

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Terence Hochstein



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With the calendar only weeks away from turning to 2026, it's time to reflect back on what was an interesting year for the Alberta potato industry. After a few years of very little in-season rain, for our seed growers in the central and northern growing areas, CY25 provided most of them with timely rains throughout the growing season. A return to more normal conditions resulted in a better than

average crop to harvest with the quality being considered to be excellent at this time. All things considered, there should be no issues with our seed industry delivering good quality seed to their customers come spring. The crop in Southern Alberta started out with cool and relatively dry conditions. It looked like it was going to be a long unpredictable irrigation season, with many of the irrigation districts still on volume restrictions. Shortly after the July long weekend weather patterns began to change and for the first time in many years most areas in Southern Alberta received 4 -8 inches of much needed rain. Normally this moisture occurs in June, but nonetheless, it was welcomed by everyone. Without this rain, most crops would run out of irrigation water in early August and the dryland had the potential to be a complete disaster. Despite having two of our fry processors reduce their acres this year, the new McCain plant came online in late summer. We also experienced growth in our chip, fresh and seed industry, leading to Alberta harvesting over 80,000 acres for the first time ever.

The continued disruption of political unrest on the world scene and a revolving door of tariffs and trade discussions will have an effect on the upcoming crop year. So much is unknown at this time, but regardless, I continue to believe that the Alberta potato industry will continue to grow and prosper for years to come. The ability of the growers and industry to adapt on the fly continues to be an attraction for future investments here in Alberta.

In November, the PGA wrapped up their 59th Annual Alberta Potato Conference and Tradeshow in Red Deer. In collaboration with our tradeshow partner, the APIA, (celebrating their 35th anniversary), we hosted over 525 participants and 80 tradeshow booths. With a line up of International and Canadian speakers, as well as a lively grower panel, the feedback was excellent and the challenge now becomes what are we going to come up with next

year. 2026 marks the 60th anniversary of the PGA, so plans are already underway to celebrate this milestone November 23rd-25th, 2026 in Red Deer Alberta. As in years past, the PGA would not be able to host such an event

without the generous financial support of the businesses and industry members that are a vital part of growing potatoes here in Alberta. Without them, these three memorable days do not happen. Please see page 10 in the Potato Minute for a list of our sponsors.

With our fall area meetings and conference behind us, I would like to formally introduce our new PGA Board for 2025/26.

**Alison Davie – North Paddock Farms Ltd.**  
**Tony Kirland – Sandhills Seed Potatoes Ltd.**  
**Matt Visser – Norbest Farms Ltd.**  
**Delbert Vossebelt – D.V. Farms Ltd.**  
**Lloyd Ypma – Quattro Farms**  
**Brent Bydevaate – Bydevaate Farms**  
**Ryan Jensen - Klearidge Farms Ltd.**

At our upcoming December 18th Board meeting, a new chair and vice chair will be elected. I would like to personally thank all of our Board members for their dedication and service to our organization. The countless hours spent away from their own operations representing our growers and your organization sometimes gets overlooked.

With Christmas only a few weeks away, I would like to take this time to wish the PGA Board and Team, the growers, their families and everyone involved in this great industry a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year!

On behalf of my wife Lynnette, my family and myself...

*"When we remember a special Christmas, it is not the presents that made it special, but the laughter, the feeling of love, and the togetherness of friends and family that made Christmas special." Unknown*

Until next month,

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 403.382.8382

## SEED DIRECTOR/GOV'T RELATIONS & POLICY - Stacey Bajema



### Post-Harvest Test program Begins In Hawaii

The annual post-harvest test program in Hawaii is officially underway, marking another important step in helping Canadian and U.S. potato growers evaluate seed quality after storage. This year, Canadian samples were planted on the morning of November 24th, followed by the Washington samples later that afternoon. The field was freshly prepared by Twin Bridge Farms, giving the planting crew ideal conditions to begin the work.

Weather during planting was typical for Hawaii—warm, sunny, and calm—which helped make the process smooth and efficient. The seed pieces were planted using a two-row planter, with tubers placed about three inches deep in the soil. Very little seed rot was seen this year, an encouraging sign for the start of the trial.

A dedicated group of growers and crop specialists made up the planting crew, which included Marjo Dessureault and Megan Gray from E.S. Cropconsult, Klaas and Joyce Bakker from Great North Seed Potatoes, support staff from Twin Bridge Farms, and U.S. participants Nicholas Mishock (NuGen/Ebe Farms) and Eric Harksell (Dick Bedlington Farms). The teamwork between Canadian and U.S. contributors continues to be an important part of the program.



Throughout the growing season, we have a dedicated agronomist on-site monitoring insect and disease pressure. Official readings will take place in the first and second weeks of January, with further leaf testing conducted by the Phytodiagnostics laboratory.

The post-harvest test program provides valuable information each year, helping growers make informed decisions and maintain strong seed quality standards.

### Canadian and U.S. Officials Gather for Annual PAA Certification Meetings in Washington, D.C

The annual Potato Association of America (PAA) Certification Section meetings were held on December 4, 2025, bringing together certification officials, researchers, and industry leaders from across North America. Canadian participation remained strong this year, with representatives from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and several provincial certification programs. Attending on behalf of Canada were Stacey Bajema (Alberta), Rebecca McSwain (Prince Edward Island), Dave Buhler (Manitoba), and Tyler Fletcher (New Brunswick), alongside CFIA officials Gordon Henry and Peter Volney and two officials from the CFIA Charlottetown laboratory. U.S. agencies from multiple states also contributed throughout the full-day session, held in Washington, D.C., and online.

The meeting opened with introductions before moving into key discussions on Direct Tuber Testing (DTT), updates on the Netherlands certification visit and the Hawaii post-harvest grow-out. Participants also highlighted the need for stronger field inspection training, with growing interest in programs like CFIA's Ridgetown Inspection School. In the afternoon, attention turned to national pest surveillance, with USDA-APHIS reporting on U.S. PCN surveys and CFIA providing updates on Canada's PCN and potato wart programs, as well as ongoing virus management and diagnostic initiatives. This year's meetings reinforced the strong collaboration between Canadian and U.S. certification agencies, with shared priorities around diagnostics, testing standards, disease surveillance, and training. Representatives from CFIA and the provincial agencies played an active role, helping ensure that seed potato certification remains aligned, science-based, and responsive to emerging industry needs.

### Canadian Potato Council Meeting

The Canadian Potato Council held its Fall Meeting in Toronto, bringing together provincial representatives, national partners, and CFIA officials to discuss key industry priorities. After opening business, provinces shared regional updates followed by reports from PMANA, Crop Protection, APRE, United Potato Growers of Canada, and the Potato





Sustainability Alliance.

CFIA provided updates on market access, including the status of exports to Mexico, and later reported on potato wart survey progress, BRR, PCN, and seed regulatory modernization. Potatoes USA presented consumer insights highlighting opportunities to strengthen potato demand across North America. Members also received updates from the Dispute Resolution Corporation and discussed upcoming USDA changes to bulk sampling that may affect potatoes.

In the afternoon, CPC reviewed governance items, approved its updated Terms of Reference, and discussed trade and diversification priorities under CUSMA. The council also evaluated its strategic priorities, working group representation, and draft 2025–26 workplan. The meeting reinforced CPC's focus on coordinated national advocacy, plant health, and market access heading into the next year.

### New Alberta Seed Potato Directory Released

The Potato Growers of Alberta is pleased to announce the release of the new Alberta Seed Potato Directory, a producer-driven resource showcasing a range of seed varieties available from growers across the province. The directory is designed to support buyers in identifying locally grown, high-quality seed potatoes and highlights Alberta's strong seed sector.

***Alberta remains the second-largest producer of seed potatoes in North America, behind only Idaho.*** Recent growth in the province's seed industry has closely followed major investments in Southern Alberta's processing sector, creating new opportunities for both seed growers and downstream partners. The directory reflects this momentum, offering a snapshot of the region's capacity, expertise, and commitment to supplying dependable seed to markets at home and abroad.

Producers are encouraged to share the directory with customers and industry partners as planning begins for the year ahead. A digital version of the directory is available on the [Potato Growers of Alberta website](#).

### PGA Wins Award of Merit for "Cool Potatoes" Campaign

The Potato Growers of Alberta (PGA) is proud to announce that it has received an Award of Merit at the 2025 Canadian Agri-Food Marketers Alliance (CAMA) Awards for its "Cool Potatoes" advertisement. The awards ceremony, held on November 6th in Mississauga, Ontario, brought together leading marketers and organizations from across Canada to celebrate excellence in agricultural communications.

The PGA's "Cool Potatoes" ad was recognized in the Single Execution category, highlighting its creativity, strong messaging, and fresh approach to promoting Alberta's potato industry. The campaign has resonated widely, showcasing the innovation and pride behind Alberta-grown potatoes.

A special thank-you goes to AdFarm, whose partnership and creative expertise were instrumental in bringing this campaign to life. Their collaboration helped shape a memorable and impactful message that continues to elevate Alberta potatoes on the national stage.

### Team Alberta Crops Advances Key Policy Priorities:

Team Alberta Crops (TAC) has been actively advocating on several major policy files this fall, pushing for practical solutions that support farmers' competitiveness, reduce red tape, and protect long-term market access.

#### Right To Repair: Modernizing The Farm Implement & Dealership Act

TAC continues to call for strong provincial action to support farmers' ability to repair their own equipment. While recent federal bills created exemptions allowing farmers to bypass digital locks for diagnostics and basic repairs, significant gaps remain—manufacturers are not required to provide the tools, manuals, or software needed to complete timely fixes. Through a comprehensive survey of Alberta producers, TAC identified widespread challenges across all major equipment brands, including delayed repairs during critical periods, lack of access to diagnostic tools, interoperability barriers, and software restrictions that force farmers into costly dealer-only service. TAC has recommended targeted amendments to the Farm Implement and Dealership Act to protect repair choice, ensure access to documentation and software, prevent unfair parts-pairing practices, and improve enforcement. These changes would reduce downtime, enhance competition, and support the long-term efficiency of Alberta's crop sector.

#### Strengthening Canada's Trade Infrastructure: Prioritizing the Port of Vancouver

Reliable access to international markets remains essential for Alberta's 21,000 crop farms, many of which rely on the Port of Vancouver as their primary gateway. With more than 70 percent of Alberta's outbound grain and oilseed shipments moving through this corridor, TAC has urged the Government of Alberta to advocate for federal designation of the port—and its aging rail infrastructure—as a project of national significance under the Major Projects Office. Key structures are operating well beyond their intended lifespan, creating vulnerability in Canada's supply chain. Modernizing this corridor is critical to maintaining reliable market access, reducing bottlenecks, and strengthening Canada's global trade reputation. TAC continues to highlight that upgrading this gateway will help protect farm incomes and support long-term sector growth.

#### Wetland Policy Reform: Supporting Practical Updates for Farmers

Team Alberta Crops is also working closely with the Government of Alberta as it modernizes wetland policy to better reflect how farmers operate on the landscape.

For years, farmers faced high assessment costs and complex regulatory requirements for routine field work on temporary and seasonal wetlands, creating uncertainty and unnecessary red tape. TAC supports the shift toward a more workable framework that still protects Alberta's most important wetlands while reducing the regulatory burden on producers. The updated approach aims to improve clarity, support responsible land and water management, and ensure that policies are realistic for day-to-day farming practices.

Team Alberta Crops will continue working with provincial partners to advance pragmatic, farmer-driven policy solutions that strengthen the resilience and productivity of Alberta's crop sector.

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780.916.1766



## Cool weather. Cooler potatoes.

Alberta's cold climate, long summer days and cool evenings create seed potatoes that have that extra edge you're looking for. High-yielding, healthy and vigorous – just what you want.

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[albertapotatoes.ca](http://albertapotatoes.ca)





## AG RELATIONS DIRECTOR - Ashley Wagenaar



As I mentioned in the October issue, I wanted to continue highlighting some of the exciting research our partners are conducting to support the potato industry.

At the University of Lethbridge, under the guidance of Dr. Dmytro Yeveshenko, Nematologist Dr. Maria Munawar has begun studying the role, virulence, and pathogenicity of *Pratylenchus neglectus* (root lesion nematode) and *Verticillium dahliae* (a fungal pathogen associated with Potato Early Die Complex). Her work focuses on understanding their relationship and impact on potato yields.

The first step in this type of study is extracting, isolating, identifying, and growing sufficient quantities of each pathogen for lab experiments. The lab successfully completed this stage, as shown in the images below.

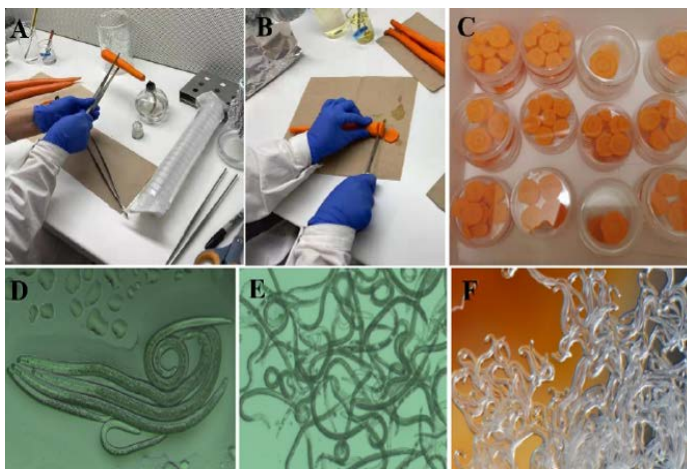


Figure 1: Carrot disc culture preparation for nematode multiplication: A: Surface sterilization B: Carrot disc preparation C: Carrot disc storing D-F: Root lesion nematode clusters from pure cultures

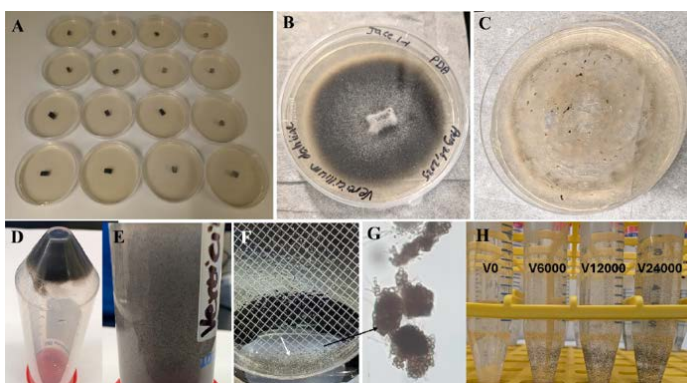


Figure 2: *Verticillium dahliae* subculturing and preparation of microsclerotia suspension for inoculation: A: PDA plates with *V. dahliae* mycelial plugs; B: *V. dahliae* plate with microsclerotia C: PDA plates after microsclerotia scraping D: Microsclerotia pellet in Falcon tube E: Microsclerotia suspension in water F-H: Microsclerotia counting in water and inoculum preparation (V0 means control, V6000, V12000, V24000 are the number microsclerotia/pot)

In a greenhouse setting, potato plants were inoculated with either pathogen, or both, in varying quantities to examine different infection levels. Both infections were evident in plant physiology, confirming successful inoculation. We now know that potatoes can be infected with both pathogens at levels that cause visible damage.

The next phase will explore whether the interaction between these two pathogens, and other soil organisms, results in increased pathogenicity. This project will conclude in spring 2026 and serve as a foundation for future research.

Although Alberta plays a relatively small role in the global potato research industry, we have strong contributors whose work directly benefits Alberta growers. You can find all their projects highlighted on the [PGA research page](#). As we continue developing projects here, we also aim to strengthen connections and collaborations with researchers in other regions.

We had the privilege of hearing from some of these outstanding researchers at our potato conference in Red Deer this November. Both from major potato research powerhouses: Idaho and North Dakota.



Dr. Julie Pasche (North Dakota State University) spoke about Black Dot, a silent and early yield robber. She emphasized the importance of early scouting and identification, as this disease can make plants more susceptible to other infections. For more details, check out her publications at NDSU.



Dr. Jeff Miller (Miller Research, Idaho) shared insights on disease complexes and how management strategies must be tailored to different potato varieties, given their varying resistance levels. Miller Research has been advancing potato science since 1975 and it is definitely worth exploring their work!

We love learning from these exceptional researchers, and we hope you do too. Wishing you all a happy holiday season!

Ashely Wagenaar  
403.715.6867



## PROVINCIAL NEWS

### Exploring New Horizons

Join RDAR for the 2026 Research Showcase on January 21, 2026, celebrating the research, innovation, and collaboration driving Alberta's agriculture forward. This year's event is available both in person and virtually; however, we encourage you to join us in person to fully experience the networking and poster presentations firsthand.

Connect with producers, researchers, and industry leaders as we highlight the outcomes of RDAR-funded projects that are delivering real results for Alberta's producers and our economy.

The Project Spotlight section of the 2026 Research Showcase feature highlights distinguished researchers whose work is advancing the frontiers of their respective disciplines:

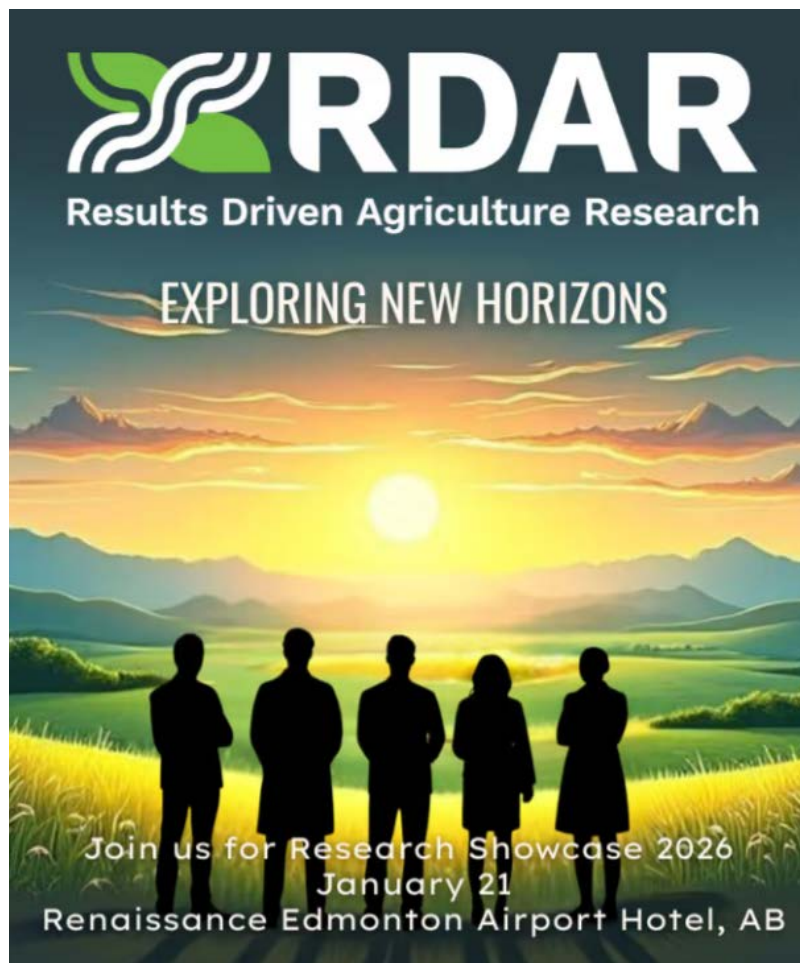
#### SHOWCASE PROJECTS

#### CROP PROJECTS

#### LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

LEARN MORE

Source: [rdar.ca](https://rdar.ca)







### CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE IS COMING MAY 2026

The Census of Agriculture provides community-level data on a wide range of agricultural topics. It identifies trends and provides information on emerging issues, opportunities, and challenges within the agricultural community. For example, topics include:

Land use, crops, livestock, agricultural labour, machinery and equipment, land management practices, farm finances.

The Census of Agriculture (CEAG) provides a comprehensive and integrated profile of the physical, economic, social and environmental aspects of Canada's agriculture industry. The data produced by the CEAG program are foundational to supporting economic growth, recovery, and sustainability for the businesses in the agriculture industry, especially as it relates to international trade, competitiveness, and advancing agricultural science and innovation such as reporting and research on climate change.

Statistics Canada prioritizes the collection of data relevant to the agriculture industry, while improving the overall cost effectiveness of the CEAG and reducing response burden. To produce the census questionnaire, Statistics Canada conducted extensive consultations (the results were published in the Statistics Canada 2026 Census of Agriculture Content Consultation Report) with different governments, agricultural operators, farm organizations, and data users. Additionally, a census test was conducted to determine whether new or revised questions under consideration can be easily understood and correctly answered.

#### Fewer questions for respondents to answer, using administrative data

To reduce the effort needed to complete the questionnaire, six questions have been removed from the 2026 CEAG questionnaire and will be replaced with administrative data. Additionally, some respondents will benefit from further reduction in the number of commodity-related questions thanks to the integration of additional administrative data.

As required by the Statistics Act, all data usage, including administrative data, must abide by strict confidentiality requirements.

*Source: Statistics Canada*





## PLANTING, PRODUCTION & STORAGE UPDATE

PROVINCE	UPGC Estimates for 2025-26 Marketing Year				PRODUCTION ESTIMATES COMPARISON			
	Planted Acreage	Harvested Acreage	Yield	Production ('000 cwt)	2025 vs 2024	2024	2023	2022
PEI	87,300	87,000	255	22,185	-14.4%	25,930	25,813	27,789
NEW BRUNSWICK	52,100	51,900	320	16,608	-2.3%	17,006	14,879	17,000
NOVA SCOTIA	800	800	280	222	-1.0%	224	222	240
NEWFOUNDLAND	415	415	130	53	11.3%	48	50	52
<b>TOTAL MARITIMES</b>	140,615	140,115		39,068	-9.6%	43,208	40,964	45,081
QUEBEC	49,125	48,325	315	15,222	2.2%	14,901	11,656	14,278
ONTARIO	40,215	40,015	225	9,003	1.0%	8,915	8,602	8,160
MANITOBA	74,444	72,077	411	29,624	7.9%	27,446	29,388	26,139
SASKATCHEWAN	7,300	7,191	250	1,798	3.6%	1,736	1,780	1,450
ALBERTA	80,000	78,800	420	33,096	10.0%	30,089	32,063	26,813
<b>TOTAL PRAIRIES</b>	161,744	158,068		64,517	8.9%	59,271	63,231	54,402
BRITISH COLUMBIA	5,870	5,850	375	2,194	16.8%	1,878	2,140	1,600
<b>TOTAL CANADA</b>	<b>397,569</b>	<b>392,373</b>	<b>331.8</b>	<b>130,005</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>128,173</b>	<b>126,593</b>	<b>123,520</b>

### PLANTED ACREAGE UP IN 2025

2025 started off a little rocky with the threat of US tariffs concerning the fresh exporters, late season volume cuts in the processing sector and seed growers worried about cancelled orders – all right before growers were preparing planting intentions. Due to the timing of all that uncertainty, most growers moved forward with planting intentions – growers are in it for the long term.

The increase in acres in Alberta was due to the Coaldale McCain plant expansion, however we did see increases in Ontario, Quebec and PEI. The spring started cool and rainy in the east, but in general planting went very well across Canada and by June almost all regions in North America were raving about their crops. Then in mid-July it was like the taps turned off in the east, no precipitation for weeks and by August there were some serious concerns about yields. The early crop did fairly well for fresh in the east however, concerns about yields continued right up to the main crop harvest. There were some higher temperatures at the start of harvest that slowed digging for some and gave rise to potential storage concerns, but overall harvest conditions in Canada, and the US, were very good, with no catastrophic weather events and lost acres are estimated at just over 1% for the country. Great quality has been reported in all regions, but with a smaller size profile in Ontario through to the Maritimes. Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick managed to get enough timely rains, combined with limited irrigation, that yields ended up better than expected in certain regions of these provinces. PEI was the only serious casualty with yields down 15-20%.

### NORTH AMERICAN YIELDS AND POTATO PRODUCTION ('000 CWT)

Although the official Statistics Canada report will not be released until December 5th, we have provided the USDA numbers along with UPGC estimates for potato production. As mentioned above, despite a very dry growing season from mid-July onward, particularly in the east, yields and resulting production were better than expected in all areas except PEI.

Total production in Canada is estimated at 130,005 million cwt, up from the record 128.1 million cwt in 2024. Stocks in the table sector are more balanced due to reduced yields in PEI and there is certainly no shortage in the processing sector even with the reduced planted acres in Manitoba.

USDA estimates US production to be down just over 9 million cwt or 2.16% from 2024. Despite an excellent growing season and harvest across the US, and above average yields in most regions, the reduction of close to 15,000 planted acres in Washington resulted in 10 million fewer cwt of potatoes in the state, essentially cancelling out increased production in several other states. Total production in North America is down 1.32%, however the large inventory of russets in Idaho continues to put downward pressure on pricing in the US, making it difficult for states like Colorado to move their crop and regions have fallen behind last year's shipping pace so far this season.

Victoria Stamper - UPGC General Manager



## NATIONAL NEWS

Province/State	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Diff 2025 vs. 2024
Idaho	132,900	120,750	143,333	135,235	138,380	2.33%
Washington	91,930	95,410	103,635	98,890	88,583	-10.42%
<b>ALBERTA</b>	24,614	26,813	32,063	30,089	33,096	9.99%
<b>MANITOBA</b>	24,024	26,139	29,388	27,446	29,624	7.93%
Wisconsin	29,030	26,600	28,350	26,400	28,140	6.59%
Oregon	26,280	25,800	26,660	26,169	26,035	-0.51%
North Dakota	22,500	21,750	26,425	25,305	24,495	-3.20%
Colorado	21,480	21,430	21,098	22,058	23,016	4.34%
<b>PEI</b>	27,209	27,789	25,813	25,930	22,185	-14.44%
Michigan	19,350	18,880	21,560	20,425	20,210	-1.05%
Maine	18,390	18,430	16,800	18,326	17,253	-5.86%
<b>NEW BRUNSWICK</b>	18,200	17,000	14,879	17,006	16,608	-2.34%
Minnesota	17,550	19,150	18,966	17,892	16,590	-7.28%
<b>QUÉBEC</b>	14,100	14,278	11,656	14,901	15,222	2.16%
Nebraska	9,260	9,650	10,731	10,137	9,950	-1.84%
<b>ONTARIO</b>	8,953	8,160	8,602	8,915	9,003	0.99%
Californie	11,500	8,470	9,918	8,944	8,557	-4.33%
Texas	5,520	7,420	6,716	6,789	6,205	-8.60%
Florida	5,400	5,020	5,940	4,602	4,648	1.00%
<b>BRITISH COLUMBIA</b>	2,080	1,600	2,140	1,878	2,194	16.81%
<b>SASKATCHEWAN</b>	1,519	1,450	1,780	1,736	1,798	3.56%
<b>NOVA SCOTIA</b>	357	240	222	224	222	-1.00%
<b>NEWFOUNDLAND</b>	55	52	50	48	53	11.27%
<b>Total - Canada</b>	<b>121,111</b>	<b>123,521</b>	<b>126,593</b>	<b>128,173</b>	<b>130,005</b>	<b>1.43%</b>
<b>Total - US</b>	<b>409,830</b>	<b>398,740</b>	<b>440,132</b>	<b>421,172</b>	<b>412,062</b>	<b>-2.16%</b>
<b>Total - North America</b>	<b>530,941</b>	<b>522,261</b>	<b>566,725</b>	<b>549,345</b>	<b>542,067</b>	<b>-1.32%</b>



### HOLDINGS REPORT

December 2025

#### TOTAL HOLDINGS CANADA

('000 cwt)

Province	Dec-25	Dec-24	% Change	5 year average
PEI	18,281	20,351	-10.2%	20,824
NB	12,174	12,197	-0.2%	10,821
Quebec	9,539	10,143	-6.0%	9,740
Ontario	6,129	6,283	-2.5%	5,911
Manitoba	18,022	20,112	-10.4%	18,322
Alberta	28,872	23,028	25.4%	20,558
BC	1,059	902	17.4%	906
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94,076</b>	<b>93,016</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>87,237</b>

Source: AAFC - Infohort



Alliance for Potato  
Research & Education

**DURING SHORT-TERM ENERGY & LOWER CALORIC INTAKE COMBINED WITH AEROBIC EXERCISE, POTATOES CAN HELP IMPROVE & MAINTAIN MUSCLE STRUCTURE & ENERGY BY 47%**

#### Key Finding of the newest study:

1. Improved Muscle Mitochondria (primary function to generate large quantities of energy) by 47%
2. Maintained Muscle Structural Protein Synthesis
3. Improved Muscle Structural Proteins
4. Enhanced Fat Storage and Usage in Muscles

These findings suggest that during short-term energy deficits combined with aerobic exercise, the body adapts to prioritize muscle efficiency and endurance while maintaining muscle structure and improving fat utilization.

Read the full study [here](#)



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## IN-KIND

**Potato Chips:**  
Old Dutch Foods,  
Pepsico Frito Lay  
Shearer Foods

**Potatoes:**  
Sturgeon Valley Farms

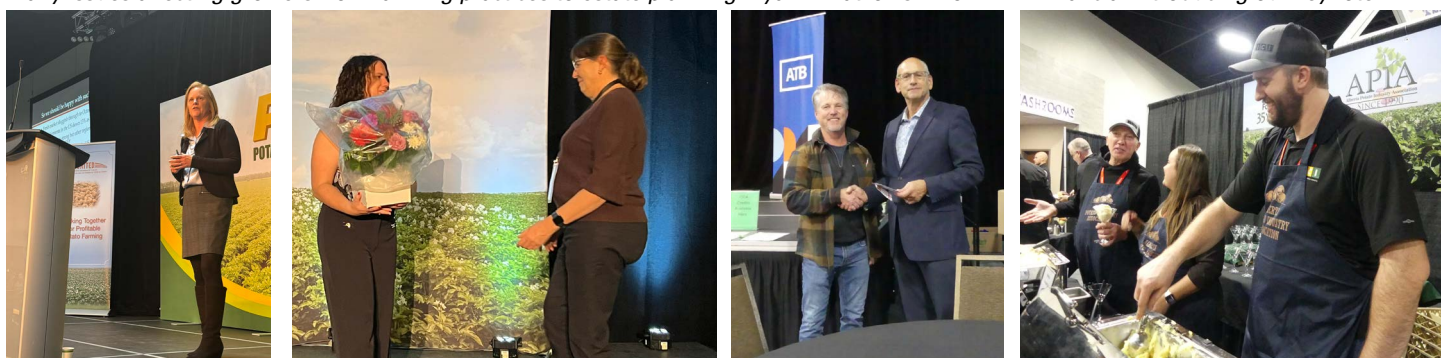


## FROM THE OFFICE

### ALBERTA POTATO CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW SNAPS



L-R: Claire Taylor (AGvocracy Consulting) Keynote speaker talks about how growers can get more involved in telling their story and advocating for agriculture, Grower Panel: Stacey Bajema (PGA Staff) mc's growers: James Bareman, Russ Van Boom, Dustin Monson, Mark Miyanaga on many issues affecting growers from farming practices to estate planning. Ryan Kwiatkowski from ATB Financial introducing our keynote



L-R: Victoria Stamper (UPGC GM) gives her update, recognizing Dr. Michele Konschuh (right) for her career in potato research over the years, Cory Nelson receives prize from ED Terence Hochstein during draws on the last day. APJA members serving up the infamous mashtinis during the Welcome Reception



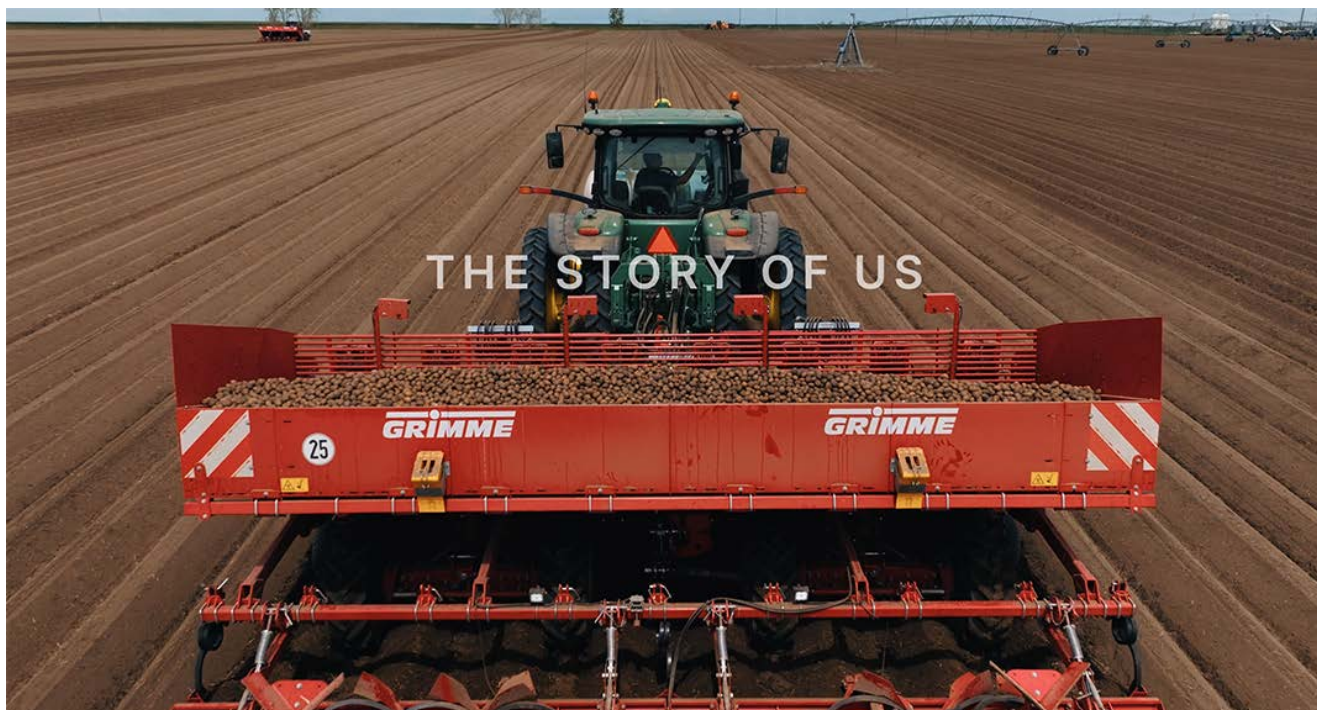
L-R: John Pomeroy speaks about future water supplies in Alberta , massive amount of delegates gather to listen to speakers, group of ladies gather to build charcuteries' at the Partners Program



L-R: APJA founding members Front - Russ Stewart (current president), Chuck Cora, Ian McGillray, Peter Mitchell, Dave Kaiser, Myron Deitrich. Back: Jacques Nelis, Arie Gouw (Celebrating 35 years as a group), Russ Stewart receiving lifetime membership award from APJA member Barb Wilson, Alison Davie (PGA Chair) giving final remarks to close another successful conference and tradeshow



# THE STORY OF US: ALBERTA POTATO GROWERS VIDEO SERIES

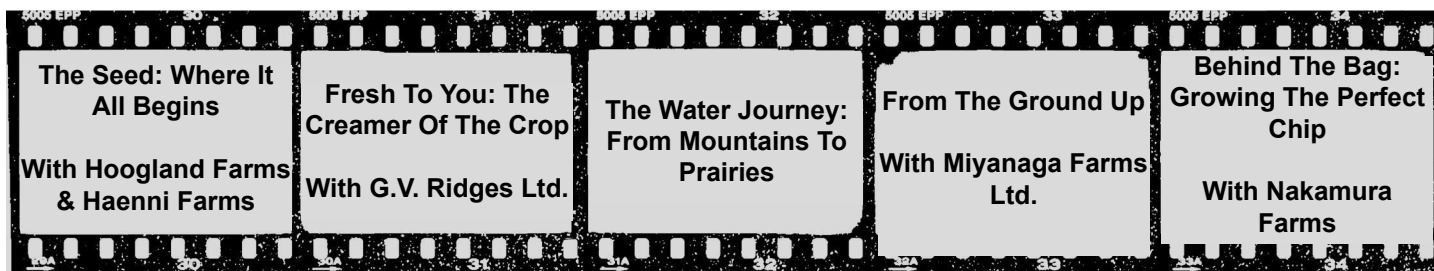


Our 5-part video series is complete and we hope you had the chance to take a look at each episode, as they all had very key information and meaning from each familie's work on their potato operation in Alberta. The seed, table and process markets along with the importance of water were the focus of this collection. Thank you to all the people involved in helping tell the story of Alberta Potato Growers and their day to day work to provide sustainably, healthy potatoes to all: Hoogland Farms, Haenni Farms, G.V. Ridges, Miyanaga Farms, Nakamura Farms. Water Episode - David Westwood

(St. Mary Irrigation GM), Tamara Miyanaga (Taber MD Reeve), Perry Produce.

A special thank you goes to our videographer Coalbanks Creative - Michael Warf and his family who embraced this project whole-heartedly and with their expertise and knowledge, brought these stories to life in a professional inspiring way.

[Check the series out here plus other videos in our library.](#)



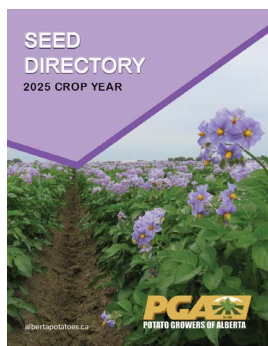


## FROM THE OFFICE

At this time we thank all those who serve and advocate for the Alberta Potato Industry each year, and the partnerships we are fortunate to have built, here and abroad.

May you all find hope, love, joy and peace during the holiday season along with a happy prosperous New Year!

*From the PGA Board & Staff*



*Did you grab your copy of our Seed Directory (CY 2025) and the 2024-25 Annual Report?*

*Hard copies available at the office, visit our website or click the image now to download.*



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*Growing Healthy Potatoes Together!*







## MEMBERSHIP

The Alberta Potato Industry Association is composed of individuals from various areas of business, all of whom work with, and alongside, the potato growers in Alberta. Formed in 1990, the APIA facilitates in the networking with growers at events such as the Burgers N Beans, the Alberta Potato Conference Trade Show, and the Annual PGA Golf Tournament. We are very excited to be celebrating 35 years of partnership with the growers this year!

If you are interested in becoming a member, please send an email to [apiamemberships@gmail.com](mailto:apiamemberships@gmail.com). Memberships will be sent out at the end of the year to last years' members, as well as those interested this year.

### LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENTS

**The following individuals are recognized for their long-standing contribution to the APIA and have been awarded a Lifetime Membership to our association:**

Corah, Chuck  
Gash, Brian  
Gouw, Arie

Hacker, Bill  
Jensen, Wayne  
Kaiser, Dave

Mitchell, Peter  
Mrak, Tony  
Nelis, Jacques

Oikawa, Tricky  
Stewart, Russ  
Sandberg, Phil

**The following individuals are members in good standing of the APIA for the 2025 calendar year:**

Alcock, Tony  
Aleman, Mike  
Bauman, Gerald  
Blaine, Justin  
Bos, Tim  
Brehaut, Randy  
Cabernel, Courtney  
Coker, Mike  
Day, Carol  
DeHaan, Jeff  
Draper, Derrick  
Duell, Michael  
Dykstra, Ray  
Fletcher, Blake  
Fletcher, Bruce  
Fletcher, Derrick  
Garos, Dirk

Gallant, Dave  
Glas, Cobie  
Goertzen, Nathan  
Gratton, Geraldine  
Gratton, Lawrence  
Haacke, Aaron  
Haan, Hartger  
Hanlon, Brendon  
Iwan, Josh  
Janssen, Tom  
Keys, Scott  
Klassen, Greg  
Konynenbelt, Marlin  
Kwiatkowski, Ryan  
Laaveg, Chris  
Leffers, Joel  
Lyczewski, Laurie

MacDonald, Mike  
Mackinnon, Kevin  
Marshall, Robin  
Meier, Whit  
Menkveld, Andrew  
Michielsen, Frank  
Molenaar, Reegan  
Nelis, Brian  
Nelubowich, Adam  
Nikles, Brendan  
Nyborg, Bruce  
Pickles, Taunya  
Pieters, Kristof  
Pluta, Denine  
Quinn, Dean  
Quinton, Justin  
Quiring, Cassidy

Ritchie, Mike  
Russell, Jessie  
Schuppler, Steve  
Slomp, Harry  
Sorensen, Martin  
Steidley, Cory  
Sternberg, Ronald  
Stewart, Craig  
Sydoryk, Terry  
Van Eedan Petersman, Lloyd  
Visser, Daniel  
Vossepoel, Adam  
West, TJ  
Wilson, Barb  
Wynker, Sara