



NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MOUNTAIN REGION FIELD OFFICE
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FALL POTATO VARIETIES 2017 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 2017 fall crop. The survey was conducted by the USDA/NASS Mountain Region 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. Responses to this year's survey covered 14,752 acres, which was 28.4 percent of the estimated 51,900 total acres planted in the San Luis Valley.

Russet varieties accounted for 80.9 percent of the reported acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2017 crop, compared with 83.9 percent last year. **Yellow Flesh varieties** were planted on 6.6 percent of the total acreage, which was down from 7.6 percent in 2016. **Red varieties** represented 5.1 percent of the total, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from the previous year. The remaining 7.4 percent of the total was made up of **White, Fingerlings, and Other varieties**.

Russet Norkotah continued its ranking as the most popular variety among producers by being planted on 43.5 percent of the total potato acreage and accounted for 53.6 percent of all russet potatoes. **Norkotah Selection 296** is the most popular, accounting for 12.5 percent of the total acres planted. **Norkotah Selection 8** accounted for 10.4 percent of the planted acres; **Norkotah 278** had 7.7 percent of the planted acres; **Norkotah Selection 3** claimed only 7.5 percent of the acreage; and all **Other Norkotah** selections totaled 5.4 percent. The **Canela Russet** variety ranked tied for second among russet varieties in 2017 by being planted on 10.4 percent of the total acreage and representing 12.8 percent of all russet varieties. The **Teton Russet** was the 2nd most popular non Norkotah russet variety, at 5.2 percent of the total acreage and 6.4 percent of all russet potatoes. **Centennial Russet** was next with 4.3 percent, and **Rio Grande Russet** accounted for 4.2 percent of all potatoes planted. All **Other Russet varieties** were planted on 13.3 percent of the total acreage in the San Luis Valley.

Red varieties accounted for 5.1 percent of the planted acreage in 2017. The leading variety, **Ciklamen**, was planted on 1.2 percent of the total potato acreage. All **Other Red varieties** totaled 3.9 percent.

Yellow varieties accounted for 6.6 percent of the planted acreage in 2017. **Yukon Gold** was the most planted accounting for 1.5 percent of the total acreage and represented 23.2 percent of all yellow flesh varieties. **Other Yellow Flesh varieties** totaled 5.1 percent of all potatoes planted.

Total White, Fingerlings and Other varieties, including research varieties and other specialty type potatoes, comprised the remaining 7.4 percent of the total potato acreage. No particular variety or type received enough reports to publish separately.

Bill Meyer
Director

Rodger Ott
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	2013 Crop	2014 Crop	2015 Crop	2016 Crop	2017 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.....	51.5	40.3	35.3	37.9	43.4	53.7
Norkotah 296.....	3.2	4.0	7.0	13.8	12.5	15.4
Norkotah 8.....	9.5	7.2	9.7	3.8	10.4	12.8
Norkotah 278.....	...	1.5	1.8	6.5	7.7	9.5
Norkotah 3.....	28.8	23.4	13.0	9.3	7.5	9.2
Norkotah, all other 2/.....	10.0	4.2	3.8	4.4	5.4	6.7
Canela Russet.....	9.6	9.6	10.5	11.9	10.4	12.8
Teton Russet.....	...	0.9	...	4.9	5.2	6.4
Centennial Russet.....	2.6	3.8	4.9	3.2	4.3	5.3
Rio Grande Russet.....	4.5	6.3	2.5	3.7	4.2	5.1
Classic Russet.....	7.2	8.3	5.9	5.4	D	D
Cadina Russet.....	...	...	...	5.3	D	D
Other Russet 3/.....	8.6	7.4	10.6	11.7	13.5	16.7
TOTAL RUSSET.....	84.0	76.6	69.7	83.9	80.9	100.0
Red Varieties:						
Ciklamen.....	...	...	...	...	1.2	24.6
Chieftain.....	...	...	...	1.9	D	D
Other Red 4/.....	D	6.8	7.7	3.4	3.8	75.4
TOTAL RED.....	4.0	6.8	7.7	5.3	5.1	100.0
Yellow Flesh Varieties:						
Yukon Gold.....	2.9	1.8	2.6	2.9	1.5	23.2
Alegria.....	...	0.8	...	3.0	D	D
Other Yellow 5/.....	6.1	5.7	11.2	1.7	5.0	76.8
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH.....	9.0	8.3	13.8	7.6	6.6	100.0
White and Other Varieties:						
TOTAL WHITE, FINGERLINGS and OTHER 6/.....	3.0	8.3	8.8	3.2	7.4	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 for 2017 include Norkotah 112, Norkotah Standard, and others.

3/ Other Russets for 2017 include Fortress Russet, Sabinas Russet, Tebina Russet, Russet Nugget, and others.

4/ Other Reds for 2017 include Cherry Red, Chieftan, Colorado Rose, Desiree, Modoc, Mozart, Sangre, and others.

5/ Other Yellows for 2017 include Alegria, Latona, Satina, and others.

6/ Other White and Other Varieties for 2017 include Atlantic, Chipeta, Purple Majesty, Laratte, and others.

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

D Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.