dr. Pam Hutchinson and Jeff Stark from the University of Idaho talking on weed control in potatoes and potato breeding, and Dr. Dennis Johnson from Washington talking on disease forecasting and late blight. The keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Waded Cruzado, President of Montana State University. The Southwest Montana Seed Potato Growers are hoping that all spouses and retired growers will attend the luncheon and take this opportunity to visit with fellow growers from across our state, and our customers and colleagues from visiting states.

2010 Potato Harvest

It has been a slow start, but harvest of the 2010 crop is underway. Many growers are digging seed plots and are beginning on their G2-G4 fields. With long-range warm and dry forecasts, we hope that all farmers get their crop in before hard frost.

Day and Bausch to export seed potatoes to Taiwan

As a culmination of hard work initiated by former director Mike Sun and representatives from the Government of Taiwan, Mark Bausch (Bausch

Potatoes) and Dennis Day are preparing to grow G2 Kennebecs for export to a seed company in Taiwan in 2011. Dennis has grown this popular late season multi-purpose potato up to G-1, and Mark will take over with the G-2 next spring, entering the Montana Seed Potato Certification Program for the first time. Mark and his family run Bausch Potatoes where he along with his parents and wife Denise raise potatoes for their process plant which prepares fresh hash browns, fries and diced potatoes for Montana restaurants and food services such as MSU and UM.



Dennis Day, Denise Bausch and Mark Bausch with Generation 1 Kennebec potatoes

2010 Post Harvest Test

The 2010 Hawaii Post Harvest Test will be planted at Twin Bridge Farms in North Oahu, HI. This is the same farm where we planted last year and it is located in Waialua near an old sugar mill. Planting will be conducted November 17-20 by Nina Zidack and Elaine Nichols. Leaf picking and evaluations will commence on December 29 with Nina and Eileen Carpenter. Susie will begin the lab testing on January 5. If you have plans to visit the Hawaii plots, please give Nina a call.

Tuber Testing for Late Blight

Colorado requires a late blight tuber test for any seed shipped to the San Luis Valley for certification. If you plan on sending any seed to this area, please get your tubers to us as soon as possible. The late blight test requires a 3-week incubation, so we need to have the tubers a minimum of 3-4 weeks before your shipping date.

Calendar of Events:

October 4 – Return seed directory proofs to Susie

October 26 – Ronan/Dillon/Fort Benton

Post Harvest Samples collected

October 27 – Gallatin Valley

Post Harvest Samples collected

Westervelt Trucking, Belgrade

October 20 – Payment due for microtubers and tissue culture plantlets

November 8 – MPIA Board Meeting, Advisory Committee, Research Committee, Bozeman, MT

November 9-10 – Montana Seed Potato Seminar, Bozeman, MT

2010 Certified Seed Potato Acreage

Montana seed potato acreage is down slightly this year with 9837 acres compared to 10,333 acres in 2009. Leaf testing and inspections have proven the 2010 crop to be of excellent health throughout the state. Overall, PVY levels were very low and 99.9% of acreage was certified in the class in which it was registered. The acreages for individual varieties are reported in the following table.

2010 MONTANA SEED POTATO CROP

| VARIETY | Sum Of Acres |
|---------------|--------------|
| ALL BLUE | 0.660 |
| ALL RED | 1.110 |
| ALPINE RUSSET | 43.350 |
| ALTURAS | 602.960 |
| AMISK | 177.170 |
| ASTERIX | 15.000 |
| ATLANTIC | 0.070 |
| BILDSTAR | 23.100 |
| BINTJE | 47.000 |
| BLAZER RUSSET | 11.610 |
| CAL WHITE | 74.060 |

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| CARIBE | 0.210 |
| CHARLOTTE | 0.100 |
| CHERRY RED | 2.180 |
| CHIEFTAIN | 0.800 |
| CLASSIC RUSSET | 149.040 |
| CLEARWATER RUSSET | 0.250 |
| COLORADO ROSE | 18.280 |
| CRIMSON RED | 1.200 |
| DEFENDER | 0.020 |
| EXPERIMENTAL | 0.750 |
| FRENCH FINGERLING | 1.210 |
| GALLATIN RUSSET | 59.700 |
| GERMAN BUTTERBALL | 0.800 |
| INNOVATOR | 103.200 |
| KENNEBEC | 0.260 |
| MAZAMA | 6.970 |
| MOZART | 0.500 |
| NORLAND | 9.610 |
| NORLAND 'DARK RED' | 82.890 |
| NORLAND 'RED' | 25.070 |
| PREMIER RUSSET | 15.800 |
| PURPLE PELISSE | 3.000 |
| RANGER RUSSET | 1007.890 |
| RED PONTIAC | 0.910 |
| RED STAR | 0.300 |
| RIO GRANDE | 32.940 |
| RUSSET BURBANK | 4453.750 |
| RUSSET NORKOTAH | 709.800 |
| RUSSET NORKOTAH CO(3) | 309.750 |
| RUSSET NORKOTAH CO(8) | 28.000 |
| RUSSET NORKOTAH TX(112) | 156.140 |
| RUSSET NORKOTAH TX(278) | 139.450 |
| SAGE RUSSET | 0.250 |
| SANGRE | 2.105 |
| SATINA | 26.900 |
| SHEPODY | 38.900 |
| SUMMIT | 0.000 |
| UMATILLA | 1216.270 |
| VICTORIA | 54.560 |
| VIKING 'PURPLE' | 2.180 |
| WESTERN RUSSET | 34.340 |
| YELLOW FINN | 0.100 |
| YUKON GEM | 34.635 |
| YUKON GOLD | 109.990 |
| | |
| Total Acres | 9837.09 |