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

Web Page: [www.coloradopotato.org](http://www.coloradopotato.org) Email: [jcrowther@coloradopotato.org](mailto:jcrowther@coloradopotato.org)

### **NEXT CPAC MEETING**

The next meeting of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (area II) will be held on January 19th at 7:00 pm, in the CPAC office conference room.

### **LATE BLIGHT QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS**

**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 ensures 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. This includes mini-tubers and seed potatoes brought in for research and development purposes too.** Please contact the Fruit and Vegetable Inspection Service at (719)-852-4749 with your questions before bringing certified seed into the area. For imported seed rules: [LBQ Rules](#)

### **2023 NPC WASHINGTON SUMMIT**

Please consider joining fellow potato growers from across the nation in Washington D.C. this coming February 28-March 3<sup>rd</sup>. NPC's annual [Washington Summit](#) provides a forum for potato industry members to discuss, define, and advocate for the policy priorities impacting their businesses and protecting their ability to farm. During the week, participants:

- Hear from the nation's top political and policy experts
- Welcome NPC's new officers and grower leaders
- Meet with members of Congress representing potato-growing states.

**The CPAC committee has funds to pay for 5-7 growers to participate in this event including airfare, lodging, meals, and registration.** If you have never visited your congressional representatives in Washington this is a great opportunity for you to do so. Please let Jim know if you are interested or need more information at 719-849-8082 or [jehrich@coloradopotato.org](mailto:jehrich@coloradopotato.org). To make travel plans please let us know soon.

### **COLORADO FRUIT & VEGETABLE GROWER ASSOCIATION (CFVGA)**

If you are a potato grower in the San Luis Valley you can become a member of the CFVGA for half price because of CPAC's affiliation with CFVGA. This membership is well worth the investment. If you have questions, please contact the CPAC office for details and visit their website for membership benefits.

[Membership benefits](#)

The CFVGA Annual conference is being held February 21-22 at the Westin in Westminster. To learn more about their exciting program and to register click here: [Registration](#)  
Remember if you take advantage of joining before registration you will save significantly.

### **COLORADO LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW**

The CPAC committee contracts annually with Bowditch & Cassell Public Affairs to track developments during the legislative session to keep growers aware of proposed regulations and laws that could affect potato growers and shippers. The following information is a partial excerpt from the legislative preview they provided the CPAC committee before the legislative session that began on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

The November 2022 election increased Democratic control of the State Capitol: Governor Polis was re-elected, and the Democrats gained 5 seats in the House (for a majority of 46-19), and 2 seats in the Senate (for a majority of 23-12). The turnover in the House is particularly noteworthy – there are 31 new members of the 65-member chamber. The Senate will have institutional knowledge

with many newly elected members (except 2) transitioning from the House.

With regards to ballot measures: Colorado voters cut the income tax rate from 4.55% to 4.40% and approved a dedicated General Fund transfer for affordable housing. These measures will not impact the current state budget (because of the TABOR refunds) but will cause a strain on future state budgets once the refunds are gone. The voters also reduced the tax exemption for wealthy individuals to provide “free lunch for all” to K-12 students.

The 2023 regular session will convene on Monday, January 9, and meet through May 8, 2023. Governor Polis and the Democratic majority have stated that making Colorado more affordable is their top priority. Their stated goal is to reduce everyday costs for Colorado citizens regarding housing, childcare, education, and other areas. The Democratic majorities will be led by a diverse group of legislators as the legislature is becoming more reflective of Colorado’s changing demographics.

Buckle up for the next 120 days.

## CPAC ELECTIONS

Please consider serving on the CPAC committee. Our election will be held at the Ag Conference on Feb. 7-9<sup>th</sup> at our booth. We are seeking nominations for the following positions:

Independent Handler

Bulk Shipper

Alamosa County

Rio Grande County

Saguache County

Seed Grower

If you are interested or have questions, please let us know so we can submit your name on the ballot. The Department of Agriculture’s programs are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or marital status. We strive for CPAC and its committees to reflect the diversity of individuals served by its programs. It is therefore the Committee’s policy to have the representation of producers from diverse backgrounds on its committee and strongly encourages women, younger growers, minorities, and persons with disabilities to seek nominations to the Committee and to participate in the Committee’s activities.



The schedule includes updates from the National Potato Council on current legislative issues including the prospect for a new Farm Bill in 2023, information from Potatoes USA on how the interior of Mexico has opened for potato exports, and Soil Health information from Jimmy Emmons and Ken Frost. Chef Jason Morse is returning for social hour on Tuesday with creative potato dishes to delight your pallet. For the agenda and registration for the conference:

[Conference Registration](#)

CPAC AND Wilbur Ellis are sponsoring the Private Pesticide Applicator training workshop after the conference on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> by Don Henderson. 7 core credits will be available. Contact Don for more information at 719-852-0824.

## NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW- CAM’s CLASSROOM

CPAC hosted a day full of Potato Presentations on January 11, 2023 at the National Western Stock Show’s Ag Adventure. Jess, Mark Peterson and Art Holland spent the day in CAM’s Classroom where they presented about the life cycle of a potato from planting to harvest, talked about potato nutrition and much more! They presented to almost 100 school aged students and their chaperones/parents. If you visit the Stock Show, be sure to visit the Ag Adventure on the third floor of the Hall of Education building to learn about Colorado’s diverse commodities and catch an ag presentation in CAM’s Classroom.



## AG STORIES

[John Deere & Right to Repair](#)  
[Fertilizer Price Outlook](#)

[Sustainability comparison](#)  
[Pesticides in Food](#)

## NEMATODE RESEARCH TO HELP POTATO GROWERS

Recently an industry-wide research team received a \$6.8 million [U.S. Department of Agriculture award](#) to develop new diagnostic tools, management practices, and resources for controlling harmful nematodes in potato fields. The four-year project is funded through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Specialty Crop Research Initiative, which is part of the Farm Bill. The project's goals include developing support models to guide growers' management decisions, identifying molecular assays to differentiate nematode pathotypes, developing resistant potato varieties, and creating a "smart chemical" for nematode-specific control. Louise-Marie Dandurand with the University of Idaho heads the project, titled "PAPAS: Potatoes and Pests, Actionable Science Against Nematodes." In addition to U of I researchers, the project includes researchers from Washington State University, Cornell University, Oregon State University, Michigan State University, University of Wisconsin, and USDA-ARS.

The researchers are seeking to identify a gene responsible for nematode resistance within litchi tomato, which is a plant in the nightshade family known to stimulate nematode cysts to hatch in the absence of a viable host. Potato breeders would then introduce the trait into popular potato varieties using biotechnology. Conventional breeding efforts to develop resistant varieties are also underway. "We have made quite a bit of progress toward introducing resistance through traditional breeding methods," Dandurand said.

Researchers have developed potato varieties with up to 50% resistance to nematodes. The project aims to significantly boost the resistance level by producing varieties that incorporate multiple resistance genes.

## CDA NEWS

The Colorado Department of Agriculture's (CDA) [Agricultural Workforce Development Program \(AWDP\)](#) is now accepting applications from businesses looking to hire interns for the 2023 growing season. The AWDP provides financial incentives to Colorado farms, ranches, and agricultural businesses to hire interns and provide them with the hands-on training. Qualified businesses may be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the actual cost of hiring an intern, up to \$5,000. To apply, qualifying agricultural businesses must complete [an online application](#). Applications are open now and will be accepted through February 10,

2023. Applications received by the deadline will be evaluated by a team of reviewers, and award notices will be sent out in late February 2023.

## COLORADO AG FORUM

Beyond just production and profit, what really drives agriculturists is possibility. The 2023 Colorado Ag Forum zeroes in on this innate quality, with a program full of dynamic speakers and presentations, featuring the latest in innovation, collaboration, and glimpses into what the possibilities of Colorado agriculture holds not just in the present, but the future. The Colorado Agriculture Leadership Program is pleased to host the Colorado Ag Forum, with this year's theme, Expect Excellence, promising a day full of networking and discovering what lies ahead for our state's second-largest economic driver.

[Registration](#)

## LIVESTOCK FEED

If you are feeding potatoes to livestock please report the cwt. to the CPAC office so we can update crop disappearance. This information is relevant for market supply and market prices.

## MEETING CALENDAR:

1/19 CPAC Meeting  
 2/7 to 2/9 SLV Ag Conference  
 2/16 CPAC meeting  
 2/21 to 22 CFVGA Annual meeting  
 2/23 Colorado Ag Forum  
 2/28 to 3/3 NPC Annual meeting & Fly-In

		DECEMBER SPUD FACTS								
		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
Reds	Percentage of Crop	3.6	3	5.2	6.5	6	6.6	5.9	6.7	
All Russet Varieties	Percentage of Crop	80.8	81	79.2	80.7	77.1	78.4	77.4	75.7	
Yellows	Percentage of Crop	13	13.5	12.4	11.3	13.1	12.2	12.5	14.1	
Other Varieties	Percentage of Crop	2.6	2.4	3.2	1.4	3.8	2.6	4.2	3.5	
U.S. No. 1	Percentage of Crop	67.5	65.5	66.4	66.5	66.2	63.9	64.8	63.5	
U.S. No. 2	Percentage of Crop	4	4.5	5	5.5	5.2	6.2	4.6	5.1	
U.S. Commercial Grade	Percentage of Crop	26.5	27.4	26.8	27.7	25.5	27.6	27.1	27.3	
Seed	Percentage of Crop	2	2.6	1.8	0.3	3.1	2.4	3.4	4.1	
Bulk	Percentage of Crop	33	35.7	35.5	34.9	33	35.4	40.1	37.8	
Total Rail Shipments	480 CWT Equivalent	103	109	19	134	153	159	188	175	
Total Truck Shipments (Fresh)	480 CWT Equivalent	2633	2600	2576	2454	2486	2401	2585	2700	
Total Truck Shipments (Processing)	480 CWT Equivalent	367	150	254	344	391	241	283	369	
Total Monthly Shipments	480 CWT Equivalent	3103	2859	2849	2932	3031	2801	3056	3244	
<b>Total YTD Shipments</b>	480 CWT Equivalent	<b>10898</b>	<b>10806</b>	<b>11416</b>	<b>10731</b>	<b>11332</b>	<b>11380</b>	<b>11190</b>	<b>11292</b>	
<b>AVERAGE F.O.B. PRICES FOR DECEMBER</b>										
(per 50 lb. carton or bale unless noted)										
		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	
Reds	U.S.#1 A 5#	n/a	n/a	13.50	16.69	12.75				
Yellows	5#	n/a	n/a	14.00	13.69	12.75	11.75	13.38	11.00	
All Russets	U.S. #1 Size A	\$12.63	8.45	8.50	8.38	8.26	7.93	5.50	5.75	
All Russets	U.S. #2	n/a	n/a		6.88	6.50	6.23	5.00	4.85	
Russet	U.S. Commerical Gra	n/a	n/a		11.50	9.75	9.75	6.98	6.69	