



NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MOUNTAIN REGION FIELD OFFICE
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POTATO VARIETIES 2023 SAN LUIS VALLEY, COLORADO

This report provides the results of a special survey of potato growers in the San Luis Valley, which was conducted to evaluate potato varieties planted for the 2023 crop. The survey was conducted by the USDA/NASS Mountain Regional Field Office with funding from the Colorado State University, San Luis Valley Research Center. Data was collected from potato growers by return mail or by telephone interviews with enumerators. The survey was not sampled to provide a direct expansion of seeded acreage by variety or a measure of the sampling error.

Russet varieties accounted for 89.3 percent of the reported acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2023 crop, compared with 74.2 percent in 2022. **Yellow Flesh varieties** were planted on 8.1 percent of the total acreage, which was another increase from 7.2 percent in 2022. **White, Fingerlings, and Other varieties** represented 2.5 percent of the total.

Russet Norkotah continued its ranking as the most popular variety among producers by being planted on 54.7 percent of the total potato acreage, and accounted for 61.3 percent of all russet potatoes. **Norkotah Selection 296** is the most popular, accounting for 26.0 percent of the total acres planted. **Norkotah 3** claimed 15.9 percent of the acreage; **Norkotah Selection 8** had 4.8 percent of the planted acres. **Norkotah Selection 278** accounted for 2.2 percent of the planted acres. The **Reveille Russet** ranked first among non-Norkotah russet varieties in 2023, planted on 17.3 percent of the total acreage and representing 19.3 percent of all russet varieties. The **Centennial Russet** was the second most popular non-Norkotah russet variety, at 5.3 percent of the total acreage and 5.9 percent of all russet potatoes. **Canela Russet** and **Teton Russet** each accounted for 5.2 percent of planted acreage. All **Other Russet varieties**, which includes Classic, Mesa, Mountain Gem, and others, were planted on 1.6 percent of the total acreage in the San Luis Valley.

The potato variety survey resulted in minimal data of **Red varieties** being grown in 2023.

Yellow varieties accounted for 8.1 percent of the planted acreage in 2023. **Soraya** contributed to the total area of planted acres with 3.5 percent and represented 43.1 percent of all yellow flesh varieties. **Other Yellow Flesh varieties**, which includes Alegria, Satina, and others, totaled 4.6 percent of all potatoes planted, and contributed over half of all yellow varieties with 56.9 percent.

Total White, Fingerlings and Other varieties, including research varieties, seed potatoes and other specialty type potatoes, comprised the remaining 2.5 percent of the total potato acreage. No particular variety or type received enough reports to publish separately.

Rodger Ott
Regional Director

Julie Irwin
Agricultural Statistician

	2019 Crop	2020 Crop	2021 Crop	2022 Crop	2023 Crop	
Variety	Reported Percent of All Potatoes				Reported Percent of All Potatoes	Reported Percent of Varietal Group
	Percent ¹				Percent ¹	
Russet Varieties:						
Russet Norkotah	44.7	49.3	55.2	42.4	54.7	61.3
Norkotah 296.....	17.9	19.4	27.3	11.4	26.0	29.1
Norkotah 3.....	11.9	13.6	7.1	12.4	15.9	17.8
Norkotah 8.....	7.2	8.5	7.2	5.0	4.8	5.4
Norkotah 278.....	3.8	7.2	8.8	12.2	2.2	2.5
Norkotah, all other ²	3.9	0.6	4.8	1.4	5.8	6.5
Reveille Russet.....	...	3.7	6.4	15.8	17.3	19.3
Centennial Russet.....	8.0	12.5	5.0	4.8	5.3	5.9
Canela Russet.....	10.6	12.6	12.3	4.5	5.2	5.8
Teton Russet.....	D	D	4.8	D	5.2	5.9
Mesa Russet.....	6.1	3.4	2.6	D	D	D
Rio Grande Russet.....	D	1.7	1.8	...	...	...
Classic Russet.....	D	D	D	D	D	D
Other Russet ³	5.7	4.3	3.6	6.7	1.6	1.8
TOTAL RUSSET.....	75.1	87.5	91.8	74.2	89.3	100.0
Red Varieties:						
Chieftain.....	...	1.7	D	...	...	...
Modoc.....	D	1.4	D	...	...	...
Other Red.....	5.4	1.5	1.8	D	...	...
TOTAL RED ⁴.....	5.4	4.6	1.8	0.1	...	...
Yellow Flesh Varieties:						
Soraya.....	1.5	1.4	1.2	4.5	3.5	43.1
Yukon Gold.....	3.1	D	1.1	1.3	D	D
Alegria.....	...	1.1	1.0	D	D	D
Other Yellow ⁵	8.0	2.7	1.5	1.5	4.6	56.9
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH.....	12.6	5.3	4.8	7.2	8.1	100.0
White and Other Varieties:						
TOTAL WHITE, FINGERLINGS and OTHER ⁶.....	7.0	2.6	1.6	18.6	2.5	100.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

² Other Norkotahs include Norkotah STD and others.

³ Other Russets for 2023 include Classic, Mesa, and others.

⁴ Minimal data for red varieties was received for 2023.

⁵ Other Yellows for 2023 include Alegria, Santana and others.

⁶ Other White and Other Varieties for 2023 include Austrian Crescent, Amarosa, Magic Molly, and others.

... Indicates varietal percentage is very minor or not available.

D Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.