



## Oregon Potato Commission

# Newsletter

### OPC HOSTS VIETNAM RTM

The Oregon Potato Commission International Trade Committee invited seven Vietnam Potato Import Companies to visit the Oregon Potato Industry September 16-22, 2012. Bill Brewer met the group at Klamath Falls to conduct the state-wide tour. The Reverse Trade Mission (RTM) started with visits to Gold Dust Farms, Baley/Trotman Farms and Chin Farms. RTM members saw harvest, handling, sorting, packaging and storage during this stop. The group enjoyed an evening with several local growers at dinner.

After a full day of traveling from Klamath Falls to Hermiston the group visited Walchli Produce, Amstad Farms, South Basin Packing and Castle Rock Farms. The Blue Mountain Potato Growers met the group for dinner at John Walchli's farm.

The tour then proceeded on to Portland for

*Continue on page 3*



*RTM members visit with Weston Walker during harvest 2012.*

### GETTING FRESH STOCK TO PANAMA

Panama has granted access for Oregon potatoes. Panama's Food Safety Authority (AUPSA) finished updating the PRA to allow Oregon's potatoes to be imported to Panama. A Resolution from AUPSA was issued on September 25, 2012 and was published October 11, 2012 in the AUPSA webpage, see link for regulation and requirements (supporting documentation) in Spanish: <http://200.46.196.147/aupsa/requisitos/RES51Del2012PapasOregonUSA.pdf>

APHIS Export Services have been working with APHIS International Services to update the PEXD (PCIT) site for US potatoes into Panama. Industry can now access the specific requirements for Oregon potatoes to Panama by going into PEXD.



*In this issue . . .*

***WA/OR Potato Conference  
New Potato Breeder at HAREC***

Oregon  
**POTATOES**

*October 2012*

# **2013 WA/OR POTATO CONFERENCE**

**Admission is only \$5 at the door January 29, 30 & 31**

**THREE RIVERS  
CONVENTION  
CENTER**

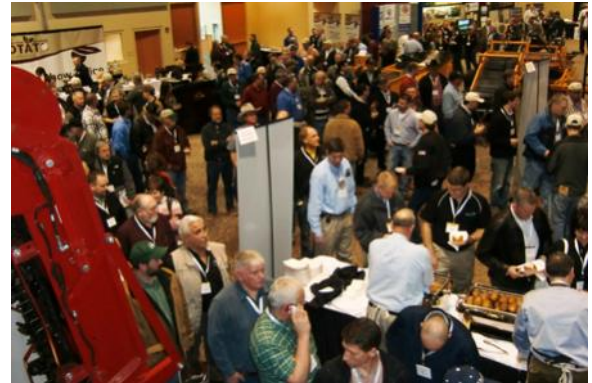
7016 W Grandridge Blvd  
Kennewick, WA 99336  
[www.threeriversconventioncenter.com](http://www.threeriversconventioncenter.com)

## **MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW**

Red Lion, Kennewick, \$81.95/night – (509) 783-0611;  
Conference Rate Code: Washington State Potato Commission;  
[www.redlion.rdln.com](http://www.redlion.rdln.com)

Red Lion, Pasco, \$81.95/night – (509) 547-0701;  
Conference Rate Code: Washington State Potato Commission;  
[www.redlion.rdln.com](http://www.redlion.rdln.com)

Hilton Garden Inn, Kennewick, \$115.00/night - (509) 735-4600;  
Conference Rate Code: WSPC13;  
[Washington Oregon Potato Conference](http://Washington Oregon Potato Conference)



## **Spanish Program at the POTATO CONFERENCE**

**Tuesday, January 29, 2013 9:00-3:30  
Registration Deadline January 20, 2012**

The day-long comprehensive safety workshop will be presented in Spanish. Because of the interactive nature of the workshop, attendance is limited to the first 50 who are registered. Available at no additional charge to potato crop workers only. Lunch will be provided on site. For details go to

[www.potatoconference.com/pc/SpanishProgram.cfm](http://www.potatoconference.com/pc/SpanishProgram.cfm)

Or call (509) 765-8845

## **KOREAN MARKET UPDATE**

As of October 9, 2012, Korea has reopened the market to fresh chipping potatoes from Idaho, Washington and Oregon. The opening is based on documentation of the application of CIPC on the line and the cutting of tubers for visual inspection by a certified inspector as part of the process to issue the phytosanitary certificate.

## **HAREC HAS A NEW POTATO BREEDER**

Dr. Vidyasagar Sathuvalli (“Sagar”) will be joining the faculty at HAREC as a potato breeder. He came very highly recommended and, without question, will provide the expertise (along with others in the potato variety development program in Oregon and the TriState area) to



bring new improved potato lines for use in the processing and fresh market arenas. He will be presenting an introductory presentation at Farm Fair this year which will provide an opportunity for you, if you haven't already, to

meet him and introduce yourself.

We are very fortunate to have Sagar join the staff. He begins Dec 1, 2012. After the first of the year we will make additional opportunities to meet him.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Vidyasagar Sathuvalli “Sagar” and family to HAREC.

By Philip B. Hamm

*RTM continued*

visits to Strebin Produce, ODA and Amstad Produce.

Fresh potato market access for Oregon potatoes was approved in 2010. In November 2011 the OPC Trade Committee participated with Katy Coba, ODA Director on a visit to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam to promote Oregon potatoes. In-Store demonstrations were conducted and members of the trade team visited with Vietnamese consumers. It was evident the consumers had great interest in US product and specifically interested in colored flesh



*RTM members visit with Jeff Urbach during 2012 RTM*

potatoes. The Trade committee made the decision to conduct a RTM to continue building business relationships. Potential potato importing companies were invited to participate. The RTM members were interested in all types of potatoes and several other commodities. Vietnam consumers have a high degree of trust in Food Safety for products from the US. The traditional potato imports have been from China, but because of Food Safety issues, that market has been in decline. The RTM members were looking to replace their normal imports. Vietnam has in-country supplies from February to June, so there is potential for Oregon Shippers to fill demand from July to January. By Bill Brewer



## **SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAMS**



**F**ive 4-H school gardens from every corner of the Portland Metro area accepted seed potatoes from OPC last spring. Their enthusiasm out performed their yields this fall. The garden coordinators are more determined to do better next summer and the kids have a new appreciation for the production of their favorite vegetable.



*Dear Oregon Potato Commission,*

*Here are a few pictures of Ms. Kuether's 1st graders harvesting your potatoes. We baked them with olive oil, rosemary, salt, pepper and garlic. We served them with ketchup and the kids LOVED them! One child said, "I could eat this breakfast, lunch and dinner!" I sent them home with a recipe. The potatoes were such beautiful colors too. Thank you very much. We look forward to planting potatoes again this spring.*

*Rosie Platt Garden Coordinator  
Chapman Elementary School*

Oregon Potato Commission  
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Portland, OR 97219-5405

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### Upcoming Events

October 27, 2012	Ag in the Classroom Fall Harvest Dinner Linn County Fair & Expo Center, Albany, OR
November 3, 2012	Potato Bar at OSU/Arizona Game Outside Reser Stadium
November 27, 2012	Research Committee Meeting Hermiston, OR
November 28, 2012	Hermiston Farm Fair Potato Day
November 29, 2012	OPC Quarterly Meeting Hermiston, OR
January 9-11	Potato EXPO Las Vegas, NV
January 29, 2013	Oregon Seed Advisory Committee Three Rivers Convention Center Kennewick, WA
January 29-31, 2013	WA/OR Potato Conference Three Rivers Convention Center Kennewick, WA

### **Oregon Potato Commission**

#### **Members:**

*Chairman Marty Myers, Boardman*  
*Vice Chairman Dan Chin, Klamath Falls*  
*Tony Amstad, Hermiston*  
*Lon Baley, Malin*  
*Leif Eric Benson, Public Member*  
*Jim Carlson, Culver*  
*Nels Iverson, Jefferson*  
*Jerry Strickland, Huntington*  
*Dan Walchli, Hermiston*  
*One Malheur Position Currently Vacant*

#### **Staff:**

*Bill Brewer, President and CEO*  
*Jennifer Fletcher, Administrative Director*  
*Judy Schwartz, Administrative Assistant*

*~Please email [judy@oregonspuds.com](mailto:judy@oregonspuds.com) for address updates or to be removed from this mailing.~*