



Potato Progress

Research and Extension for Washington's Potato Industry

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June 11, 2008

2008 Washington State Commercial Seed Lot Profile and Potato Field Day Preview

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Washington State University, Pullman

Despite the high prices in the corn and wheat markets, potato seed lot samples entered into the commercial seed lot trial were up slightly from the previous year. There were 316 seed lots submitted this year, compared with 314 in 2007 and 339 in 2006 (Figure 1). Although the seed lot number didn't go down, it is not clear whether or not the potato acreage changed from the previous year. The dotted line in Figure 1 represents the potato acreage planted in WA each year. There appears to be a weak correlation between seed lot number and acres planted, but it is not consistent each year.

Because the U.S./Canadian border was closed to Alberta-grown seed potatoes this spring, seed became scarce and WA growers scrambled to find seed where they could. The dramatic decrease in Canadian seed lots brought into WA turned into a gain for CO, ID, OR, and WA seed growers (Figure 2).

It is difficult to calculate how big of an effect the border closure had on which varieties were planted in WA this year, but it likely played a role (Figure 3). Burbank, Ranger, Shepody, and Umatilla were all down from 2007, while Alturas, Norkotah, Premier and "Other" seed lots increased. Premier Russet (A93157-6LS) jumped from 1% of seed lots in 2007 to over 7% in 2008.

Varieties developed by the Northwest Potato Variety Development Program/PVMI accounted for 50% of the seed lots entered into the 2008 trial and included: Premier, Highland, Summit, Alturas, Ranger, Umatilla, A9305-10, A9045-7, and A88338-1.

The potato field day will begin at 8:30 am on Friday, June 27 at the WSU Othello Research Farm (see program below). 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 for WA, OR, ID, and MT. A hosted-lunch, offered between 11:50 and 1:30, will complete the field day. The agenda, seed lot information, and a map to the research center can be found on our website:

www.potatoes.wsu.edu

Figure 1. Number of Potato Seed Lots Entered into the Seed Lot Trial (bars) and WA Acreage (dotted line) Across the Past 18 Years

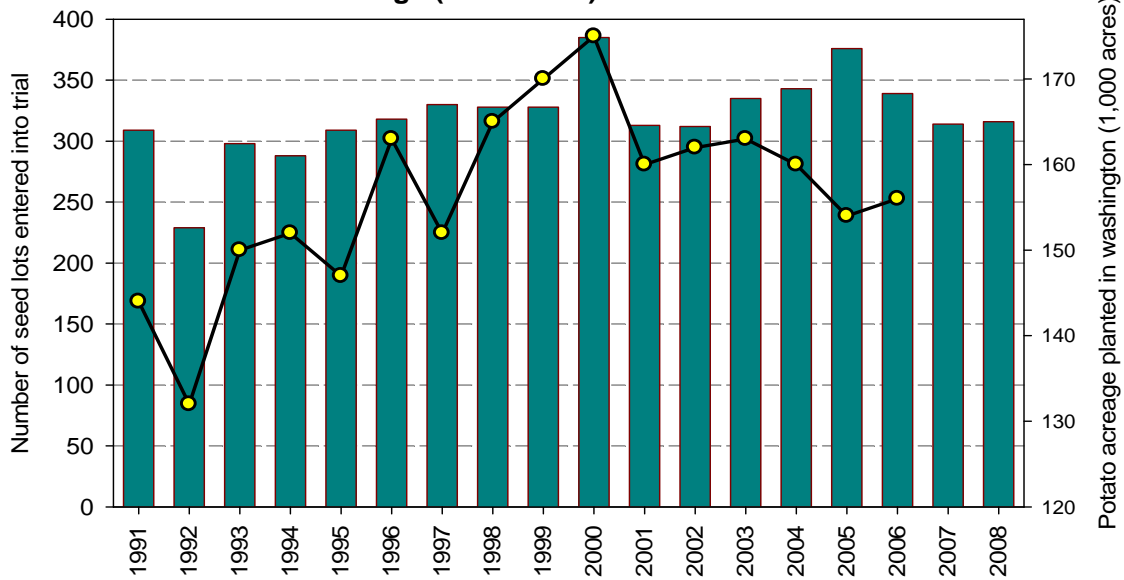


Figure 2. Percent of Seed Lots from each Region between 2006-08

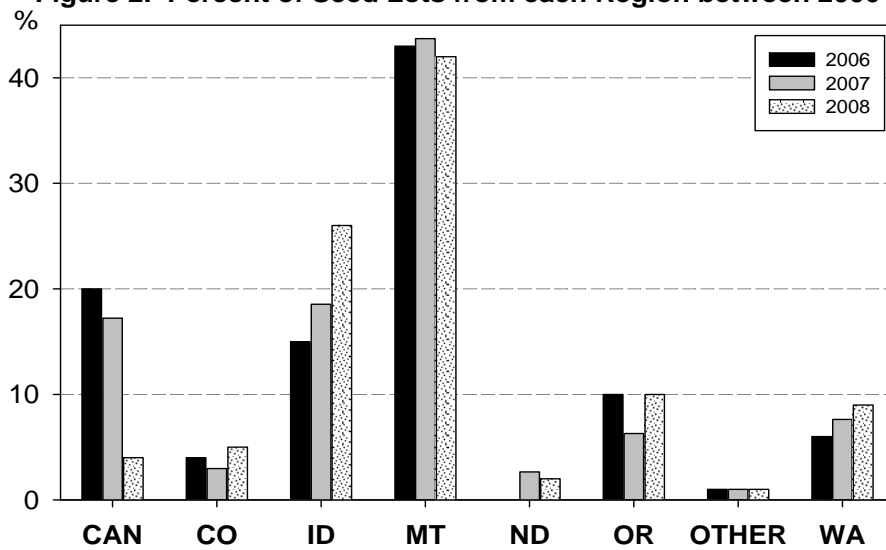
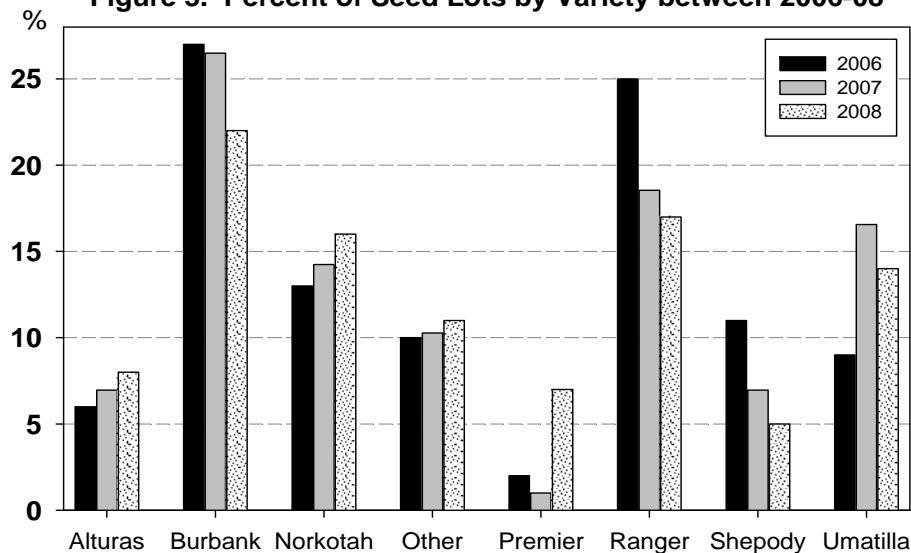


Figure 3. Percent of Seed Lots by Variety between 2006-08



WSU Potato Field Day – June 27, 2008

Located at 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 **PVMI – Where is my money going?**
Jeanne Debons – Potato Variety Management Institute, Bend, OR
- 10:45 am **How to Monitor for Tuberworm Using Pheromone Traps**
Andrew Jensen – Washington State Potato Commission – Moses Lake
- 11:00 am **Seed Productivity, Tuber Maturity & Postharvest Quality Studies**
Rick Knowles, L. Knowles, D. Zommick, G.N.M. Kumar, M. Pavek, N. Fuller – WSU, Pullman
- 11:15 am **Screening New Potato Cultivars for Water Use Efficiency**
Mark Pavek, Zach Holden, Rudy Garza, Josh Rodriguez – WSU, Pullman
- 11:30 am **Defining In-Season Nitrogen Rates and Application Timing to Maximize Potato Profits**
Chris Hiles, Mark Pavek, Zach Holden, Rudy Garza, Josh Rodriguez – WSU, Pullman
- 11:45 am **Manipulating Source/Sink Relationships & Profit Potential through N Management**
Rick Knowles, Mark Pavek, Lisa Knowles, Zach Holden – WSU Pullman
- 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm **HOSTED LUNCH**

Concurrent Session II: Potato Pest Management Field Tour

- 10:30 am **PVMI – Where is my money going?**
Jeanne Debons – Potato Variety Management Institute, Bend, OR
- 10:45 am **How to Monitor for Tuberworm Using Pheromone Traps**
Andrew Jensen – Washington State Potato Commission – Moses Lake
- 11:00 am **Developing Management Tactics for Soil-borne Diseases: Powdery Scab, Black Dot, & Verticillium**
Tom Cummings, Dennis Johnson -- WSU, Pullman
- 11:15 am **Potato Variety Resistance to Black Dot and Powdery Scab**
Nadav Nitzan, Chuck Brown – USDA/ARS - Prosser
- 11:35 am **Insect Pathogens and Predators in Biocontrol**
Ricardo Ramirez, Bill Snyder - WSU, Pullman
- 11:50 am - 1:30 pm **HOSTED LUNCH**

Concurrent Session III: Potato Pest Management Workshop

- 10:30 am **Searching for Rainbows Without the Rain**
Tom Hoffmann – Washington State Department of Agriculture – Moses Lake
- 11:00 am **Double Fumigation to Control Root Knot Nematodes in Potatoes Destined for International Markets: Bio-fumigation in Combination with Synthetic Nematicides** *Ekaterina Riga* – WSU, Prosser
- 11:25 am **Loopers, Armyworms, and Cutworms as Potato Pests**
Peter Landolt – USDA-ARS, Wapato
- 11:50 am **The Diverse Community of Beneficial Predators, Parasitoids, and Insect Pathogens in Potatoes**
Bill Snyder – WSU, Pullman
- 12:30 - 1:30 pm **HOSTED LUNCH**

CCA and pesticide recertification credits have been applied for (WA, OR, & ID)

Potato Tuberworm Samples are Requested This Year

Silvia I. Rondon
Oregon State University, Hermiston

In 2006 and 2007 we collected potato tuberworm samples from several major potato production areas in the U.S. We ask for your help this year. We are trying to determine the origin of the potato tuberworm population in the Pacific Northwest. How can you help? If there are tuberworm in your area, please send us samples (20-30 moths per host-plant species per site). Adult moths can be collected with an insect net, vacuum or delta traps. They can be killed and shipped in 70-100% alcohol. Please, include the following information with your sample:

Place where sample was collected: (i.e OR)

Host-plant species: (i.e potato, weeds):

Date of collection:

Collector:

Specimens should be sent to Silvia Rondon, OSU, HAREC, 2121 S 1st Street, Hermiston, OR 97838.

For information regarding tuberworm research visit:

http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu/entomology_lab/research/potato.htm or

<http://oregonstate.edu/potatoes/ipm/insects/emerging.htm>.

High Residue Farming Field Days, June 18-19

Corn planted into 140 bu/ac spring wheat residue will be the focus of two WSU Extension field days in June. The events will be held at fields demonstrating high residue farming systems under irrigation with the first, on June 18, taking place in the Grant County near Ephrata and the other, June 19 in Northern Franklin County. Both events will run from 10 a.m. to noon.

Field day topics include the benefits of high residue farming, residue management, planter modifications, and strategies for planting into high residue conditions. The field days are free, no registration is required, and drinks and snacks will be served. For maps to the field days and more information look online at <http://grant-adams.wsu.edu> or contact Andy McGuire at 509-754-2011 ext. 413, amcguire@wsu.edu.