

IDAHO POTATO PULSE



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Website: www.idahopotato.com

Government Affairs Report By Pat Kole

The next few months during and after harvest begin the “Meeting Marathon” time period for the potato industry. These meetings greatly impact the industry and include the annual meeting of the North America Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), the US/Canada Potato Advisory Council, IPC’s Whistle-stop tour and several meetings of other potato organizations such as United, IGSA and the UI Potato team. In addition, USDA APHIS will be holding Bi-lateral negotiations with other countries on market access issues such as Japan and Mexico.

I’d like to quickly highlight the first of these upcoming meetings, NAPPO. This meeting brings together the plant health regulatory officials from the US, Canada and Mexico, together with industry and state agriculture officials, to discuss ongoing quarantine programs, new and revised standards governing pest and virus control and prevention measures, meetings that are industry specific and broadly representative of common issues that cross over many commodities. NAPPO meetings are where many important discussions are held that can lead to greater market access for our potatoes. The meetings are often very intense and technical. We are fortunate to have a great working relationship with both our federal and state regulatory officials, as well as good industry representation at this meeting.

Industry Relations Report By Todd Cornelison

First meeting of the PTI (Produce Traceability Initiative) Committee

PTI continues to be a hot topic in our industry. Opinions range from not adopting it at all to how soon can it be adopted and can we mandate uniform coding throughout the state. In an effort to form a consolidated industry opinion on PTI, the IGSA and IPC along with industry leaders have formed a PTI Committee. The first meeting of this committee will be held at the IPC office in Idaho Falls on September 30th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. If you would like to be on the committee, please contact either Todd Cornelison at (208) 559-4792 or Travis Blacker at (208) 360-9560. For a more thorough explanation of PTI, please visit their website at <http://www.producetraceability.org/>

Pale Cyst Nematode (PCN) Regulated and Deregulated Landowner Operator Meeting

USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine, Idaho State Department of Agriculture and the Idaho Potato Commission will be conducting a joint informational meeting on Tuesday, October 6th at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 700 Lindsey Blvd., Idaho Falls, ID. Topics are to include:

- General Idaho PCN program update
- Update on recently signed US/Canadian guidelines
- Importance and difference between Federal interstate movement and ISDA intrastate movement rule
- Monitoring of deregulated fields under ISDA authority
- Hours of service for USDA sanitation and certification
- Grower input

As a light meal will be served, please RSVP to Todd Cornelison at (208) 559-4792.

Calendar

September

30 Meeting of the PTI (Produce Traceability Initiative) Committee, Idaho Falls, ID

October

2-5 PMA, Anaheim, CA
6 United of Idaho Board Meeting, Idaho Falls, ID
7 USBP Dehy Industry Dinner & Reception, 5:30 pm, Sandpiper Restaurant, Idaho Falls, ID
(RSVP Required)
8 USBP Dehy Industry Meeting, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm, Hilton Garden Inn, Idaho Falls, ID
20-21 IPC Commission Meeting, Boise, ID

November

5-6 IWUA Fall Water Law Seminar, Doubletree Riverside Hotel, Boise, ID
10-12 IPC Whistlestop Tour
11 United of Idaho Annual Meeting
9:00 am, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, ID
12:30 pm, Burley Inn, Burley ID
12 IGSA Fall Meeting, Idaho Falls, ID

January

3-4 NPC Annual Meeting, Loews Royal Pacific Resort, Orlando, Florida
4-6 POTATO EXPO 2010, Loews Royal Pacific Resort, Orlando, Florida
19-21 East Idaho Ag Expo, ISU Holt Arena on the ISU campus, Pocatello, ID
20-21 UI Potato Conference, Student Union Building, ISU campus, Pocatello, ID

February

18-25 2010 Potato Industry Leadership Institute
22-25 NPC Public Policy Conference, Washington, DC