

March 6, 2020

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NEXT MEETING of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (area II) will be held March 19, **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 6th. [For the application](#)

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 25th. 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. We will be teaming up with Colorado Cattlemen and Chef Jason Morse for our recipe this year. 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:

Bulk-Member Doug Cooper, Alternate Molli McBride

Alamosa Cty.-Member Tyler Mitchell, Alternate Miguel Diaz

Rio Grande Cty. - Member Roger Mix, Alternate Jason McCoy

Saguache Cty. - Member Kent Palmgren, Alternate Kent Price

Costilla/Conejos Cty. - Member Virgil Valdez, Alternate Byron Kunugi

Independent Handlers- Members Jason Tillman and Jared Smith, Alternates Matt Smartt and Stephanie Chandler

CPAC DONATION TO SKI HI PROJECT The Friends of Ski Hi Park are raising money to build a new event center at Ski Hi Park. The local community needs to raise nearly \$900,000 to qualify for grant funds for the project. Currently the community has raised \$625 K. The CPAC committee voted to donate \$25,000 towards this project and will match up to an additional \$25,000 for donations from potato industry member's contributions. This vital project is crucial to the prosperity of our local communities.

To donate make your check payable to the City of Monte Vista and note Ski Hi Park Renovation.

If the donation is over \$100 it will qualify for enterprise zone tax credit.

If you have already given to the project, your donation will count as part of the match CPAC has committed. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting this effort.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID 19) UPDATE

Brenda Felmlie with Rep. Scott Tipton's office provided this information for those wanting more information on the Coronavirus situation. I would recommend the CDC website for the best information on the virus itself.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>

<https://tipton.house.gov/co-03-resources-coronavirus>.

MARKETING

Jess had the opportunity to attend the 2020 Social Media Marketing World Conference in San Diego, CA this week. The conference had 5,000 attendees who all focus on social media marketing. Jess learned a great deal at the conference. We are excited to take the tips, tricks, and advice of social media marketing experts and implement them to promote potatoes. Social media is where it is at today with consumers. Our plan is to use the different platforms to promote and educate consumers about Colorado Potatoes and potato nutrition. As we begin to push more information onto social media, please be sure that you like, follow, and share our information—if you're on social media, of course! ☺

CPAC staff and your Potatoes USA representatives will be in Denver this week for Potatoes USA annual meeting to gain more marketing knowledge.

AG NEWS

[Aggressive Water Management](#)

[Unique use for French fries- NOT!](#)

[GMO Blight Resistant Potato](#)

POTATO LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION AND ADVANCEMENT FOUNDATION (POTATO LEAF)

Through the leadership of the NPC and Potatoes USA board of directors a new foundation, Potato LEAF, has been created. Potato LEAF's mission is leadership development of the future generations of leaders in the potato industry through education and training. Potato LEAF will be the mechanism replacing the Potato Leadership Institute moving forward.

They have set a goal of raising \$2 million in Potato LEAF's inaugural year. Can we count on you to become a Founders Society member? If you pledge before June 15, your tax-deductible contribution will be matched dollar-for-dollar by Potatoes USA, up to \$500,000. This is an exciting opportunity to double your impact on the potato industry! **[Text LEAF to 41444 to donate now or visit www.pleaf.org to donate](https://www.pleaf.org)**

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 be meeting on March 19th at the CPAC office 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.

[Seed Law exemptions and more](#)

NPC FLY-IN

A BIG THANKS to the twelve Colorado grower leaders who invested their time and energy in traveling to Washington DC for the NPC fly-in. 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, and the Farm Workforce Modernization Act. We want to recognize and thank our Potato Industry Leadership Institute participants- Sarah Noller and Cliff Shaw for their outstanding contribution to the program. **Please consider attending this meeting next year. CPAC will pay for the registration and hotel accommodations for five industry members.**





PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

The SLV Weed Management Association has coordinated a “free training” to all those who are interested in learning more on pesticide application. Mountain West PEST founder Sandra McDonald will be the instructor. Ms. McDonald has 13 years of experience working as an Environmental and Pesticide Education Specialist at Colorado State University. The training will be held at Trinidad State College on March 25-26th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. R.S.V.P. is required at 719-849-8710 or slvwma@gmail.com

RESEARCH

The CPAC research sub-committee met on February 21st for presentations on seventeen research concept proposals. Researchers briefly presented their ideas and budget at this meeting with limited time for Q&A from committee members. The committee then met on March 2nd to discuss which projects to ask to submit full proposals. The committee invited eight researchers to submit proposals for thirteen projects. These proposals are due March 20th. The committee will then score the proposals and prioritize funding. This year the funding requested was over \$480 K. Last year the CPAC committee \$247,750 to research projects and secured \$162,960 in additional research funding through specialty crop block grants and the Colorado State University Shared Crop Commodity Challenge grant program. The deadline for the NIFA grant that CPAC was awarded is April 2nd. We are hopeful that we will receive proposals that we can support. Here is some interesting research on our nemesis PVY: [Potato Virus Y Research](#)

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. [Late Blight Rules](#)

MEETING CALENDAR:

Mar 09-12	Potatoes USA annual meeting
Mar 19	CPAC Monthly Meeting
Mar 25	Ag Day at the Capital
Apr 16	CPAC Monthly Meeting

FEBRUARY SPUD FACTS

		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Reds	Percentage of Crop	5.3	7.6	6.7	7.7	6.5
All Russet Varieties	Percentage of Crop	75.8	75.2	75	72.2	76.7
Yellows	Percentage of Crop	14.6	13.2	11.4	11	10
Other Varieties	Percentage of Crop	4.2	4.2	6.9	9.2	6.7
U.S. No. 1	Percentage of Crop	59.6	40.7	58	55.1	61.5
U.S. No. 2	Percentage of Crop	5.3	6.3	6.3	6.1	7.9
U.S. Commercial Grade	Percentage of Crop	25.8	27.6	28.2	33.6	22.2
Seed	Percentage of Crop	9.3	5.4	7.5	5.2	8.5
Bulk	Percentage of Crop	37.9	40.7	41.2	49.6	40.7
Total Rail Shipments	480 CWT Equivalent	25	44	131	134	144
Total Truck Shipments (Fresh)	480 CWT Equivalent	2266	2197	2228	2134	2403
Total Truck Shipments (Processing)	480 CWT Equivalent	478	196	225	325	224
Total Monthly Shipments	480 CWT Equivalent	2769	2437	2584	2594	2771
Total YTD Shipments	480 CWT Equivalent	16697	16926	16938	16653	17003

AVERAGE F.O.B. PRICES FOR FEBRUARY

(per 50 lb. carton or bale unless noted)

		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Reds	U.S.#1 A 5#					
Yellows	5#	13.5	12.16	10.68	13.00	11.50
All Russets	U.S. #1 Size A	8.75	8.41	816.00	5.72	5.75
All Russets	U.S. #2	6.5	7.00	6.50	4.97	4.50
Russet	U.S. Commerical Grade 100	12.25	10.25	9.75	6.97	6.68