

COLORADO

FALL POTATO VARIETIES -- 2000 CROP

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NASS

P.O. Box 150969

Lakewood, Colorado 80215

Phone (303) 236-2300

1-800-392-3202

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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 2000 crop. The survey was funded by the San Luis Valley Research Center and was conducted by the Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service. Questionnaires were mailed to potato growers in late July 2000. Responses to this year's survey covered only 60 percent of the 75,600 acres planted for the 2000 crop compared with 42 percent coverage in the 1999 survey. Producers are to be complimented for their increased response rate from a year earlier which, in turn, increases the reliability of the survey results.

Russet varieties accounted for 85.0 percent of the 75,600 acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2000 crop. **Red varieties** accounted for 5.0 percent and the remaining 10.0 percent was made up of **yellow flesh**, **white**, and **other** varieties.

Russet Norkotah, the most popular variety, was planted on 49.3 percent of the total potato acreage and accounted for 58.0 percent of all russet potatoes. The **Russet Nugget** was second, representing 21.4 percent of the total acreage and 25.2 percent of all russet varieties. The **Centennial Russet** variety ranked third in 2000 by being planted on 9.9 percent of the total acreage and representing 11.6 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. A new variety, **Keystone Russet**, accounted for 1.0 percent of the total acreage while **Crestone Russet**, and **Silverton Russet** each claimed 0.5 percent of the total. **Ranger Russet**, **Russet Research**, and **other russet** varieties were planted on 2.4 percent of the total acreage.

Cherry Red was the most popular red variety planted in 2000. While it only accounted for 2.3 percent of the total acreage, it did represent 46.0 percent of all red varieties planted. **Sangre** was the next significant individual red variety reported. It accounted for 1.8 percent of all potatoes and 36.0 percent of the total red varieties. **Other red** varieties were planted on 0.9 percent of the total acreage.

Yukon Gold, a yellow flesh variety, was planted on 3.7 percent of the total acreage. Numerous other Yellow Flesh, White, and other varieties were planted on 6.3 percent of the acreage. The other varieties includes some research and other specialty type potatoes.

R. René Liles
State Statistician

Tom Vesey
Agricultural Statistician

Lance Fretwell
Deputy State Statistician

United States Department Of Agriculture
Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service
P. O. Box 150969
Lakewood, Colorado 80215

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Potato Varieties: Percent of Total Planted Acreage, Colorado, 1996-2000

Variety	1996 Crop	1997 Crop	1998 Crop	1999 Crop	2000 Crop	
	Percent of All Potatoes				Percent of All Potatoes	Percent of Varietal Group
	Percent				Percent	
Russet Varieties:						
Russet Norkotah	35.6	37.6	41.6	42.0	49.3	58.0
Russet Nugget	34.0	38.8	35.1	29.0	21.4	25.2
Centennial Russet	15.0	12.3	9.3	7.6	9.9	11.6
Keystone Russet .....	...	...	...	...	1.0	1.2
Crestone Russet .....	...	0.2	1.0	1.4	0.5	0.6
Silverton Russet .....	...	...	...	...	0.5	0.6
Russet Research	1.6	1.4	0.6	1.2	...	...
Ranger Russet	0.7	0.3	0.3	1.2	...	...
Other Russet	3.3	1.9	1.2	3.7	2.4	2.8
TOTAL RUSSET	90.2	92.5	89.1	86.1	85.0	100.0
Red Varieties:						
Cherry Red .....	...	...	...	0.8	2.3	46.0
Sangre	3.8	4.4	4.4	2.7	1.8	36.0
Other Red .....	...	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.9	18.0
TOTAL RED	5.7	5.4	4.4	4.4	5.0	100.0
Yellow Flesh, White, and Other Varieties:						
Yukon Gold .....	...	...	3.4	1.4	3.7	37.0
Other Yellow Flesh & White	4.1	2.1	3.1	8.1	6.3	63.0
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH, WHITE, and OTHER	4.1	2.1	6.5	9.5	10.0	100.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

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