



MAINE POTATO BOARD

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY ARE NICE, BUT HAVE YOU MET A GROWER?

Over the past few years agriculture has been inundated with information and the technology that produces and uses it. It has been said that the smart phone that you have has more capacity than the computers that were used to send the first men to the moon. It's true, we send pictures to each other on a device that is more sophisticated than the computers that NASA had in 1969. The cost then was millions of dollars; the cost today less than a couple of hundred. This level of technological ability has permeated agriculture to the point that we may take it for granted.

Email is a given today as well as the use of smart phones that provide us the opportunity to ask Siri anything, and become irritated when she doesn't answer fast enough. Growers access weather radar from tractor seats today. They also control and monitor irrigation systems and potato storage systems from wherever they have a "signal". Precision agriculture made possible by GPS devices on tractors and equipment is common place in our industry. We even have growers working with companies birthed at MIT, that use drones and imaging software to determine the level of virus infection in a potato field.

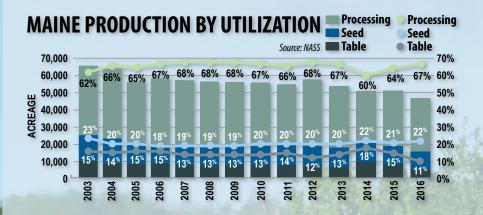
Not many years ago a field of potatoes could have a disease that was known to be caused by bacteria. Today we have the ability to determine what family, genus and species that bacteria belongs to, and with DNA sequencing, we can determine if the bacteria has the same genetic fingerprint as similar bacteria in other parts of the world. This is good information to have when working out a strategy to manage the disease. Today growers can diagnose in the field with a simple kit what would have, in the not too distant past, required a laboratory, a technician and a number of days to diagnose.

There are some things that information and technology cannot replace. Intuition, innovation, compassion, imagination, creativity, wisdom and desire are a few things that are still necessary to grow potatoes. We have made great strides in our ability to generate information and create amazing technology, but we still need a grower. We still need actual human beings to grow potatoes. The Maine potato industry has some of the most capable, compassionate, creative, innovative and imaginative people in the world. This is one of the reasons why we have a commercial potato industry in Maine that is well over 200 years old.

Agricultural technology will continue to improve and information will continue to increase, but they are still just tools that need a farmer to apply them for the benefit of us all.

Join us. Find us online at **www.mainepotatoes.com**, on Facebook at **www.facebook.com/MainePotatoes** or on Twitter **@MainePotatoes**.





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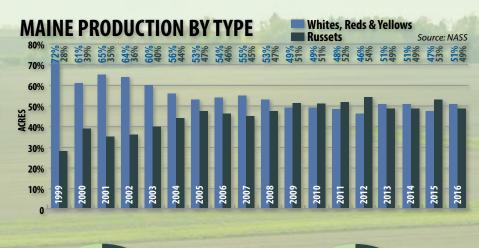
2014-2016 UTILIZATION BY ACREAGE

Processing	2014 Total Harvested Acres	%	2015 Total Harvested Acres	%	2016 Total Harvested Acres	%
Processing	30,192	60%	32,241	64%	30,829	67%
Seed	10,860	22%	10,486	21%	9,917	22%
Tablestock	9,090	18%	7,575	15%	5,060	11%
Total	50,500	100%	50,500	100%	46,000	100%

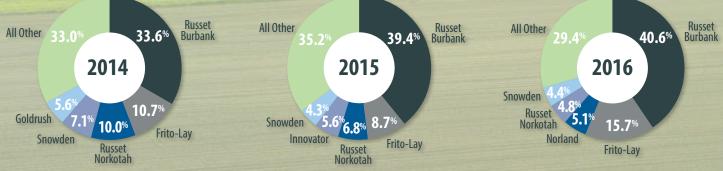
Source: New England Agricultural Statistics Service, MPB/ABC

© Paul Cyr Photo

MAINE POTATO PRODUCTION & CASH RECEIPTS



MAINE'S TOP FIVE VARIETIES

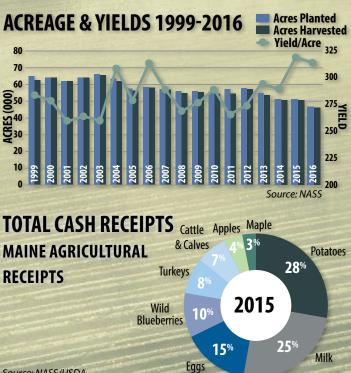


MAINE'S TOP 5 VARIETIES 2014 - 2016

2014	% Of Total	Acres Planted	2015	% Of Total	Acres Planted	2016	% Of Total	Acres Planted
Russet Burbank	33.6	17,136	Russet Burbank	39.4	20,291	Russet Burbank	40.6	18,879
Frito-Lay	10.7	5,457	Frito-Lay	8.7	4,437	Frito-Lay	15.7	7,301
Russet Norkotah	10.0	5,100	Russet Norkotah	6.8	3,468	Norland	5.1	2,371
Snowden	7.1	3,621	Innovator	5.6	2,856	Russet Norkotah	4.8	2,232
Goldrush	5.6	2,856	Snowden	4.3	2,193	Snowden	4.4	2,046
All Other	33.0	16,830	All Other	35.2	17,755	All Other	29.4	13,671
Total	100%	51,000	Total	100%	51,000	Total	100%	46,500

MAINE POTATO PRODUCTION

the states	Acres Planted			CWT
Year	Acres Planted	Acres Harvested	Yield/Acres	Production (000)
1999	65,000	62,500	285	17,813
2000	64,000	64,000	280	17,920
2001	62,000	62,000	260	16,120
2002	64,000	64,000	265	16,960
2003	66,000	65,500	260	17,030
2004	63,500	62,000	310	19,220
2005	57,500	56,200	280	15,736
2006	58,500	58,000	315	18,270
2007	57,100	57,000	290	16,530
2008	56,000	54,700	270	14,769
2009	56,500	55,500	275	15,263
2010	55,000	54,800	290	15,892
2011	57,000	54,000	265	14,310
2012	57,500	57,000	275	15,675
2013	54,500	53,000	295	15,635
2014	51,000	50,500	290	14,645
2015	51,000	50,500	320	16,160
2016	46,500	46,000	315	14,490
Avg.	57,922	57,067	286	16,247



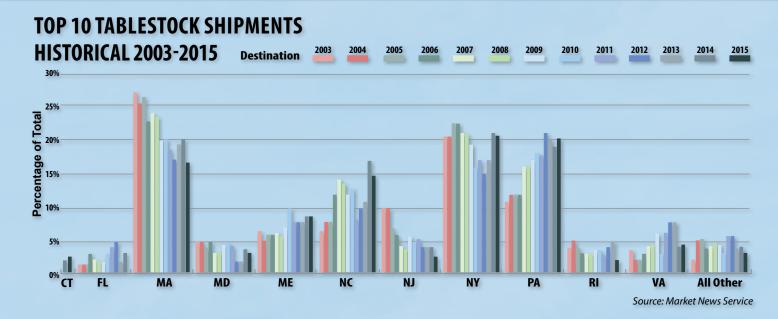
Source: NASS

Source: USDA/NASS/MPB

Source: NASS/USDA



MAINE POTATO DISTRIBUTION: TABLESTOCK

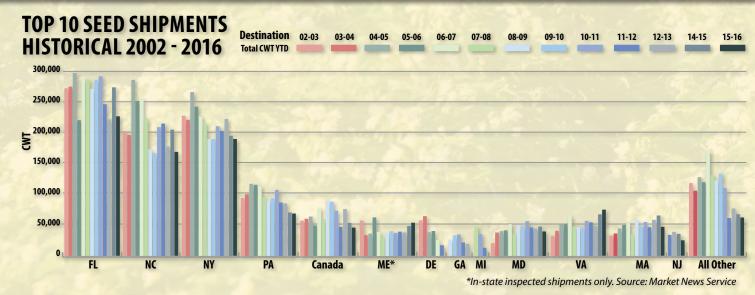








MAINE POTATO DISTRIBUTION: SEED

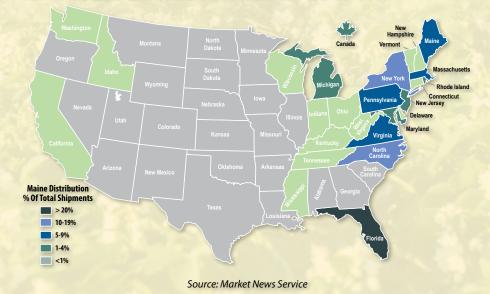


SEED POTATO DISTRIBUTION

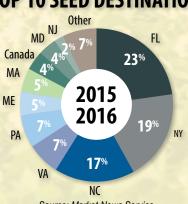
From November to May 2015-2016, approximately 59% of Maine's total 988,218 hundredweight of seed were shipped to Florida, New York and North Carolina.



MAINE SEED DISTRIBUTION 2015 - 2016



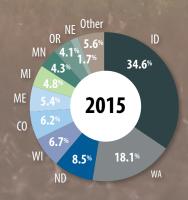
TOP 10 SEED DESTINATIONS



Source: Market News Service

REGIONAL: NATIONAL POTATO PRODUCTION

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION BY PERCENTAGE & STATE

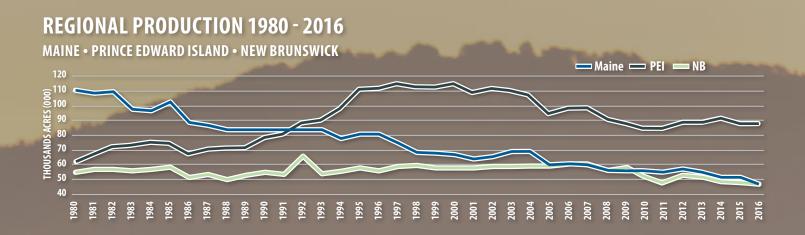


Source: NASS/USDA

2015 PRODUCTION BY FALL STATE

State	% Of Total Acres	Harvested Acres	Avg. Yield CWT	Production
Idaho	34.6%	324,000	402	130,248,000
Washington	18.1%	170,000	590	100,300,000
North Dakota	8.5%	80,000	285	22,800,000
Wisconsin	6.7%	62,500	440	27,500,000
Colorado	6.2%	58,000	394	22,852,000
Maine	5.4%	50,500	320	16,160,000
Michigan	4.8%	45,000	390	17,550,000
Minnesota	4.3%	40,500	400	16,200,000
Oregon	4.1%	38,900	560	21,784,000
Nebraska	1.7%	15,800	435	6,873,000
New York	1.6%	14,600	285	4,161,000
Montana	1.2%	10,900	320	3,488,000
California	0.9%	8,000	465	3,720,000
Pennsylvania	0.6%	5,300	280	1,484,000
Massachusetts	0.4%	3,600	300	1,080,000
Ohio	0.2%	1,500	230	345,000
	Idaho Washington North Dakota Wisconsin Colorado Maine Michigan Michigan Minnesota Oregon Nebraska New York New York Montana California Pennsylvania Massachusetts	Idaho34.6%Washington18.1%North Dakota8.5%Wisconsin6.7%Colorado6.2%Maine5.4%Michigan4.8%Minnesota4.3%Oregon4.1%Nebraska1.7%New York1.6%Montana1.2%California0.9%Pennsylvania0.6%Massachusetts0.4%	Idaho34.6%324,000Washington18.1%170,000North Dakota8.5%80,000Wisconsin6.7%62,500Colorado6.2%58,000Maine5.4%50,500Michigan4.8%45,000Minnesota4.3%40,500Oregon4.1%38,900Nebraska1.7%15,800New York1.6%14,600Montana1.2%10,900California0.9%8,000Pennsylvania0.6%5,300	Idaho34.6%324,000402Washington18.1%170,000590North Dakota8.5%80,000285Wisconsin6.7%62,500440Colorado6.2%58,000394Maine5.4%50,500320Michigan4.8%45,000390Minnesota4.3%40,500400Oregon4.1%38,900560Nebraska1.7%15,800435New York1.6%14,600285Montana1.2%10,900320California0.9%8,000465Pennsylvania0.6%5,300300

Source: NASS







Board members standing from left: Dan Blackstone, Bart Bradbury, Adam Paradis, Scott Ayotte, Seth Bradstreet II Seated from left: Nick McCrum, Kramer Bell, Keith LaBrie, Brent Buck, Gregg Garrison Absent: Greg McCrum

MAINE POTATO BOARD

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maine Potato Board is to provide a competitive environment for our growers, processors, and dealers creating both stability and the infrastructure for future growth, while promoting the economic importance to the state and quality of the product.

STAFF

Donald E. Flannery......Executive Director Timothy P. Hobbs.. Director of Development/Grower Relations Jeannie Tapley......Office Manager George McLaughlin......Agricultural Engineer Jacob DyerAgronomist Andrew PlantPlant Pathologist Jaylee FoxPathology Lab Technician

SEED FARM STAFF

Kimberly Flewelling	Greenhouse/Laboratory Manager
Tammy Donovan	Greenhouse/Laboratory Assistant
Kendall McHatten	
Donald Flewelling	Agriculture Worker
Ken Robinson	Agriculture Worker

BOARD MEMBERS & OFFICERS

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Brent Buck, Treasurer	Mapleton
Kramer Bell, Secretary	Mars Hill
Bart Bradbury	Bridgewater
Seth Bradstreet II	
Gregg Garrison	Blaine
Greg McCrum	Mars Hill
Adam Paradis	
Scott Ayotte	Hamlin
Dan Blackstone	Caribou



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