

March 7, 2019

Compiled by CPAC Staff- PHONE (719) 852-3322 FAX (719) 852-4684

Web Page: www.coloradopotato.org Email: lweyers@coloradopotato.org, or jehrlich@coloradopotato.org

NEXT MEETING of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (area II) will be held March 21, **at 7:30pm**, in the CPAC office conference room.

DOUG MONTER SCHOLARSHIP Graduating male seniors should contact their school counselor for information and an application regarding this annual CPAC scholarship. Deadline to have them to the CPAC office is COB April 5. <https://www.coloradopotato.org/dougmonter>

CPAC AT AG DAY IN DENVER The Government Affairs sub-committee of CPAC will be participating in the Ag Day celebration at the state capitol in Denver on March 20th. We will deliver potatoes to the legislature and staff, and assist with the Chef-Legislator cook-off at noon inside the capitol. Ag Day raises awareness of the importance of agriculture in our state and country. The Colorado Agriculture Council, of which CPAC is a member, uses Ag Day to combat hunger in our state by fund raising for the Food Bank of the Rockies. If you want to learn more, donate, or participate please contact Jim.

CPAC COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS: **Saguache County** MEMBER Sheldon Rockey ALTERNATE Derek Shreck
Rio Grande County MEMBER Mark Peterson ALTERNATE Matt Seger **Alamosa County** MEMBER Art Holland ALTERNATE Erin Nissen
Seed Grower MEMBER Bob Mattive ALTERNATE David Bothell **Bulk Shippers** MEMBER Brian Harrison ALTERNATE Dave Warsh
Independent Handlers MEMBER Les Alderete ALTERNATE Jeff McCullough.

MARKETING Our project to decal a semi- trailer from **Stand By Me Trucking** is in the process of installation! Be sure to watch the road for this nice addition to CPAC advertising as the truck travels cross-country delivering potatoes and other supplies! A big thank you to Natalie and Noel at **Stand By Me Trucking** for helping us get the project completed.

We have signed a contract with Chef Jason Morse with 5280 Culinary, LLC. Jason is a national spokesperson and grill expert for Ace Hardware. Our logo will be on his truck and grill trailer as he travels the U.S. demonstrating grilling techniques and Colorado potato recipes at Ace Hardware stores. He will be developing recipes and YouTube videos using Colorado Potatoes as the main ingredient in the classes and demos he will be conducting across the country.

SEED LAW EXEMPTION REQUESTS Growers interested in applying for an exemption to the Seed Potato Act must submit their request to the Seed Law Advisory Committee through the CPAC office. If you need information on applying for an exemption please contact Jim for more information. The Seed Law Advisory Committee will likely meet in late March or early April to hear exemption requests. It is important to know that any lot approved for an exemption must have a four hundred tuber sample tested and confirmed to be free of Bacterial Ring Rot and Late Blight. Here is a link for more information: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/agplants/colorado-seed-potato-act>

CSU AG BUSINESS WEBINARS The C.S.U. Extension Agriculture and Business Management (ABM) Team will present two webinars in 2019 designed to assist farmers and ranchers manage these difficult financial times in agriculture. The 2019 Ag Outlook & Strategy Webinar will cover topics including market outlook, breakeven analysis, using commodity insurance as a part of a comprehensive marketing plan, using futures and options to manage risk, and cross hedging weaned calves. The program will be hosted by ABM Economists, Jenny Beiermann, Dr. Steve Koontz, and Dr. Brent Young. This **free** webinar will be held Tuesday, March 12th from 10:00am to 3:00pm. For more information and to register online visit <https://agoutlookwebinar.eventbrite.com>. The Financial Management Strategies Webinar will cover topics including, risk management, business planning, enterprise budgeting, record keeping, interpretation of financial statements, and selecting farm financial software. The program will be hosted by ABM Economists, Jenny Beiermann, Dr. Norm Dalsted, and Dr. Brent Young. The webinar will be held on Thursday, March 14th from 10:00am to 3:00pm. This is a **free** webinar but you must register online at <https://fmswebinar.eventbrite.com>. These programs are funded in partnership with the USDA, Risk Management Agency.

UNITED POTATO GROWERS OF COLORADO would like to thank the industry for their support of the 2019 SLV Potato Business Summit held in January. Understanding the various components of the potato industry across the globe is vital for making good farm business decisions. United Potato Growers is committed to providing the industry and United members with tools to make informed business decisions. United is a fluid organization that works diligently to meet the needs of the members. Please contact Lyla Davis at 719-852-2144 to discuss the benefits of being a member of United Potato Growers of Colorado.

SOCIAL MEDIA I would like to take a moment to say "Thank You" to everyone that helped make it possible for me to attend the 2019 Potato Industry Leadership Institute (PILI), this past month. Having the opportunity to participate in PILI with intelligent, young potato professionals from across the US was such a privilege. In the short 10 days I expanded my knowledge about the industry and the importance of networking amongst industry people. As I continue to attend meetings and conferences, I will continue to post about them on Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest), so be sure you tune in! Also, if you haven't yet, follow my blog at apeelingspectator.wordpress.com where I blog about my experiences! Thank you again for the support and for continuing to believe in me.

NPC NEWS Last week a contingent of fifteen Colorado grower leaders traveled to Washington DC for the NPC fly in. The group had the opportunity to hear from Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue and Senator Cory Gardner, and many others. The Colorado delegation traveled to the hill to meet with all of our Colorado delegation, and met with USDA trade officials and EPA scientists. Key topics discussed were trade, transportation and infrastructure, research funding, immigration reform, and the CREP farm bill program. Please consider attending this meeting next year. CPAC will pay for the registration and hotel accommodations for five industry members.

SNOWPACK As of March 4th the Upper Rio Grande basin snowpack is one hundred fourteen percent of average. While this is great news we are not at levels that we experienced as recently as 2017. See the graph here: <https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/ftpref/states/co/charts/basinploturqb19.gif>
 The message is clear from the Colorado Division of Water Resources that we need to do more to recover our aquifer than what we have been doing. Please consider what you can do on your farm. Sub-district #1 is still offering following contracts for 2019 and there are several flexible options available. Please contact Marisa Fricke with the RGWCD at 589-6301 if you are interested.

CFA SEEKING CANDIDATES The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture is seeking candidates to serve on its board of directors and advisory committee. The application is due March 20, 2019 and **is available here (downloads as a Word doc)** or on **our website at GrowingYourFuture.com**. The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture (CFA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit education corporation with the vision of advancing agricultural literacy in the next generation of citizens, consumers, and professionals. CFA's mission is connecting Colorado educators and students to their food, fiber, fuel, and natural resources. A nine-member board of directors governs the Foundation. The advisory committee helps guide the board on the development of resources and programs. The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture was established in 1991 to promote agricultural literacy in Colorado through the Agriculture in the Classroom program. The *Colorado Reader* publication reaches 1,800 classrooms during the school year, impacting 60,000 students with each issue. The Food, Fiber and More Summer AgriCULTURE Institutes are one of the many great success stories of CFA. These Institutes provide teachers with a greater understanding of Colorado agriculture and inspires them to incorporate agricultural topics into their curricula. For more information about the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture or the board of directors and advisory committee, please contact Jennifer Scharpe, CFA executive director, at 970-818-3308 or Jennifer@GrowingYourFuture.com.

RESEARCH This week Colorado will be well represented at the Soil Health Specialty Crop Research Initiative meeting in Minneapolis. Dr. Courtney Jahn, Dr. Jane Stewart, and Patrick O'Neil will be in attendance as the scientists and advisory committee work to finalize project goals and plans for 2019. To learn more see this link in Potato Grower magazine by Sarah Ehrlich: <https://www.potatogrower.com/2019/03/always-learning> Last week Sheldon Rockey, Doug Messick and Jim took part in the Potatoes USA research advisory committee in Washington DC. This committee continues to strategize how the industry can coordinate research across the country and access additional research grant funding. Locally the CPAC research proposals are due this week on March 8th. The committee will meet on March 28th to decide which projects are worthy of funding.

Last week the USDA announced it is allocating \$66 million to support 407 projects that will strengthen the nation's infrastructure for pest detection and surveillance, identification, threat mitigation, and safeguard the nursery production system. Colorado State University was successful in receiving a grant for \$278,164. The project is designed to help safeguard the US seed potato industry against emerging seed potato-borne pathogens that impact trade and farm viability. Dr. Yuan Zeng and Dr. Amy Charkowski are the principles in this project.

LATE BLIGHT QUARANTINE FOR IMPORTED SEED Are you importing seed from out of the area? Be sure that you know the rules and contact the inspection service. <https://www.coloradopotato.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Late-Blight-Quarantine-8-CCR-1203-13-eff-Jan-2014-w-SBP.pdf>

MEETING CALENDAR:

Mar 11-14 Potatoes USA annual meeting
 Mar 20 Ag Day at the Capital
 Mar 21 CPAC Monthly Meeting
 Apr 18 CPAC Monthly Meeting

FEBRUARY SPUD FACTS

		<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Shipments	480 cwt equivalent	2437	2584	2594	2771	2816
Reds	percentage of crop	7.6	6.7	7.7	6.5	5.0
All Russet Varieties	percentage of crop	75.2	75.0	72.2	76.7	71.4
Yellow Varieties	percentage of crop	13.2	11.4	11.0	10.0	14.8
Other Varieties	percentage of crop	4.2	6.9	9.2	6.7	8.8
U.S. No. 1	percentage of crop	60.7	58.0	55.1	61.5	58.1
U.S. No. 2	percentage of crop	6.3	6.3	6.1	7.9	5.9
U.S. Commercial Grade	percentage of crop	27.6	28.2	33.6	22.2	27.9
Seed	percentage of crop	5.4	7.5	5.2	8.5	8.1
Bulk	percentage of crop	40.7	41.2	49.6	40.7	42.1
Total rail shipments		44	131	134	144	148
Total truck shipments (fresh)		2197	2228	2134	2403	2462
Total truck shipments (processing)		196	225	325	224	206
Total shipments for the year to date		16926	16938	16653	17003	16507

Average F.O.B. prices for February

(Per 50 lb. carton or bale unless noted)

		<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Yellows	#5 bales	12.16	10.68	13.0	11.5	11.00
All Russets	U.S. #1size A	8.41	8.16	5.72	5.75	4.50
All Russets	U.S. #2	7.00	6.50	4.97	4.50	4.25
Bulk Russets	U.S. Commercial Grade 100 lbs	10.25	9.75	6.97	6.68	6.13