

February 6, 2018
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**NEXT CPAC MEETING is Feb. 15th, 2018 at 7:00p.m. at the CPAC office.
CPAC ELECTION**

Voting will continue Mon. - Wed. February 12-14th at the CPAC office from 8:00am-4:30pm. The ballots are prepared but write-in ballots will be accepted. **Please take an interest in your industry and participate by voting.**

THE GOVERNOR'S OUTLOOK FORUM FOR COLORADO AGRICULTURE IS FEBRUARY 21st

This innovative and informative program will bring together producers, consumers, experts and other Ag. stakeholders to peel back the polarizing rhetoric often found in today's society.

The Forum will focus on the powerful history of collaboration and cooperation that has made agriculture in the state of Colorado the second largest driver of our economy. It will challenge and equip attendees to seek out novel alliances and ideas to benefit their own operations, the industry statewide, and beyond. Register online here: <http://www.governorsagforum.com/registration.html>

THE DOUG MONTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The application is on the CPAC website and has been sent to all local area high schools. This \$7,000 over 4 year's scholarship is for a graduating male senior from a local area high school. The student must be entering college or vocational school as a freshman. Preference will be given to students pursuing a degree in agriculture or related field of study, but all applicants will be considered. Applications are due to the CPAC office by close of business April 6, 2018. <http://www.coloradopotato.org/dougmonter/>

ASU SPONSORSHIP

Everyone had a great time cheering on the ASU Grizzlies men's and women's basketball teams. The group made sure all fans left with a bag of Colorado potatoes! Thank you to all who helped, as well as Hi-Land Potato Co. for the potatoes!

UNITED COLORADO

Join the United Potato Growers of Colorado on **Tuesday, February 13 for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at the CPAC office** for a presentation from Vive Crop Protection. Vive is developing products and technologies which increase farm efficiency & productivity, as well as reducing the environmental impact pesticide applications have on our world. They create new ways to use trusted products using their targeted Allosperse™ delivery system, which improves the targeting and performance of pesticide active ingredients. Learn more at <http://vivecrop.com/>

MARKETING

We used our new booth for the first time at the Rocky Mountain Ag Conference and Trade show last week and got rave reviews for the new design and style.

In March we will attend the Potatoes USA annual meeting in Denver. At this meeting we will get up-to-date information on Potatoes USA programs. We will then take their latest trend and demographic research into account with our own marketing planning. This ensures we are leveraging and aligning our efforts with their work, and that we are promoting Colorado Potatoes in the appropriate markets.

SOCIAL MEDIA

In January, we partnered with Simplemost to sponsor an article about foods that help reduce your midsection. This article was aimed at consumers working on their New Year's resolutions and looking to make healthy choices in 2018. Potatoes are featured within the content of the article, and our video and banner ads appear all around it every time the article is visited. This article was shared over social media, resulting in over 1,034,000 impressions!

January also began the first month of our new online campaign with Scripps Media. So far, we have gained over 511,000 impressions! These campaigns are focused on the health benefits of potatoes, and how Colorado Potatoes can help fuel athletic and mental performance. Visit our YouTube channel (goo.gl/DDsjSX) to see all of the videos!

Like Colorado Potatoes on Facebook and follow us on Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram! Also, if you haven't subscribed to the Perfect Potato eNews, our consumer newsletter, be sure to do so (coloradopotato.org/newsletter).

CPAC RESEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

Members of the research sub-committee will be traveling to Ft. Collins to meet with other Colorado commodity groups and CSU researchers on March 6-7th. The group will be exploring common research themes between the various commodities and opportunities to work together on projects and funding.

The RFP for 2018 research projects has been submitted to CSU with a due date of March 2nd. The CPAC committee submitted four specialty crop block grant concept proposals on February 1st and partnered with Dr. Amy Charkowski from CSU on a fifth proposal. These proposals will be reviewed this month and hopefully some of our ideas will be accepted.

The national industry effort seeking a Soil Health SCRI grant for \$8M continues to move forward after a successful relevancy review last week. The group has been invited to submit a full proposal to NIFA by March 16th.

NPC UPDATE

On Friday February 9th the House agreed to a Senate budget deal that sets the stage for an end to the government shutdown drama we have experienced the past few months. The budget agreement increases the debt limit, provides additional funding for both military and domestic programs, and freedom from the spending limits that the "Sequester" had required.

The agreement amounts to \$300 billion in additional spending over two years. For non-defense spending, it amounts to an additional \$63 billion in FY18 and \$68 billion in FY19. It also temporarily raised the debt ceiling by increasing it until next March 2019.

The bill provides temporary funding for the government through March 23rd when it is anticipated that an "Omnibus" appropriations bill will be unveiled that funds the government through the remaining six months of fiscal year 2018 and the entirety of fiscal year 2019. It appears that this deal will provide welcome flexibility to both the House and Senate agriculture committees as they begin the process of creating a new Farm Bill by the end of September when the current bill expires. Included in the budget agreement were provisions to make cotton eligible for the Price Loss Coverage program and help dairy producers by reducing the cost of the Margin Protection Program and lifting an underwriting cap on livestock insurance policies.

The House and Senate Agriculture committees have been delaying work on a new farm bill, waiting for the cotton and dairy provisions to be included in the budget deal.

AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY – SEQUENCING THE POTATO BEETLE GENOME

If you think that you are unlucky, think again. Not having to deal with this pest has been like winning the lottery for potato growers in the San Luis valley. The Colorado potato beetle is notorious for its role in starting the pesticide industry and for its ability to resist the insecticides developed to stop it. Managing the beetle costs tens of millions of dollars every year, but this is necessary to prevent potentially billions of dollars in damage it could cause if left unchecked.

To gain understanding a team of scientists led by **University of Wisconsin-Madison** entomologist Sean Schoville sequenced the beetle's genome, probing its genes for clues to its amazing adaptability to new environments and insecticides. The new information sheds light on how this insect jumps to new plant hosts and handles toxins.

Read the [full article at UW Madison CAL News](#)

LATE BLIGHT QUARANTINE INSPECTION FOR IMPORTED SEED

Are you planning to bring seed into the San Luis valley from outside the area? You must follow the rules established by the Late Blight quarantine (LBQ). The LBQ insures all seed imported into the SLV must be certified and accompanied by 1) a certificate that shows proof of field inspection, 2) a North American Plant Health Certificate issued by the certifying authority for seed potatoes where the seed potatoes were grown, and 3) laboratory test results documenting that a representative sample of tubers from the load(s) was tested for late blight. **Imported seed shipments must be re-inspected during the unloading process to verify the absence of Late Blight symptoms.** The rules regarding imported seed can be found on our website at this link: <https://www.coloradopotato.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Late-Blight-Quarantine-8-CCR-1203-13-eff-Jan-2014-w-SBP.pdf>

Please direct any questions concerning imported seed to the Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Service at (719)-852-4749.

MEETING CALENDAR:

2/15	CPAC meeting
2/26-3/1	NPC Washington D.C. Fly In
3/6-7	Research sub-committee meeting in Ft. Collins
3/13-3/15	USPB Annual Meeting
3/15	CPAC meeting

JANUARY SPUD FACTS

		<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Shipments	480 cwt equivalent	2973	2869	2940	3111	2956
Reds	percentage of crop	6.3	5.6	7.1	4.5	5.6
All Russet Varieties	percentage of crop	76.9	76.6	76.8	76.2	76.8
Yellow Varieties	percentage of crop	11.6	13.1	11.8	14.3	11.5
Other Varieties	percentage of crop	5.1	4.8	4.4	5.1	6.1
U.S. No. 1	percentage of crop	59.3	61.6	63.1	57.4	60.0
U.S. No. 2	percentage of crop	6.5	5.0	5.6	5.6	6.8
U.S. Commercial Grade	percentage of crop	29.1	30.7	27.0	31.6	28.0
Seed	percentage of crop	5.1	2.6	4.3	0.2	5.2
Bulk	percentage of crop	35.0	43.9	38.8	41.6	40.4
Total rail shipments		228	156	151	255	227
Total truck shipments (fresh)		2454	2469	2553	2621	2511
Total truck shipments (processing)		291	244	236	235	218
Total shipments for the year thru January		14354	14060	14233	13690	13485

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

		<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Yellow Varieties	5#	11.41	13.00	11.47	11.23	12.35
All Russets	U.S. #1-size A	8.14	5.74	5.76	5.30	7.52
All Russets	U.S. #2	6.39	5.00	4.70	4.66	6.23
Bulk Russets	US Comm. Grade 100lbs	9.75	7.00	6.81	6.11	10.50