

November 8, 2017

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### **NEXT CPAC MEETING**

The next meeting of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (Area II) will be held November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm, in the CPAC office conference room. Please note the earlier time.

### **NPC NEWS**

**THE POTATO EXPO** will be held Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> in Orlando. To register and find agenda and speaker information go to [www.potato-expo.com](http://www.potato-expo.com). The NPC meeting will be Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> following the EXPO.

To register use this link:

<http://nationalpotatocouncil.org/events-and-programs/annual-meeting/>

These events are separate and require separate registrations.

**POTATO LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE-** CPAC will be represented by Jason Tillman and Karen Warsh. The class will be Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> -March 1<sup>st</sup> and will start in Monte Vista, Colorado and finish in Washington D.C.

**2017 NPC POTATO FLY-IN -** The Fly-in is February 26-March 1 in Washington, D.C. Potato growers and industry leaders will listen and learn as featured political and policy speakers address key issues facing the potato industry. Attendees will meet with administration officials from 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 for the Fly-in. Please contact the CPAC office if you are interested.

### **UNITED POTATO GROWERS OF COLORADO**

National potato production is down significantly. In Idaho, a combination of decreased acres, sub-par yield, cold weather and industry efforts to reduce production have resulted in a significant decrease in fresh market production. Colorado and Wisconsin also have reduced production, largely weather related. With this combination of factors, there is opportunity for very fair grower returns this year, given proper market discipline and management. Recognize that the shipping forecast is a living document and will be adjusted as the season progresses. This year more than ever, it is important to complete the harvest survey so Colorado has the tools and information to make marketing decisions and develop a sound shipping strategy. To complete the survey, click on the following link: [Harvest Production Survey](#)

### **MARKETING**

CPAC and several Colorado shippers joined nearly 20,000 others at the annual PMA Fresh Summit in New Orleans last month. Aspen Produce, Canon Potato Co., Farm Fresh, RPE, Wada Farms, Mountain King, and Schmieding Produce met with buyers and promoted Colorado Potatoes. Some of these shippers joined CPAC in the Colorado Dept. of Ag's Colorado Pavilion. Several interesting and innovative ideas were on display including new packaging,

flavor added products and smaller size profile potatoes. Our Mexico market consultant introduced potential Mexican produce buyers to Colorado shippers while CPAC staff shared our shipper's contact information with potential buyers. All Colorado potato shippers are invited to participate in the pavilion in 2018 at Orlando. Contact Jim or Linda for information.

Linda will be attending the BrandStorm Marketing Conference sponsored by United Fresh Produce Association Nov 13-15 in San Francisco to get insight on marketing trends, emotional marketing, the impact of tech trends, connecting with the consumer through packaging and much more.

### **POTATO SEED ACT SUNSET REVIEW**

The Colorado Department of Regulatory Affairs (DORA) is required to begin a sunset review of the Potato Seed Act in 2018. This process is beginning this month with a visit by Brian Tobias from DORA. Mr. Tobias will be at the CPAC office to meet with the Seed Law Advisory Committee on December 1<sup>st</sup>. He would like to meet with additional potato growers between 10:30 – 12:00 that morning at the CPAC office.

To help him gather information, the Seed Law Advisory Committee will be conducting a survey through CPAC. The information for this electronic survey will be sent to all potato growers via mail and electronically where email addresses are available. Please contact Jim if you have questions or need more information.

### **AG WATER SUMMIT DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>**

The Ag Water Summit brings together agricultural leaders from across the state, water professionals, elected officials, and decision makers to discuss agricultural water issues. This meeting will continue the discussion of pertinent water issues, but also present an opportunity to tell the story of "Water and Agriculture" for people unfamiliar with the role of agriculture in Colorado.

Register at this link: <https://www.coagwater.org/summit>

### **BMP'S- NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT IN AG WATER**

In many waterways across the United States nitrogen and phosphorus have the potential to accumulate and degrade water quality. This degradation has been associated with algal blooms, fish kills, and impaired drinking water supplies. Working with the E.P.A., the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has created Colorado Regulation 85. This rule addresses nutrient concentrations in surface water by encouraging the adoption of voluntary best management practices to reduce nutrient pollution in surface waterways. Regulation 85 sets a 2022 timeline for the evaluation of this voluntary approach for reducing nutrient pollution.

Colorado's farmers and ranchers have responded proactively to protect Colorado's waterways. CDPHE and CDA, with input from farmers and ranchers, tasked Colorado State University with creating resources for growers on best management practices for improving

nutrient management and Colorado's water quality. These resources include videos, a factsheet, and publications on nutrient and water quality management. To learn more see this link: [www.ColoradoAgNutrients.org](http://www.ColoradoAgNutrients.org)  
It will be important to demonstrate with data how adoption of these BMP's improve surface water quality in Colorado prior to 2022.

### HOUSE TAX REFORM PLAN

Last week House Republicans released their initial draft of a bill to reform the U.S. tax code. The legislation is designed to encourage economic growth and enhance the global competitiveness of American businesses.

For agriculture, several provisions have direct impact:

1. The estate tax exemption is doubled immediately, repealed after six years and stepped-up basis is also maintained.
2. The corporate tax rate is lowered to 20% and the pass-through rate is lowered to 25%.
3. Immediate expensing of new equipment is allowed up to a cap of \$5 million annually.
4. The "Section 199" deduction is repealed.
5. Farmers would be required to pay self-employment taxes on much of their income, real estate rents and limited partnership-passive ordinary income.

On Monday, November 6, the House Ways and Means Committee began a multi-day mark-up of the legislation. Changes will need to be made throughout the week in order to gain the necessary votes for the bill to pass both

the committee and also on the House floor. The plan is to have the work completed by the end of this week.

To read more see this link: <https://www.agripulse.com/articles/10145-gop-tax-bill>

### CDA BLOCK GRANT AWARDS

Twelve grants totaling over \$600,000 have been awarded through the Colorado Department of Agriculture's 2017 Specialty Crops Program. Funds are directed through the Colorado Department of Agriculture from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. These funds are designed to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops.

The potato projects selected are:

- Colorado Certified Potato Growers Association, Alamosa, CO, \$29,000 to facilitate a trade mission to Canada promoting Colorado seed potatoes.
- Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, Monte Vista, CO, \$36,976 to study potato coatings that will extend and improve storage of potatoes.

### MEETING CALENDAR

11/16	CPAC meeting 7:00 p.m.
12/21	CPAC meeting 7:00 p.m.
1/8-1/10	Potatoes USA Winter Meeting, Orlando
1/10-1/12	Potato Expo, Orlando
1/12-13	NPC Annual Meeting, Orlando
2/6-8	SLV Ag Conference

### OCTOBER SPUD FACTS

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Shipments	480 cwt equivalent	2658	2542	2619	2499	2469
Reds	percentage of crop	7.2	7.3	4.5	5.9	3.2
All Russet Varieties	percentage of crop	84.1	81.4	87.1	82.9	89.6
Yellows	percentage of crop	7.9	11.0	7.7	9.8	6.9
Other Varieties	percentage of crop	.9	0.2	0.7	1.4	0.5
U.S. No. 1	percentage of crop	66.1	68.2	75.6	80.2	68.5
U.S. No. 2	percentage of crop	6.1	5.0	5.5	6.4	6.1
U.S. Commercial Grade	percentage of crop	27.6	25.9	18.7	12.8	24.9
Seed	percentage of crop	.2	0.9	0	0.6	.5
Bulk	percentage of crop	33.3	40.6	32.0	27.5	32.4
Total rail shipments		94	109	64.4	92.6	163
Total truck shipments (fresh)		2295	2267	2271	2238	2080
Total truck shipments (processing)		269	165	283	168	226
Total shipments for the year to date		5144	4890	4700	4071	4307

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

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Reds	U.S. #1 size A 5#	14.20	16.58	11.21	n/a	n/a
Yellow Varieties	5#	12.90	13.79	12.07	10.97	12.50
All Russets	U.S. #1size A	6.93	5.86	5.89	5.73	7.20
All Russets	U.S. #2	5.65	5.09	4.90	5.00	5.69
Bulk Russets	U.S. Commercial Grade 100 lbs	9.85	6.88	6.92	6.18	10.40