



Potato Progress

Research and Extension for Washington's Potato Industry

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A PREVIEW TO THIS YEAR'S POTATO FIELD DAY AND SEED LOT TRIAL

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The annual potato field day, which includes the seed lot trial, has become a tradition that many of us look forward to each year near the end of June. For those of you who don't know, Dr. Robert E. Thornton retired in January, and I was hired as the new Extension and Research Horticulturist at WSU – Pullman. Despite the change in leadership, the tradition will carry forward. Seed lot numbers were up this year, with 343 seed lots entered, compared with 335 in 2003, and 312 in 2002. Twenty percent of the lots were planted in the seed lot trial March 23, 26% planted on April 6, 34% planted on April 20, and 20% planted on May 4. Notable changes from last year include an increase in Shepody, Russet Burbank, and "Other" variety lots (see table). Some of the newly released Tri-State varieties, GemStar (A9014-2), Defender (A90586-11), and Western (A7961-1), were included in the "Other" category. Almost half of the Norkotah seed lots were designated as a Colorado strain (CORN 3 or 8). There was a dramatic increase in the number of Shepody lots coming from Oregon. Montana seed contributions were up for each variety, except for Norkotah and Umatilla. The potato field day will begin at 8:30 am on Friday, June 25 at the WSU Othello Research Farm (program on page 3). In addition to viewing the seed lots, you will be able to participate in one of three concurrent sessions. Sessions I and II will allow you to view a sample of this year's in-field research. We anticipate that all three sessions will offer CCA credits, and that Sessions II and III will offer pesticide applicator recertification credits. A hosted lunch, offered between 11:30 and 1:30, will complete the field day.

2004 Washington Seed Lot Profile - Potato Varieties by Seed Growing Region

Source	Alturas		Burbank		Norkotah		Ranger		Shepody		Umatilla		Other		Total #		% Total	
Year	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003
ALB	0	0	9	18	1	5	6	9	0	0	6	5	4	2	26	39	8	12
CAN	0	0	10	4	1	0	8	3	2	3	0	0	1	1	22	11	6	3
CO	0	0	0	0	16	20	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	21	22	6	7
ID	5	8	10	5	0	6	15	22	12	14	6	5	6	5	54	65	16	19
MT	9	7	73	63	14	17	30	23	3	1	24	25	6	3	159	139	46	41
OR	1	1	3	3	0	2	6	7	12	1	0	5	6	3	28	22	8	7
OTHER	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	2	5	1	0	2	2	9	10	3	3
WA	2	1	2	6	6	8	5	5	0	1	2	2	7	4	24	27	7	8
TOTAL #	17	17	108	100	40	60	71	69	31	25	39	43	37	21	343	335		
% TOTAL	5	5	32	30	12	18	21	21	9	7	11	13	11	6				100

Norkotah category includes all strains of Russet Norkotah

2004 "OTHER" sources include ND, NEV, NEB, SD

2003 "OTHER" sources include ND, NEB, WY, Unknown

2004 "OTHER" varieties entered: A8893-1, A88338-1, A9045-7, GemStar (A9014-2), Defender (A90586-11), Western R. (A7961-1), Gem, Yukon G. Atlantic, Cascade, White Chellas, Yellow Gold Dust, Ivory Rose, Klondike Rose, Nordonna, D.R. Norland, Cal Red, Santana, Mazama, Molli, Cherry Red

Beet Leafhopper Counts

For the most recent beet leafhopper counts region-wide, see the following web site:

www.potato.prosser.wsu.edu

All evidence gathered so far is pointing toward beet leafhopper as the most important vector of the "purple top" or "yellows" disease caused by the BLTVA phytoplasma. Data at the above web site only reflect beet leafhopper numbers. Beet leafhopper numbers region-wide have been steadily increasing for weeks, but are still not extremely high.

Potato Progress Switching to E-mail or Fax Distribution

In an effort to cut postage costs, the Commission is moving most of its newsletter distributions to e-mail and fax. If you want to continue to receive Potato Progress, you will need to be sure that we have a valid e-mail address or fax number (unless you have neither). Note that the e-mail form of Potato Progress will arrive as a PDF, and so you will need Acrobat Reader on your computer to view the attachment. **If you have not yet responded to previous enquiries, please fax, e-mail, or call Andrew Jensen at the commission office with your preference.**

Potato Field Day Program

June 25, 2004

WSU Othello Research Unit

(6 miles East of Hwy. 26/17 Junction, On Booker Rd, ¼ Mile South of Hwy. 26)

8:30 - 9:00 am Coffee and rolls

9:00 - 10:20 am Visit Seed Lot Trial

Concurrent Session I

Potato Cultural Practices Field Tour

- 10:30 am **New Market Potential? Evaluation of Nine Cultivars Bred for Starch Production**
Mark Pavek, Ed Driskill, and George Newberry - Washington State University, Pullman
- 10:45 am **Understanding Growth and Development Cycles of New and Old Cultivars**
Mark Pavek, Ed Driskill, and George Newberry - WSU, Pullman
- 11:00 am **Manipulating Tuber Size Distribution in Russet Norkotah Selections by Altering Stem Number/Tuber Set Relationships** *Rick Knowles and Lisa Knowles - WSU, Pullman*
- 11:15 am **Profiling Tuber Maturity and Storability of Ranger, Umatilla, and Russet Burbank**
Ed Driskill, Lisa Knowles, and Rick Knowles - WSU, Pullman
- 11:30 am **Seed Productivity Studies – At-Harvest Seed Maturity, After-Storage Handling, and Modification of Predicted Yields** *Rick Knowles and Lisa Knowles - WSU, Pullman*
- 11:50 - 1:30 pm **HOSTED LUNCH**

Concurrent Session II

Potato Pest Management Field Tour

- 10:30 am **Beneficial Insects in Potatoes: Predators of the Colorado Potato Beetle and Their Enhancement** *Gary Chang and Bill Snyder - WSU, Pullman*
- 10:45 am **Beneficial Insects in Potatoes: Natural Enemy Diversity and Green Peach Aphid Biocontrol** *Cory Straub and Bill Snyder - WSU, Pullman*
- 11:05 am **New Chemistry Fungicides for Black Dot and Rhizoctonia**
Tom Cummings and Dennis Johnson - WSU, Pullman
- 11:20 am **Effect of Seed-Generation & Quadris Application on Black Dot Development**
Nadav Nitzan, Dennis Johnson, and Tom Cummings - WSU, Pullman
- 11:35 am **Seed Tuber Chronological Age as a Factor in Potato Plant Stem Number**
George Newberry and Robert Thornton - WSU, Pullman
- 11:55 - 1:30 pm **HOSTED LUNCH**

Concurrent Session III

Potato Pest Management Workshop

- 10:35 am **Recognizing and Managing Bacterial Ring Rot**
Phillip Nolte - University of Idaho, Idaho Falls
- 11:05 am **A Review of Phosphorus Nutrition in Potatoes**
Don Horneck – Oregon State University, Hermiston
- 11:35 am **Soil Organic Matter as it Relates to Pesticide Label Restrictions**
Bill Cobb, Cobb Consulting, Pasco, WA
- 12:05 am **Leafhopper/BLTYA and Potato Tuber Moth Trapping Updates**
Andrew Jensen – WA State Potato Comm., Joseph Munyaneza – USDA-ARS Yakima
- 12:35 - 1:30 pm **HOSTED LUNCH**

Potato Commission Research: Priority Setting Meeting Following the Field Day

The potato commission will be conducting a meeting of interested industry members following the Seed Lot Field Day in the main potato building at the Othello Research Unit. The meeting is open to any interested potato industry members, and will commence at 1:30 pm.

To help you and the commission prepare for the meeting, please fill out the form below, placing your single biggest issue in each category, with **brief** details. Focus on questions that, as you work the potato crop each season, you think to yourself, "I really wish I knew how to _____?" For example, one might list "nitrogen" in the fertility category. What is your specific issue related to nitrogen? **Please fax or mail this form back to the commission prior to June 24th, or at the very least, bring it with you to the meeting (fax: 509-765-4853). Come prepared for lively debate, as this will be the goal of the moderator!**

Fertility and soil issues: _____.

Details: _____
_____.

Irrigation: _____.

Details: _____
_____.

Storage: _____.

Details: _____
_____.

Insects and other arthropods: _____.

Details: _____
_____.

Diseases and nematodes: _____.

Details: _____
_____.

Other: _____ . Details: _____

_____.

Name (optional): _____.