



UNITED

FRESH POTATO GROWERS OF COLORADO

July 21, 2006 Dwight Freeman, CEO

Fresh Facts

Editor: Lyla Davis Volume 1 No. 28

Did you know...potatoes (skin on) have more potassium than a banana?

Growers of Colorado report successful annual meeting

By Lyla Davis, UPGC staff

United growers in Colorado held their annual meeting in Monte Vista in May. More than 50 percent of members attended. United Potato Growers of Colorado President Dave Warsh opened by thanking everyone for their reduction contribution to United and noted the level of grower participation. He reported on the national meetings he has attended and discussed the field audits of all Board members and 20 percent of the grower membership. Dwight Freeman, Colorado CEO, summarized his work with United. He applauded the membership for acreage reduction of more than 4,000 acres. Colorado provides a web site, thanks to Chuck Howey, that our members use as a resource tool. Dwight facilitates the local conference call as well as participates in the national weekly conference call. United of Colorado provides a weekly e-newsletter to the membership, the current bulk price is available on our hot potato line. Dwight conducted a harvest size and quality profile along with inventory surveys of stocks on hand. The survey was returned to us by 97 percent of our membership.

UPGA growers buy down acres

UPGA growers from around the country will buy down thousands of acres this year says Buzz Shahan, UPGA Chief Operating Officer. UPGA members in Colorado, Idaho, Klamath, Washington-Oregon and Wisconsin contributed toward the buy down. This increased acreage reduction amounts to more than a million hundred weight removed from the market in addition to other UPGA reduction and supply management programs.

“Growers are uniquely fortunate to have the Capper-Volstead Act and United. Other industries and companies given Capper-Volstead would jump on it faster than a starving man on a ham sandwich.”

Dick Okray, Okray Family Farms, Wisconsin

Dear United Fresh Potato Growers of Colorado:

July 20, 2006

United is pleased to say we are happy with the numbers. It appears that collectively and cooperatively, we have created a supply situation that is in line with the demand. Indications are that potato growers should receive a satisfactory price and make a reasonable profit. In light of this news, be on the lookout for buyers that may attempt to offer you a “good deal” that could reduce your “satisfaction of price” and the “reasonableness of your profit”.

Do not undermine the United efforts especially now that so much of the hard work is done and that we are about to receive the rewards of those efforts.

Last weeks NASS Crop Report indicates the success of acreage management programs that are leading us to what appears to be another a good year. These numbers are in line with our expectations.

Due to supply management efforts, it appears there are no significant carry over inventories, and we should be able to transition to the new crop reasonably well.

The market is well positioned to continue to deliver high quality potatoes at reasonable prices to meet consumer needs.

Thanks to all of our members for their UNITED participation and efforts!

For Your Information

Dwight has been out of the office most of the week conducting field audits. If you need to contact him, please call the UNITED office (852.2144) and your call will be forwarded to his cell phone.

Dwight may be contacting you to “square up” your 2006 acreage. Please provide FSA Form 578 or equivalent records to him as soon as possible.

United of America has released the latest newsletter, however we do not have the hard copies to mail out yet. Be watching your mailboxes for the latest issue.