



**Tri State Potato Research and
Breeding Program Today**



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**PVMI—POTATO VARIETY
MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE**



HISTORY

In 1949, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recognized the national importance of the Pacific Northwest in the production and processing of potatoes and supported the establishment of a potato research breeding program at Aberdeen, Idaho.

While the state of Idaho had initially petitioned for the establishment of the potato breeding program, from its inception the program was meant to serve the potato industry in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Additional funding obtained in 1983 allowed the establishment of the Northwest Potato Variety Development Program, also known as the Tri-State Potato Research and Breeding Program. The objective of this regional program was to develop new potato varieties for the Pacific Northwest with enhanced attributes relative to varieties currently available to the industry.

The Tri-State Potato Research and Breeding Program is a cooperative, regional collaboration of the USDA/ARS of Idaho and Washington, Oregon State University, University of Idaho, Washington State University and the potato commissions of the three states. Research scientists work together with Experiment Station personnel in a coordinated program that has resulted in more than forty new potato varieties being released since the program's inception. Funding of the program is also cooperative, including contributions from state universities, USDA-ARS base funds, grower dollars from the state commissions, and federal grant funding through various USDA programs.

In 2011, Tri-State varieties represented over 20%, or 194,000 acres, of the fall crop in the US*.

(*NASS, Crop Production, November, 2011)

2011 Impact of the Tri-State Variety Program

The effect of the Tri-State Potato Variety Development Program on the Northwest french fry processors and chippers have incorporated many varieties developed

Idaho

Ranger Russet, Umatilla Russet, and Western Russet were all in the top five varieties produced in 2011, accounting for 17% of the acreage planted.

Oregon

Umatilla Russet, Ranger Russet, Alturas, and Premier Russet were all in the top ten varieties produced in 2011, accounting for 36%, up 5 percent from 2010.



west potato industry has been substantial. The fresh market industry, led through the Tri-State variety development program into their businesses.

Washington

Umatilla Russet, Ranger Russet, Alturas, and Premier Russet were all in the top ten varieties produced in 2011, accounting for 39% of the acreage planted.



Teton Russet

Nationwide

Russet cultivars released from the Tri-State program, with their rank in 2011.

- Ranger Russet, 3rd
- Umatilla Russet, 4th
- Alturas, 6th
- Premier Russet, 10th
- Bannock Russet, 13th
- Western Russet, 20st
- Alpine Russet, 23th

Russets - Processing

Ranger Russet 1991

Umatilla Russet 1998

Highland Russet 2006

Alpine Russet 2008

Palisade Russet 2011

Russets - Fresh Pack

Century Russet 1995

Klamath Russet 2000

A84180-8 2008

Russets - Dual Purpose

Frontier Russet 1990

Russet Legend 1998

Bannock Russet 1999

Gem Russet 2000

Wallowa Russet 2002

Summit Russet 2003

Western Russet 2004

GemStar Russet 2004

Blazer Russet 2005

Premier Russet 2006

Gallatin Russet 2007

Classic Russet 2008

Clearwater Russet 2008

Owyhee Russet 2009

Teton Russet 2011

Long White— Dehy/Process

Alturas 2002

Defender 2004

Chippers

GemChip 1989

Ivory Crisp 2002

Willamette 2003

Yukon Gem 2006

Specialty

Purple Pelisse 2009

AmaRosa 2009

Huckleberry Gold 2011

Yellows

Yukon Gem 2006

Yukon Nugget 2012

Red Skin—Fresh Pack

IdaRose 2000

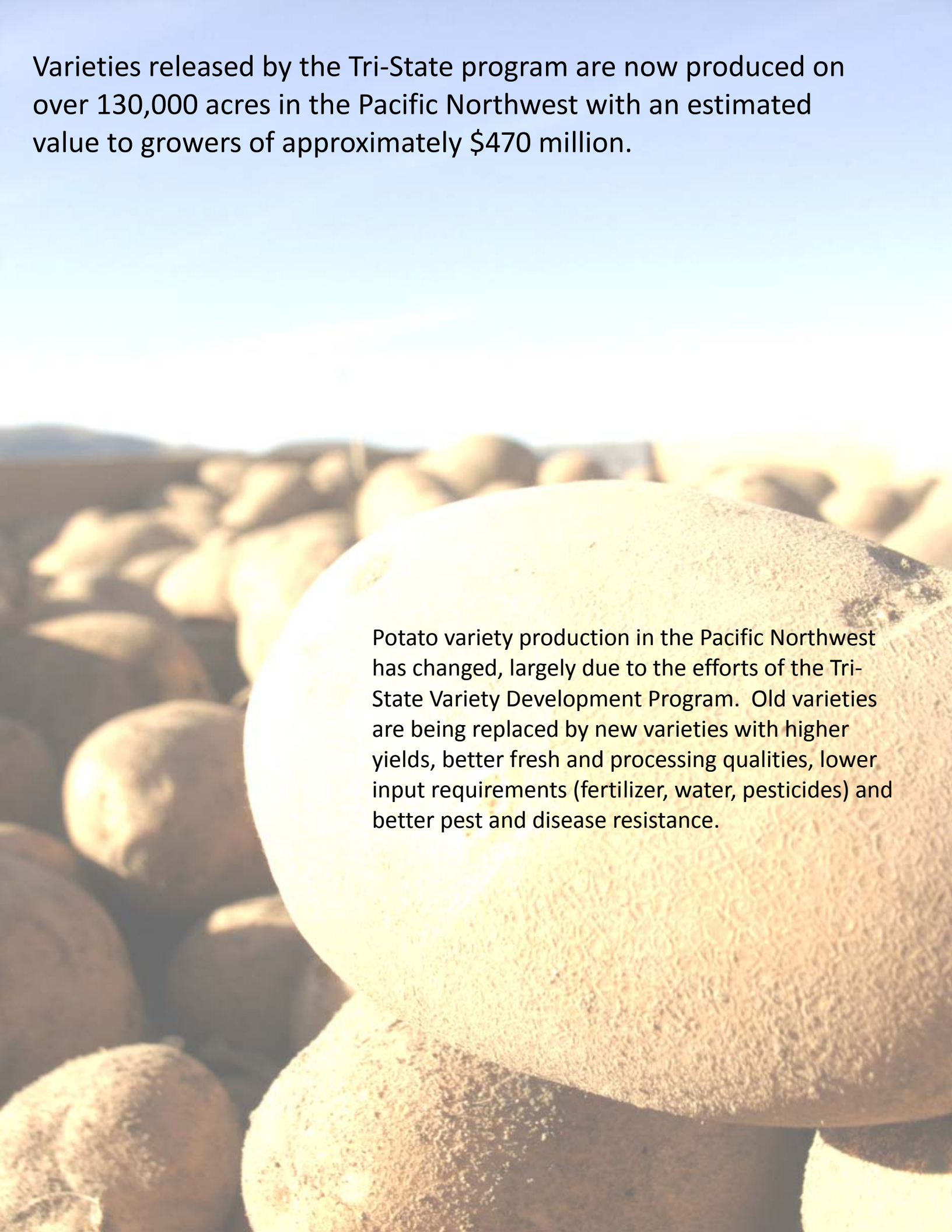
Mazama 2000

Winema 2000

Modoc 2003

Crimson Red 2009

Red Sunset 2009



Varieties released by the Tri-State program are now produced on over 130,000 acres in the Pacific Northwest with an estimated value to growers of approximately \$470 million.

Potato variety production in the Pacific Northwest has changed, largely due to the efforts of the Tri-State Variety Development Program. Old varieties are being replaced by new varieties with higher yields, better fresh and processing qualities, lower input requirements (fertilizer, water, pesticides) and better pest and disease resistance.

Tri State Potato Research and Breeding Program Tomorrow



PVMI

In 2005, the potato commissions in WA, OR, and ID launched the Potato Variety Management Institute (PVMI) to market and promote Tri-State potato varieties. It is a non-profit, grower-controlled organization to provide the infrastructure so that license and royalty fees for the new varieties could be put back into the research and breeding program.

PVMI is helping to maximize the potential success of new varieties by providing information regarding variety features and management to growers and industry.

Since its inception PVMI has returned \$500,000 to the program. This is expected to increase with the adoption of new varieties.

For more information you can call (541) 318 1485, email jeannedebons@msn.com or go to www.pvmi.org.

