

June 7, 2017

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### **NEXT CPAC MEETING**

The next meeting of the CPAC (area II) will be held **THURSDAY, July 20th, 2017 at 7:30 pm**

### **SEVENTH ANNUAL CPAC GOLF TOURNAMENT AND DINNER**

It is with pleasure that we invite you to the 2017 Annual Dinner & Golf Tournament, on Wednesday, June 14, 2017.

The Golf Tournament will be at the Cattails Golf Course and will start at 12:30 PM. Dinner will be at Rhybax Kitchen (located at the Cattails Golf Course) and will begin at 6 PM. There will be a raffle to benefit POPAC held with a chance to win \$1000 gift card!

Please RSVP to our office by Friday, June 9, 2017 for dinner. Come enjoy the day with Industry friends.

**ALL GROWERS, INDUSTRY PERSONNEL AND FAMILIES ARE INVITED.**

### **POTATO ACRES 2017**

The potato fly-over has been scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>. CPAC will work closely with the United Potato Growers of Colorado and NASS to insure that the acreage count is as accurate as possible given the early date that NASS needs the information.

CPAC and United Potato Growers of Colorado are partnering to gather detailed information about the 2017 potato production. Please provide a farm map with acreage by variety and organic vs. conventional, to the CPAC office or United office as soon as possible. All information is confidential and reported in aggregate. Help us give you the best information in the industry! We would like to have the maps by June 15 at the very latest. Thanks for your help.

### **GRAIN BIN SAFETY TRAINING**

C.S.U. Cooperative Extension is offering training on how to prevent grain bin accidents, and rescue methods when someone is trapped in a grain bin. The class will be on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Monte Vista Fire Station, 401 South Broadway. There will be a demonstration of a "Grain Bin Safety Tube". To register please call the CSU Cooperative Extension Service at 719-852-7381.

### **NPC SUMMER MEETING**

The NPC summer meeting will be taking place June 28-30 in Denver. The policy environment in Washington, DC, is heating up rapidly. Come to Denver and join the discussion on tax reform, a stable workforce for agriculture, trade issues, proposed budget cuts to potato research programs and the 2018 Farm Bill. There is still time to [Register for the 2017 NPC Summer Meeting](#).

### **MARKETING**

We are excited that Ride the Rockies is starting their week long trek across the Rocky Mountains in Alamosa. We will be serving baked potatoes to the 2,000 riders and support crew near the top of Wolf Creek Pass on Sunday June 11th. What better way to showcase SLV Potatoes and tout their nutritional benefits for extreme athletes. Come help serve your potatoes, and teach these ambitious riders about the power of potatoes!

We want to give a huge thank you to Wolf Creek Ski area for allowing us to bake the potatoes at their facility! Also thank you to Metz Potato Co. for furnishing the potatoes for the event.

We will also be releasing the name of our emerging artist who will be performing in concert on Sat. Sept. 9 at the Potato Festival. Stay tuned .....

The announcement will be made on our consumer e-newsletter, The Perfect Potato. Be sure to sign up for this newsletter at: [Coloradopotato.org/newsletter](http://Coloradopotato.org/newsletter)

The committee has purchased a new canopy to have at events like Potato Festival, Ag Conference, field days, and special events.

We have planted greenhouse potato plants to have in our display at State Fair, wish us good growing.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

In June we will be premiering three brand new Colorado Potato recipe videos on our social media channels! All of these recipes were developed by Chef Jason Morse and will be promoted by ABC and Scripps Media. These recipes showcase three new and exciting ways to prepare potatoes that are sure to inspire. We chose recipes that are dynamic, and can be modified into a host of other recipes. Don't forget to also check out our YouTube page! We're putting out more video content, including our *From Seed to Store* series. This series follows the life saga of a fresh potato. If you participate in any part of this process and want to be featured, please contact Savannah at [sschlaufman@coloradopotato.org](mailto:sschlaufman@coloradopotato.org). This series will not only cover the growing process, but every aspect of producing Colorado Potatoes.

Be sure to like our Facebook page, and follow us on Instagram, Twitter and Pinterest so you can keep up with all we are doing! You will also want to like the San Luis Valley Potato Festival page, since the 2017 festival is fast approaching!

### **FOCUS ON SOIL HEALTH**

A month has passed since the industry formed a soil health working group at a meeting with the Noble Foundation. The foundation is now the Noble Research Institute, but

their focus has not changed and their commitment to soil health only strengthened. The Soil Health Institute recently rolled out “An Action Plan for Soil Health”. This Action Plan for Soil Health has the potential to be very useful to our potato working group in developing a potato specific soil health plan. You can access the Soil Health Institute Action Plan at the following link:

[soilhealthinstitute.org/soil-health-institute-announces-action-plan/](http://soilhealthinstitute.org/soil-health-institute-announces-action-plan/)

A primary goal of this work is to provide potato growers with the information they need to understand the economic advantages of soil health, and have the tools they need to measure and assess their farm’s soil health.

## RECOGNITION

The CPAC committee would like to recognize the accomplishments of two individuals this month at opposite spectrums of their careers.

The Potato Association of America announced that Rob Davidson is being awarded the highest honor given by the P.A.A. He will receive the Honorary Life Membership award at the upcoming P.A.A. annual meeting in Fargo, North Dakota on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Rob served our industry in several capacities with Colorado State University for many years.

Heather Dutton was recently appointed to represent the Rio Grande basin on the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). Heather currently serves as the manager of the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District and is the daughter of Doug and Julie Messick. She is replacing Travis Smith on the CWCB. We certainly want to thank Travis for his efforts over the years and the excellent work he did representing the best interests of water users from the San Luis Valley. Best of luck to Heather.

## FARM BILL

CPAC is working as part of the Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance to review opportunities to improve the next farm bill for specialty crop producers. Many programs within the Farm Bill have worked well for specialty crop growers but potential improvements are being discussed now in preparation for the development of the next bill. Soon Farm Bill hearings will begin and the industry will be ready to provide input.

## INTERESTING AG STORIES IN THE NEWS

### BUDGET BATTLE

[www.croplife.com/editorial/budget-battle-agitating-ag/?utm\\_source=knowledgemarketing&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=clenews+06072017&omhide=true&eid=225310633&bid=1775474](http://www.croplife.com/editorial/budget-battle-agitating-ag/?utm_source=knowledgemarketing&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=clenews+06072017&omhide=true&eid=225310633&bid=1775474)

### IMPORTANT TO INVEST IN BREEDING

[seedworld.com/seed-innovation-matters-farmers/](http://seedworld.com/seed-innovation-matters-farmers/)

### RENEGOTIATING NAFTA

[www.usnews.com/news/the-report/articles/2017-06-06/ask-an-economist-whats-at-stake-for-agriculture-in-nafta-renegotiations](http://www.usnews.com/news/the-report/articles/2017-06-06/ask-an-economist-whats-at-stake-for-agriculture-in-nafta-renegotiations)

### MEETING CALENDAR:

6/14 CPAC Annual Dinner Cattails  
 6-27/30 NPC Summer meeting Denver, CO  
 7-20 CPAC meeting 7:30  
 8-6/8 Potatoes USA Summer meeting Austin, TX  
 10/20-10/22 PMA New Orleans

## MAY SPUD FACTS

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Shipments	480 cwt equivalent	3053	2852	2455	2561	3156
Reds	percentage of crop	4.2	2.3	2.8	1.1	1.6
All Russet Varieties	percentage of crop	88.4	89.5	89.7	86.9	95.1
Yellow Varieties	percentage of crop	6.8	7.8	6.0	9.4	2.1
Other Varieties	percentage of crop	0.7	0.4	1.4	2.6	1.3
U.S. No. 1	percentage of crop	58.8	61.3	64.2	65.3	67.3
U.S. No. 2	percentage of crop	7.0	7.6	8.0	8.5	7.2
U.S. Commercial Grade	percentage of crop	24.6	22.2	21.8	21.6	21.2
Seed	percentage of crop	9.7	8.9	6.0	4.6	4.3
Bulk	percentage of crop	36.4	39.4	32.5	31.0	32.6
Total rail shipments		56	119	96.0	128	141
Total truck shipments (fresh)		2514	2385	2359	2102	2716
Total truck shipments (processing)		483	348	289	331	299
Total shipments for the year thru May		26362	26269	25924	24799	27237

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

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Yellow Varieties	5# bales	13.93	14.61	17.40	13.19	20.00
All Russets	U.S. #1 size A	5.15	5.34	3.58	6.97	4.77
All Russets	U.S. #2	4.25	4.50	3.17	5.23	3.59
Bulk Russets	U.S. Commercial Grade 100 lbs	6.73	6.50	4.99	10.29	5.12