

# COLORADO

## FALL POTATO VARIETIES – 2009 CROP



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This report provides the results of a special Fall Potato Variety Survey of potato growers in the San Luis Valley for the 2009 crop. The survey was funded by the San Luis Valley Research Center and was conducted by the USDA NASS Colorado Field Office. Data was collected from potato growers by return mail or telephone interviews conducted by enumerators. Responses to this year's survey covered 61 percent of the 56,000 acres planted for the 2009 crop compared with 56 percent coverage in the 2008 survey.

**Russet varieties** accounted for 84.0 percent of the 56,000 acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2009 crop compared with 85.0 percent last year. **Yellow Flesh varieties** were planted on 11.0 percent of the total acreage, equal to the percentage planted in 2008. **Red varieties** were planted on 3.0 percent of the total and the remaining 2.0 percent of the total was made up of **White** and **Other varieties**.

**Russet Norkotah** continued its ranking as the most popular variety among producers by being planted on 42.5 percent of the total potato acreage and accounting for 50.5 percent of all russet potatoes. Norkotah Selection 3 was the most popular Russet Norkotah, accounting for 25.0 percent of the total acres planted; Norkotah Selection 8 claimed 3.2 percent; Standard accounted for 0.5 percent; and all other Norkotah selections totaled 13.8 percent. The **Canela Russet** variety ranked second among Russet varieties in 2009 by being planted on 11.9 percent of the total acreage and representing 14.2 percent of all russet varieties. The **Centennial Russet** was the third most popular russet variety, representing 9.9 percent of the total acreage and 11.8 percent of all russet varieties. **Rio Grande Russet** ranked fourth among russets with 7.1 percent of the total acreage. Russet Nugget was next with 2.8 percent and all **Other Russet** varieties were planted on 9.8 percent of the total acreage.

**Cherry Red** was the most popular red variety planted in 2009. This variety accounted for 0.9 percent of the total acreage and represented 30 percent of all red varieties planted. **Other Red** varieties totaled 2.1 percent of the total acreage.

**Yukon Gold**, a yellow flesh variety, was planted on 2.8 percent of the total acreage and represented 25.5 percent of all yellow flesh varieties. **Satina** was planted on 2.5 of the total acreage and represented 22.7 percent of all yellow flesh varieties. **Latona** and **Gala** were planted on 1.3 percent and 1.1 percent of the total acreage, respectively. **Other Yellow Flesh** varieties were planted on 3.3 percent of the acreage. **Chipita** with 0.2 percent and **Atlantic** with 0.1 percent were the leading white varieties. **Purple Majesty**, a blue variety, was planted on 0.2 percent of the total acreage. The **Other White and Other Varieties** group, at 1.6 percent of the total acreage, includes other white varieties, research varieties and other specialty type potatoes.

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**Potato Varieties: Percent of Total Planted Acreage, Colorado, 2005-2009 <sup>1/</sup>**

| Variety                              | 2005         | 2006         | 2007         | 2008         | 2009 Crop               |                           |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                      | Crop         | Crop         | Crop         | Crop         | Percent of All Potatoes | Percent of Varietal Group |
|                                      | Percent      |              |              |              | Percent                 |                           |
| <b>Russet Varieties:</b>             |              |              |              |              |                         |                           |
| Russet Norkotah.....                 | 56.1         | 60.3         | 50.0         | 55.2         | 42.5                    | 50.5                      |
| Norkotah, Selection 3.....           | 13.1         | 13.4         | 16.6         | 24.8         | 25.0                    | 29.7                      |
| Norkotah, Selection 8.....           | 13.4         | 9.7          | 9.8          | 6.1          | 3.2                     | 3.8                       |
| Norkotah, Standard.....              | 4.3          | 7.7          | 2.7          | 9.2          | 0.5                     | 0.6                       |
| Norkotah, all other.....             | 25.3         | 29.5         | 20.9         | 15.1         | 13.8                    | 16.4                      |
| Canela.....                          | ...          | ...          | ...          | 8.7          | 11.9                    | 14.2                      |
| Centennial Russet.....               | 4.6          | 5.5          | 9.0          | 5.6          | 9.9                     | 11.8                      |
| Rio Grande Russet.....               | 7.7          | 9.2          | 8.0          | 9.6          | 7.1                     | 8.5                       |
| Russet Nugget.....                   | 6.4          | 5.9          | 5.6          | 3.7          | 2.8                     | 3.3                       |
| Other Russet.....                    | 10.2         | 3.1          | 9.4          | 2.2          | 9.8                     | 11.7                      |
| <b>TOTAL RUSSET.....</b>             | <b>85.0</b>  | <b>84.0</b>  | <b>82.0</b>  | <b>85.0</b>  | <b>84.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b>              |
| <b>Red Varieties:</b>                |              |              |              |              |                         |                           |
| Cherry Red.....                      | 0.8          | 0.3          | 0.8          | 0.4          | 0.9                     | 30.0                      |
| Durango Red.....                     | 0.2          | 0.2          | 0.5          | 0.2          | ...                     | ...                       |
| Colorado Rose.....                   | ...          | ...          | 0.3          | 0.1          | ...                     | ...                       |
| Sangre.....                          | 0.8          | 0.6          | 0.9          | 0.1          | ...                     | ...                       |
| Other Red.....                       | 2.2          | 1.9          | 1.5          | 2.2          | 2.1                     | 70.0                      |
| <b>TOTAL RED.....</b>                | <b>4.0</b>   | <b>3.0</b>   | <b>4.0</b>   | <b>3.0</b>   | <b>3.0</b>              | <b>100.0</b>              |
| <b>Yellow Flesh Varieties:</b>       |              |              |              |              |                         |                           |
| Yukon Gold.....                      | 8.0          | 4.5          | 3.8          | 3.9          | 2.8                     | 25.5                      |
| Satina.....                          | ...          | ...          | ...          | 1.7          | 2.5                     | 22.7                      |
| Latona.....                          | 0.7          | 0.6          | 0.8          | ...          | 1.3                     | 11.8                      |
| Gala.....                            | ...          | ...          | ...          | ...          | 1.1                     | 10.0                      |
| Other Yellow.....                    | 1.3          | 5.9          | 6.4          | 5.4          | 3.3                     | 30.0                      |
| <b>TOTAL YELLOW FLESH.....</b>       | <b>10.0</b>  | <b>11.0</b>  | <b>11.0</b>  | <b>11.0</b>  | <b>11.0</b>             | <b>100.0</b>              |
| <b>White and Other Varieties:</b>    |              |              |              |              |                         |                           |
| Purple Majesty.....                  | ...          | 0.3          | 0.3          | 0.3          | 0.2                     | 10.0                      |
| Chipeta.....                         | 0.1          | 0.6          | 0.2          | 0.1          | 0.1                     | 5.0                       |
| Atlantic.....                        | 0.1          | 0.2          | 0.1          | 0.1          | 0.1                     | 5.0                       |
| Other White and Other Varieties..... | 0.8          | 0.9          | 2.4          | 0.5          | 1.6                     | 80.0                      |
| <b>TOTAL WHITE and OTHER.....</b>    | <b>1.0</b>   | <b>2.0</b>   | <b>3.0</b>   | <b>1.0</b>   | <b>2.0</b>              | <b>100.0</b>              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>            | <b>100.0</b>              |

<sup>1/</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

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