

Idaho Potato Commission

Industry Relations Newsletter - July 1, 2008



Knowing that many of you have been busy getting the crop into the ground, important national meetings have not been scheduled. What a great way to start the season by attending a national meeting in our own backyard. Join us in Idaho Falls for a kick off with a bang!

NPC Summer Board of Directors Meeting:

Don't forget! The NPC summer Board of Directors meeting is in Idaho Falls next week. It is being held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Idaho Falls located at 700 Lindsay Boulevard. Some of the highlights for the meeting are a dinner at Mountain River Ranch on Wednesday July 9th, a silent banquet and auction the evening July 10th and a farm tour starting at 11:00 a.m. on Friday July 11th. Get signed up and join in the fun! You can find a schedule of all the events at: http://www.nationalpotatocouncil.org/NPC/meetings_upcoming.cfm.

NPC also provides an *Insider Report* summarizing the important issues facing the potato industry. Please let us know if you already receive this report directly. If you do not have access to this report, and are interested, please let us know by responding to this email and we will explore ways to get it to you.

Nominations for US Potato Board Members to take place July 9th:

On Wednesday, July 9th at 12:00 noon, a nomination meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Lunch will be provided.

IPC and U of I Research Projects:

The 2008 research projects funded by the IPC are now in full swing. The R&E committee of the IPC determines what projects to undertake along with the funding amount. The projects are monitored by a series of updates submitted by the researchers and some of the final updates are starting to come in. The latest update is from the potato taste testing panel which was testing several new varieties against the taste of a Russet Burbank.

Important Websites:

Here are a couple of important websites that the industry should be aware of:

www.kimberly.uidaho.edu/potatoes/gap. This is the GAP website put together by the IPC and U of I. If you are in need of a GAP program on your farm this is the website to go to. It gives you a step by step procedure to compile a GAP manual that you can tailor for your specific farm. All the documents can be downloaded as either Word files or PDF files; this allows the user to either fill out the forms on the computer or print them and manually fill them out. I would like to thank Nora Olsen for her efforts in creating this site and keeping it updated.

<http://www.typestalert.net/> This is a website growers can use to track disease and pest pressures as they migrate across Idaho from West to East. The website allows farmers to sign up for pest alerts which will be e-mailed to them upon detection. It also allows users to submit alerts.

Calendar of Events

July

- July 8-11: NPC Summer meetings, Idaho Falls
- July 9: United of Idaho Board meeting, Idaho Falls
- July 8- 9: Vegetable Research Tour
 - July 8: 1:30 p.m. - Potatoes, Onions and Sweet Corn), Parma R&E Center
 - July 9: Malheur County Experiment Station field day
- July 14-15: United of America Board Meeting, Pasco WA
- July 15: IPC Ag Affairs Committee meeting, Idaho Falls, ID
- July 18: United Potato Growers Summer meeting, Red Lion Inn, Pocatello, ID
- July 22-23: Idaho Potato Commission meeting, Boise, ID
- July 24: Twilight Research Tour, Kimberly R&E Center, 5 p.m.
- July 29 -Aug 2:USPB Summer Meeting, Moses Lake, WA
- July30 -Aug 2: SpudFest, Driggs, ID

August

- Aug 24-27 IGSA Sun Valley Convention