

COLORADO

FALL POTATO VARIETIES -- 2001 CROP



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This report provides the results of a special Potato Variety Survey of potato growers in the San Luis Valley for the 2001 crop. The survey was funded by the San Luis Valley Research Center and was conducted by the Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service. The varietal percents in this report vary slightly from those published in the July Crop Production report which were based on reports from fewer producers. Questionnaires used as a basis of this report were mailed to potato growers in mid-July 2001. Responses to this year's survey covered 59 percent of the 68,100 acres planted for the 2001 crop compared with 60 percent coverage in the 2000 survey.

Russet varieties accounted for 81.4 percent of the 68,100 acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2001 crop. For the first time, **Yellow Flesh varieties**, which were planted on 9.3 percent of the total acreage, became more popular than **Red varieties**, which were planted on 5.9 percent of the total. The remaining 3.4 percent of the total was made up of **White** and **Other varieties**.

Russet Norkotah, again the most popular variety, was planted on 53.8 percent of the total potato acreage and accounted for 66.1 percent of all russet potatoes. Norkotah Selection 8 accounted for 18.3 percent of total acres planted; Norkotah Selection 3 placed second with 11.2 percent; Norkotah Standard ranked third at 10.5 percent; and all other Norkotah selections totaled 13.8 percent. The **Russet Nugget** was the second most popular variety, representing 13.8 percent of the total acreage and 16.9 percent of all russet varieties. The **Centennial Russet** variety ranked third in 2001 by being planted on 9.6 percent of the total acreage and representing 11.8 percent of all russet varieties. At its peak during the 1984-88 period, Centennial Russets accounted for more than two-thirds of the total fall potato acreage. **Silverton Russet** claimed 1.7 percent of the 2001 total. **Keystone Russet**, **Crestone Russet**, **Ranger Russet**, and other **russet** varieties were planted on 2.5 percent of the total acreage.

Sangre was the most popular red variety planted in 2001. While it only accounted for 2.1 percent of the total acreage, it did represent 35.6 percent of all red varieties planted. **Cherry Red** was the next significant individual red variety reported. It accounted for 1.4 percent of all potatoes and 23.7 percent of the total red varieties. **Other red** varieties were planted on 2.4 percent of the total acreage.

Yukon Gold, a yellow flesh variety, was planted on 4.0 percent of the total acreage and represented 43.0 percent of all yellow varieties. Other Yellow Flesh varieties were planted on 5.3 percent of the acreage.

Atlantic and **Chipeta** were the leading white varieties, each with 0.7 percent of the total acreage. The Other Varieties group includes other white varieties, some research varieties and other specialty type potatoes.

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Potato Varieties: Percent of Total Planted Acreage, Colorado, 1997-2001 <u>1/</u>						
Variety	1997 Crop	1998 Crop	1999 Crop	2000 Crop	2001 Crop	
	Percent of All Potatoes				Percent of All Potatoes	Percent of Varietal Group
	Percent				Percent	
Russet Varieties:						
Russet Norkotah	37.6	41.6	42.0	49.3	53.8	66.1
Norkotah, Standard .....	...	...	...	...	10.5	12.9
Norkotah, Selection 3 .....	...	...	...	...	11.2	13.8
Norkotah, Selection 8 .....	...	...	...	...	18.3	22.5
Norkotah , all other .....	...	...	...	...	13.8	16.9
Russet Nugget	38.8	35.1	29.0	21.4	13.8	16.9
Centennial Russet	12.3	9.3	7.6	9.9	9.6	11.8
Keystone Russet .....	...	...	...	1.0	...	...
Crestone Russet	0.2	1.0	1.4	0.5	...	...
Silverton Russet .....	...	...	...	0.5	1.7	2.1
Russet Research	1.4	0.6	1.2	...	...	...
Ranger Russet	0.3	0.3	1.2	...	...	...
Other Russet	1.9	1.2	3.7	2.4	2.5	3.1
TOTAL RUSSET	92.5	89.1	86.1	85.0	81.4	100.0
Red Varieties:						
Sangre	4.4	4.4	2.7	1.8	2.1	35.6
Cherry Red .....	...	...	0.8	2.3	1.4	23.7
Other Red	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.9	2.4	40.7
TOTAL RED	5.4	4.4	4.4	5.0	5.9	100.0
Yellow Flesh, White and Other Varieties:						
Yellow Flesh Varieties:						
Yukon Gold .....	...	3.4	1.4	3.7	4.0	43.0
Other Yellow .....	...	...	...	...	5.3	57.0
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH .....	...	...	...	...	9.3	100.0
White and Other Varieties:						
Atlantic .....	...	...	...	...	0.7	20.6
Chipeta .....	...	...	...	...	0.7	20.6
Other White and Other Varieties .....	...	...	...	...	2.0	58.8
TOTAL WHITE and OTHER .....	...	...	...	...	3.4	100.0
Other Yellow Flesh & White	2.1	3.1	8.1	6.3	...	...
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH, WHITE, and OTHER	2.1	6.5	9.5	10.0	12.7	100.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.
... Indicates varietal percentage is very minor or not available.