

PCS NEWS

Colorado Potato Certification Newsletter

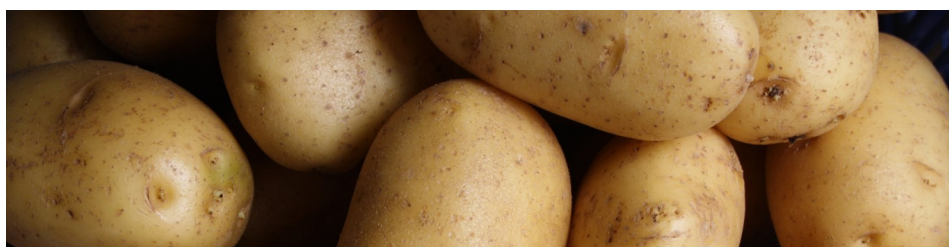
May 2019

PVY Management Workshop

PCS will be hosting a PVY management workshop on Tuesday, June 11th here at the San Luis Valley Research Center. Guest speakers will include Dr. Amy Charkowski, Professor and Department Head Biocultural Sciences and Pest Management from CSU; Dr. Stewart Gray, Research Plant Pathologist, USDA, ARS, BioIPM at Cornell University; Dr. Russ Groves, Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Entomology, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and Dr. Nina Zidack, Extension Plant Pathologist at Montana State University and Director of the Montana Seed Certification Service.

The day will start at 7:15 am for breakfast. There will be presentations on the current PVY situation here in Colorado, PVY strain biology, aphid management, strategies for producing PVY free seed, and the negative impacts of PVY on potato production. We will have testimonies from both commercial and seed growers. After lunch, there will be a roundtable discussion with all of the guest speakers.

There is no registration required, but if you plan to attend, please let Michelle know by Friday, June 7th so that we can make sure to have enough food and seats. You can email michelle.leckler@colostate.edu or call 754-3496. This workshop will be very educational and hopefully provide all potato growers in the San Luis Valley with the necessary strategies to be successful in their fight against PVY. We hope all can find the time to join us!



Speakers Left to Right: Amy Charkowski, Stewart Gray, Russ Groves, and Nina Zidack

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PCS Disease Lab

Testing G1s

Last year we offered free lab testing of G1s for PVY. A few growers participated and were able to get an idea of the mosaic levels in their G1s going into the post harvest test. We will be offering that same ELISA testing again this year. We had more G1 rejections for PVY again at winter test this year and really want to understand what is going on. We will offer this at no extra cost, as we are already picking leaves for other mandatory G1 testing, and it will not affect your certification status. If you would like us to test your G1s for PVY, please indicate that on your seed application or call Andrew or Sarah.

Molecular Testing

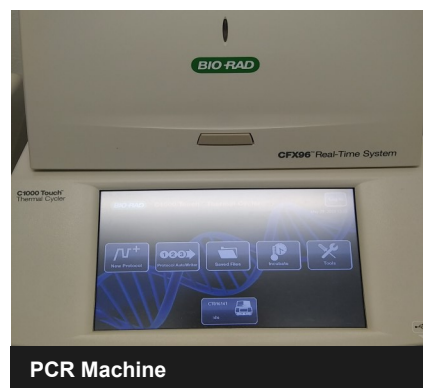
In addition to our ELISA testing, we are now able to offer several tests by polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which is a molecular technique. We can let you know what particular strain of PVY you have using leaf tissue. This can be very helpful in diagnosing those hard to visualize mosaic symptoms and let you know of potential tuber issues. Bacterial ring rot (BRR/CMS) testing of tubers is available by PCR for those planning to ship to Idaho, one of the states that requires a molecular test. We can also test tubers for Tobacco Rattle Virus (TRV) and Mop Top (PMTV). Cost of the BRR/CMS test is \$320.00 for a 400 tuber sample. The other PCR tests are \$25/well. Please let us know if you would like any of these tests.

PVY Yield Study

In our quest to understand and eradicate PVY, we will be doing a study on the effects of PVY on yield. Yes, these studies have been done and usually come to the conclusion that PVY has a negative effect on yield. However, this study will be looking at potatoes right here in the San Luis Valley.

We have three commercial growers that have agreed to let us study their year out seed versus certified seed bought and planted this year. These will be the same variety and planted on the same field so that the environmental and management aspects will be the same.

We will be comparing yield, PVY spread, and grade between the two. There will also be sub samples collected from these plots and sent to post harvest test. Look forward to hearing our results at the annual meeting in February 2020!



Inspection Section

As the time nears for our first field inspections, please keep the following in mind.

- ⇒ Make sure all of your lots are marked appropriately so that our inspectors can find them easily.
- ⇒ When requesting inspections, please keep in mind your spray schedules. We will continue to make exit calls to give a quick summary of any issues found and to let you know we are safely out of your fields.
- ⇒ We will continue with scheduling 3 inspections for G1s again this year. Please continue to call Michelle or Sarah to schedule your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and any re-inspections.



Rick Haslar, Jeff Shawcroft, and Sarah Noller plant potatoes in the Rogueing School Plot

Rogueing School

Our rogueing school plot was planted a few weeks ago, right before the snow and rain. The plot contains a number of different varieties: Atlantic, Banana, Canela Russet, Centennial Russet, Chipeta, Colorado Rose, Mesa Russet, Reveille Russet, Rio Grande Russet, Rose Finn Apple, Russet Norkotah 3, Russet Norkotah 278, Sangre 11, and Yukon Gold.

Our school helps inspectors and growers to recognize PVY. The school is a very important tool, especially with newly emerging PVY strains that are becoming harder to visualize. This year the school will take place on June 26th and 27th, depending on how the growing season goes.



Summer Field Inspector

Important Growing Season Info

Applications are due June 1st or 14 days after last plant date with payment and there is a \$500 per day late fee! Please make sure that you have looked over your application and included all necessary documents: signature page, PVP permission to grow, NAHC, bulk certificates, tags, maps, and proper disease testing documentation. If you have any questions, please give us a call!

CSU Field Day

Please join us at the San Luis Valley Research Center for Field Day on June 19th! Registration begins at 7:45. We will have a number of speakers: Dr. David Holm, Dr. Sastry Jayanty, Dr. Samuel Essah, Dr. Andrew Houser, Dr. Chakradhar Mattupalli, Pat McDermott, Judy Jolly, Dr. Steven Pierce, and more to be announced. Lunch will be at noon catered by Sunflour Bakery.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our seed potato certification services.

**Potato Certification Service
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Visit us on the web at
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