

December 9, 2016

Compiled by CPAC Staff- (719) 852-3322 FAX 852-4684
Web Page: www.coloradopotato.org Email: jehrich@coloradopotato.org

NEXT CPAC MEETING

The next meeting of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (area II) will be held December 15th at 7:00 PM, in the CPAC office conference room.

CPAC ELECTIONS APPROACH

The CPAC will be conducting its annual election February 7th -9th 2016. If you are interested in serving as a member of CPAC, please submit your name to the CPAC office as a nomination to be placed on the ballot. Women, minorities, and the disabled are encouraged to participate. Available positions include:

One Alamosa County Grower, one Rio Grande County Grower, One Saguache County Grower, one Independent Handler, one seed producer and One Bulk Shipper and an alternate for each position.



The Fly-in will be February 13-16 in Washington, D.C. Potato growers and industry leaders will listen and learn as featured political and policy arena speakers address key issues facing the potato industry. Attendees also meet with administration officials from agencies including the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Fly-In culminates with attendees taking to Capitol Hill to lead the industry's grassroots advocacy efforts. The CPAC committee will assist a limited number of growers with registration and lodging cost for the Fly-in. Please contact the CPAC office if you are interested.

DON'T FORGET THE COLORADO POTATO COOKBOOK!

The cookbook is selling for \$10.00 and makes a wonderful Christmas gift. The book is a collection of recipes that were submitted from all over the U.S. Come by the CPAC office to purchase one for you, friends, and family.

SOCIAL MEDIA This month we have a number of exciting things planned for social media. We're launching an online marketing campaign this month with ABC. This will feature our brand new recipe video, which demonstrates how to make Colorado potato noodles! Check it out at: www.coloradopotato.org/potatonoodles. We will use a combination of social media ads, to target food enthusiasts primarily in the southern-eastern United States. We're excited to reach new markets with a fresh and innovative way to prepare potatoes! We will also be holding a "12 Days of Christmas Recipes" event. Each day, from December 12 through 23, we will be featuring a new holiday potato recipe on our Facebook page. Everyone who shares these recipes will be entered to win a \$100 grocery card. Each share is an entry, so that's a possible 12 entries for the entire event! (You must have liked our Facebook page to win, so make sure to like us!) We'll be drawing the winner at 4 PM on December 23.

We also are hosting a Holiday Food Drive and we need your help! Our growers keep our local food bank well-stocked with potatoes. However, this holiday season, they are in need of some other items. Any donation will help get food to families in need! **Please bring cereal, sugar, flour, juice and powdered milk to the CPAC office before December 16. Thank you in advance for your generosity!**

MARKETING December is a perfect time to join CPAC in again purchasing salad bars for the Let's Move Salad Bars to Schools initiative in partnership with Potatoes U.S.A. and United Fresh. There are hundreds of schools across the nation waiting for salad bars. School salad bars increase the student's fruit and vegetable consumption and introduce them to a wide variety of fruits and vegetables encouraging children to develop healthier eating habits. There are 55 million kids attending K-12 schools nationwide, and annually they eat over 5 billion school lunches. If potatoes were on each plate just one extra time per week that would be 3.75 M cwt. of additional potatoes served yearly. Please help us stretch our donation by partnering in the \$3,030 cost of a salad bar. Keep in mind that Potatoes USA will match all salad bar donations. That means if you partner with CPAC a needy school will get two salad bars placed for your \$1515 donation! Please contact the office if you are interested in partnering in this worthwhile program.

SO. COLO. ROCKY MOUNTAIN AG CONFERENCE

FEB 7-9TH Plan to spend some time listening to the keynote speaker Damon Mason: <https://www.damianmason.com/> and other featured speakers. Topics will include nematode control without Vydate, Silver Scurf control, comparison of low energy precision application (LEPA) and drag center pivot irrigation, hemp seed certification, poultry manure application practices, updates from N.P.C., Potatoes U.S.A., and United Potato Growers, and much more.

INTERESTING AG STORIES IN THE NEWS

Politico: <http://www.politico.com/story/2016/11/hillary-clinton-rural-voters-trump-231266>

Agri-Pulse: <http://www.agri-pulse.com/Neonic-coated-seeds-get-boost-from-court-ruling-11222016.asp>

ProgressiveFarmer; <https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/news/article/2016/11/28/competing-blueprints-cloud-tax?referrer=NLBestOf>

SuccessfulFarming: http://www.agriculture.com/news/business/can-farm-groups-and-trump-work-out-their-differences?utm_source=ag-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=todaysnews_120716&did=106541

RESEARCH NEWS

CPAC joined the NPC in offering support for research proposals seeking funding under the Farm Bill's Specialty Crop Research Initiative. The projects are led by Dr. Jeffrey Endelman at the University of Wisconsin and Dr. Amy Charkowski at Colorado State University. Endelman is working on high throughput sensing for potato production and breeding. Research on increasing the throughput sensor technology could be transformational for the industry. Dr. Charkowski is working on next generation techniques for managing bacterial soft rot. There is a growing need to better understand *Pectobacterium* and especially *Dickeya*, because this pathogen has the potential to become a serious problem nationwide. The CPAC research sub-committee will be meeting Dec. 13th. Determining priorities for 2017 research projects is on the agenda in addition to discussing our grower "soil health" practices survey. **We are asking growers to complete the survey online as part of the "Soil Health" specialty crop block grant. Growers who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing for two \$100 VISA gift cards. Here is the link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLVSoilHealth>



A comprehensive analysis of the global and North American potato industry, including: world commodity outlook; U.S. consumption trends; and 2016 planting outlook. Registration is free but required. You can watch the Summit online from anywhere on any device. Learn more at <http://www.potatobusinesssummit.com/>

AG ENERGY FORUM DEC. 14TH

Colorado farmers and ranchers spend more than \$400 million dollars on energy annually. Advanced energy technology is becoming less expensive. Come to the Monte Vista Visitors Center at 7:30 a.m. on Dec. 14th to learn how you can save on energy costs. Expert presenters from Colorado State University, the Colorado Department of Agriculture and Colorado Energy Office will provide an overview of energy opportunities in agriculture. In addition, Colorado State Climatologist Nolan Doesken will give an update on climate and weather considerations, energy and agriculture. Registration is free and breakfast is included. CPAC is one of several sponsors for this event. To register go to; <https://montevistaenergyworkshop.eventbrite.com> Or email ghanavanco@gmail.com.

TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE

Have you heard about gene editing and CRISPR-Cas9? It is a genome editing tool that is creating a buzz in the science world. It is

faster, cheaper and more accurate than previous techniques of editing DNA and has a wide range of potential applications. The MIT Technology Review listed it as one of its "10 Innovations That Could Change the World." The technology has the potential to be used to increase agriculture's productivity and help sustainably meet the demands of a growing global population. While the technology is very promising it is not without controversy. Responsible use and regulation of gene editing will be the key to its successful use. To learn more:

<https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/news/article/2016/06/17/gene-editing-comes-agriculture>

SOIL HEALTH LIBRARY

The Center Conservation District has set up a "Soil Health Library" in their office near Center. All growers know the value of improving your soil health and work their entire farming career to improve their soil. Numerous books on "healthy soil" are available for check out. Stop by if you are interested in checking out a book. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. If you have questions please call 754-3400, ext.108. Take advantage of this great opportunity.

MEETING CALENDAR:

12/15	CPAC Meeting
1/03-07	NPC Annual Meeting& USPB Winter meeting Potato Expo San Francisco
1/19	CPAC Meeting
1/20	Sponsor Adams St. BB Game
2/07-09	SLV Ag Conference

NOVEMBER SPUD FACTS

		<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Shipments	480 cwt equivalent	3245	3348	3451	3121	3444
Reds	percentage of crop	6.8	6.4	3.5	3.9	1.3
All Russet Varieties	percentage of crop	78.7	81.1	86.0	84.2	86.9
Yellow Varieties	percentage of crop	12.5	11.1	8.3	8.9	8.7
Other Varieties	percentage of crop	2.0	1.4	2.3	3.0	3.1
U.S. No. 1	percentage of crop	69.1	70.7	66.5	69.9	68.7
U.S. No. 2	percentage of crop	4.2	5.5	5.8	6.0	6.2
U.S. Commercial Grade	percentage of crop	24.4	21.9	26.1	22.3	23.7
Seed	percentage of crop	2.4	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.3
Bulk	percentage of crop	35.8	35.6	33.6	31.1	32.0
Total rail shipments		206	179	258	215	119
Total truck shipments (fresh)		2761	2889	2957	2661	3111
Total truck shipments (processing)		278	280	237	245	214
Total shipments for the year thru November		8136	8048	7522	7428	8691

Average F.O.B. prices for November (per 50 lb. carton or bale unless noted)

		<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Yellows	5 lb packs	14.00	11.54	10.82	12.14	10.25
All Russets	U.S. #1 size A	5.75	5.78	5.64	7.60	5.35
All Russets	U.S. #2	5.00	4.92	5.00	6.25	3.95
Bulk Russets	U.S. Commercial Grade 100#	6.99	6.89	5.94	10.46	4.93

On behalf of the CPAC staff, we wish you a Merry Christmas and look forward to a prosperous New Year for the potato industry.