



INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Potato Association of America

Letter From the President

I hope this note finds all of you well and enjoying springtime. Many things are moving ahead at this time for our PAA: 1) the e-mail vote was tabulated and you voted overwhelmingly to approve our moving ahead with a contract to have Springer publish the American Journal of Potato Research; 2) we are in the process of having all our dues moved to an annual basis rather than on our individual anniversary dates of when we joined so look for this change in your invoice for membership starting July of 2007.

Once again I urge you to each set a goal of signing up one new member to the PAA before the annual meeting in Idaho Falls. We continue to see erosion in our individual membership and the only way we as a society can survive is to maintain and grow our active membership. So when you are at meetings

this spring be sure to mention membership in the PAA and it's many benefits.

Plan to attend the annual meeting in Idaho Falls this year as the LAC has many fun and stimulating things planned. The 2008 meeting is planned for Buffalo, New York. 2008 is the international year of the potato and I am sure we will celebrate it in style in New York. If you have any questions or suggestions about this meeting please call Don Halseth: (607-255-5460).

Planting has already started here in the Northwest and we are in full swing. I wish all of you a smooth and productive spring.

If you have any questions please e-mail or call me.

Sincerely, Sam Thornton
2007 PAA President

sam.thornton@syngenta.com or
509-760-3671

Update from the Home Office

Spring is trying really hard to come to Maine but Mother Nature still has other ideas.

Things in the home office are busy as always but I need your continuing help to make things run smoothly. You receive three (3) reminders for paying your dues before I pull your membership, however I understand you get busy and sometimes forget to put your payment in the mail or fax it to me. I need you to pay attention to the very first invoice I send. This way you will only receive the one reminder and the PAA will save on stamps, especially since postage will be going up in May to \$.41 for first class mail.

I sent out a mass e-mailing [31] to individual members whose membership expired 12/31/06, yet I only heard back from '5' that they would be renewing. I know there are others who want to do the same, but just haven't let me know. Don't miss out on the next issue of the AJPR by not

sending in your dues. Please send me your payment ASAP so I won't pull you off.

Also, for those of you who will be retiring in the near future, don't forget about our Emeritus membership category. You receive all the same benefits as a regular member except no AJPR but do receive the PAA Insider newsletter instead. The cost is only \$35/year. You'll be able to attend the PAA Annual Meetings and receive the discount registration rates like you did as an individual member. There's an affordable way to stay in touch with your long-time colleagues afeall. Please consider this option before saying 'goodbye'. Look at the Membership page for a description: <http://www.umaine.edu/paa/mbrapp3.htm>

That's all for now. My door is always open for your questions. And if I can't find an answer, I will find someone who can!

Lori Wing - Admin. Asst./Membership Sec.

Vol. 11, No. 2 April 2007

Dates

May

29-Jun 1: Australian Vegetable Ind Conf, Info: toni.davies@ausveg.com.au

June

7-9: 2007 Europatat Congress, Slovakia, Danube Hotel, Bratislava. Info: romain@fvphouse.be

17-19: 2007 Wash Potato & Onion Assn Ann Mtg, Cover d'Alene Resort in Cover d'Alene, ID. Info: Tracy Mullen, 509-528-4956, tracymullen@hotmail.com

July

11-14: 2007 NPC Summer Mtg, Treetops Resort, Treetops Village, MI. Info: Hollee Alexander hollie@nationalpotatocouncil.org

14-15: Potato Growers of ID Summer Meeting, Twin Falls, ID. Info: 208-785-1110, pgi@cableone.com

16: Potato Growers ID, United Potato Growers of ID & So ID Potato Coop, Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, ID. Info: Martha Dance, 208-785-1110, pgimd@cableone.net

ASP Calender of Events

2007-2010: Not just APS meetings, but all venues. You can add your own meetings to their calendar. <http://www.apsnet.org/meetings/calendar.asp>

2007 PAA Meeting Update

Register Now for the PAA 91st Annual Meeting in Idaho

Preparations are well underway, and all we need for a great 91st annual meeting of the Potato Association of America in Idaho Falls is for everyone to come to Idaho. The theme for this year's meeting is "Healthy Potatoes for a Healthy World."

As usual, you'll learn from the numerous presentations and posters, as well as gain knowledge about the agriculture in the state during the Wednesday agriculture tour. New for to this year's meeting is time scheduled on Tuesday afternoon for professional networking providing you an opportunity to meet with colleagues whom you only see at the PAA meetings. Several great tours and activities have been organized for accompanying persons.

The barbecue will be Tuesday evening at the Shilo Inn along the banks of the beautiful Snake River. There will be a live auction at the barbecue to raise money for the PAA Endowment Fund, so don't forget to bring items to sell, or money to purchase items for this worthy cause. We have lined up an entertaining auctioneer, so we think you'll enjoy the event. There will also be a Silent Auction on Monday night, August 13th. There is more information about this below.

Registration for the conference received by July 23, 2007 is just \$210 U.S. for PAA members. After July 23, PAA member registration will be \$265. Tours, barbecue, and

banquet are extra. To register, find lodging accommodations, to get driving directions to the conference center, and to keep updated on the conference, please frequently visit our website, <http://www.conferences.uidaho.edu/PAA>.

Remember, too, that hotel reservations need to be made by July 20, 2007 to receive the group rate. Participants may reserve their accommodations by contacting the Shilo Inn, the conference headquarters, at (208) 523-0088 or (800) 222-2244. Additional accommodations have been reserved at the Le Ritz hotel, which is within walking distance to the Shilo Inn. Contact the Le Ritz at (208) 528-0880. Reservations can only be taken by phone and please be sure to mention you will be attending the 2007 Potato Association of America meeting to receive the special group rate. Many other motels are also near the conference headquarters.

Keep in mind that Yellowstone Park, Jackson Hole, Wyoming and other world-famous attractions are but a short drive from Idaho Falls. Plan on bringing the whole family to enjoy all that the beautiful state of Idaho has to offer.

Submitted by:
William H. Bohl, University of Idaho
Glenn Letendre, Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.
Co-chairs, PAA 2007 LAC

4th Annual Silent Auction Update

100% of the proceeds will benefit the PAA Endowment Fund

Time to start gathering auction items for the August 2007 PAA Annual Meeting in Idaho Falls....past favorites include quilts, books, prints, potato-related items, humorous pieces, donate your camp for a weekend, and anything cool! It does not have to be 'potato' related!!

- Location: Idaho Falls PAA Conference
- Bidding Starts: Monday at Noon
- Bidding Ends: Monday, Aug. 13, 8:00P

Donated items will be accepted at the Registration Table Sunday (8/12/07) and continuing through 3:00P on Monday (8/13/07).

(Silent Auction material will be displayed all day Monday for your bidding pleasure!)

Don't forget....all donations are tax deductible!

Some items will be held over for a 'live' auction at the BBQ, Tuesday, August 14... two chances to buy some wonderful stuff!

Please share this information with family, friends, and sponsors who would like to support the Auction and the Endowment Fund.

Questions? Jan Mosley, 541-737-9711,
janet.mosley@oregonstate.edu

More information on the auction will be in future PAA Insider issues, through e-mails and on the PAA meeting website: <http://www.conferences.uidaho.edu/PAA/>

ALAP Latinamerican Potato Organization
 P.O. Box 276 – EEA Balcarce, (7620) Balcarce, ARGENTINA
 TE 54 (2266) 439100; FAX 439101 – E-mail: huarte@balcarce.inta.gov.ar

XXIII ALAP Congress from 11-30-2008 to 12-5-2008,
 Mar del Plata , Argentina ** Bulletin N° 1 **

ALAP 2008 Organizing Committee was established on 13rd December 2006, after a meeting at the PROPAPA building, EEA INTA Balcarce, Argentina. This committee is constituted by:

- * President: Dr. Marcelo Huarte
- * Secretary: Dr. Adriana Andreu; Secretary's assists:
 Dr. Dora Carmona, Dr. Erika Wolski
- * Treasurer: Ms. Silvia Capezio; Treasurer's Assists:
 Acc. Cristina Gorostegui, Mss. Maria José Erquiaga
- * Instit relations & protocol: Dr. Armando Okada; Institut relations & protocol assists: Ms Cristina Monti and Mr Federico Ocampo
- * Commercial prod: Mr. Mariano Inchausti; Commercial prod assists: Mr. Pedro Godz, Ms. Susana Rigato, Mr Sergio Costantino and Mr Jorge Mantecón
- * Logistic: Mss Mónica Colavita; Logistic assists: Ms. Susana Rigato, Mr Oscar Regalía, Mr Aldo Riero, Ms Fernanda Riero and Ms Silvina Divito
- * Programming: Mr. Jorge Trincherro; Programing assists: Dr. Dora Carmona, Mr. Peter Daniel and Mss Paola Ceroli
- * Social events & companion prog: Mss. Erika Mroginski and Mss Natalia Norero; Social events & companion prog assists: Ms Adriana González, Mr Aldo Riero and Ms Fernanda Riero
- * Technical tour & field day: Mr. Mariano Inchausti and Mr Daniel Huarte; Technical tour & field day assists: Mr Walter Giuliano, Mr Oscar Paidón and Mr Jorge Ferreira
- * Tourism & hotels: Mss Maria José Erquiaga; Tourism & hotels assist: Mss Erika Mroginski

- * Posters: Ms Gabriela Massa; Posters asst: Ms Silvina Divito
- * Diffusion & press: Dr. Armando Okada; Diffusion & press assist: Ms. Gabriela Massa
- * Web-page coordination: Mss. Natalia Norero
- * Main & Technical conferences comm: Dr. Marcelo Huarte, Dr. Adriana Andreu and Mr Mariano Inchausti
- * Scientific comme: Dr. Sergio Feingold (president), Dr. Elsa Camadro, Dr. Andrea Clausen, Dr. Adriana Andreu, Dr. Daniel Caldiz and Dr. Marcelo Huarte. Scientific comm assists: Ms. Gabriela Massa, Mss. Erika Mroginski, Mss. Natalia Norero and Mss. Erika Wolski.
- *Regional delegates: Mr. Freddy Sossa Valdez (NOA), Mr. Luis Lafranconi (Córdoba) and Dr. Miguel Sarries (Uruguay)

In the 1st plenary meeting, the ALAP 2008 Committee confirmed the date of the XXIII ALAP Congress from 30th Nov to 5th Dec 2008 at Mar del Plata city, Argentina.

A program with conferences of key speakers, oral presentations, posters, field demonstrations, companies guided visits; production field tours, gastronomic demonstrations, commercial expositions, companion programs and tourism is being elaborated. The needs from different public (producers, companies, professional, scientific, industry) with attractive proposals for everybody are being taken in account. Translation services from English and Spanish will be available.

FAO has already expressed its support in the frame of the International Year of the Potato and many companies and institutions have confirmed their participation in the main potato event in Latin America.

Miguel Sarries (msarries@st.com.uy)

Potato Storage Risk- Disease Indexing
 Randy Van Haren, PO Box 188, Plainfield, WI 54966;
pestpros@uniontel.net, 715-335-4046

Goal: To adapt current PCR methods (www.pest.prosinc.com) in making disease inoculum assessments on potatoes destined for storage. Develop as a predictive tool for indexing the risk of storing particular lots of potatoes, leading to more effective storage and inventory management.

Background: In 2003 Dr. Walt Stevenson and Dr. Zahi Atallah of the University of Wisconsin, Dept. of Plant Pathology began work in the area of using molecular techniques to detect and quantify the level of various pathogens in potato tubers. Pest Pros Inc, an independent crop consulting firm has teamed up with Dr. Stevenson's lab to help make the jump from a research project to a realistic working program for growers. Pest Pros has invested in real time PCR technology to make this new technology useful to potato growers and storage managers.

Approach: We have assembled the nucleus of cooperators comprised of growers, researchers, consultants and allied industry to help support this effort both financially and structurally. It will take several years of database building to draw the link between tuber disease inoculum levels and storage outcome.

Progress Report: Currently we have successfully adapted the PCR methods of Stevenson and Atallah to the process of testing the large numbers of tubers required to sub-sample a field or storage bin. We are detecting significant levels of pink rot and soft rot pathogen inoculum in non-symptomatic tubers at harvest and we are seeing storage losses associated in some of the bins testing positive for these pathogens. We will test a field sampling regime in 2007 as the ultimate means for predicting and managing risky storages. Preliminary results show a good relationship between the total number of positive detects per bin and final storage outcome.

For More Info: Contact Randy Van Haren at the above address.

PAA Background

Executive Committee

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Sam Thornton

President-Elect
Alex Pavlista

Vice President
Chuck Brown

Secretary
Loretta Mikitzel

Treasurer
Al Bushway

Past-President
Larry Hiller

Directors
Bill Campbell
Don Halseth
Phil Hamm
Phil Nolte
Susie Thompson

Editor-in-Chief
John Bamberg

Business Manager
Luanne Coltman

Annual Meeting:
August 12-16, 2007
Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, ID
<http://www.conferences.vidaho.edu/PAA/>

PAA Insider is published quarterly starting in January. Contact: Lori Wing, Admin. Asst./Editor, Potato Association of America, 5719 Crossland Hall, Rm 218-220, Orono, Maine, Orono, ME, 04469-5719 USA. Phone: 207-581-3042; Fax: 207-581-3015; Email: umpotato@maine.edu; Web: <http://www.umaine.edu/paa>

EAPR News

European Association for Potato Research PHYSIOLOGY SECTION

FIRST Announcement and call for papers for the Physiology Section - Meeting 2007

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to announce that the next meeting of the Section will be held in the first week of September 2007 in Trentino, ITALY.

The theme of the meeting will be "Innovative approaches for maximizing quality traits in potato in an expanding market". The improvement of quality traits is the main target for value adding for potato as for all other crop commodities. Although quality specifications vary for different markets and uses they largely depend on common elements such as genetic, physiological and biochemical responses of the crop to environmental cues. Thanks to modern biological and genetic approaches our understanding of the fundamental mechanisms controlling crop quality traits is rapidly evolving and we are now in a position to develop tools for the optimisation of these traits which were unthinkable only in the past century. The challenge is now to connect these developments with end-users and consumers needs in order to develop higher value products. Progressive markets enlargement also presents further challenges and opportunities for innovative applications such as the development of niche products and other novelties.

Offers of papers are invited on any aspect of pre- and post-harvest treatment leading to the improvement of potato quality. Contributions describing the application of modern biological, genetic and genomic/post-genomic tools for the discovery of mechanisms underlying nutritional quality, sensory and transformation properties are particularly welcome.

We look forward to meeting you in Trentino and hope you will contribute with a presentation (oral or poster) on your recent work. Accompanying persons are warmly welcome and alternative program will be organized during scientific seminar. (Please fill in the enclosed pre-registration form, ASAP but latest by Tuesday, 29th May 2007.) to the following mail address: juliet.astafan@iasma.it

You will be informed as soon as possible on the scientific seminar and meeting, on our website: <http://www.iasma/earp2007>

Registration and Accommodation details will be available on this site by end of April 2007.

Dr. Roberto Viola
Chairperson: EAPR Physiology Section
Istituto Agrario San Michele a/Adige
San Michele a/Adige (TN - Italy)
Phone: +39 0461 615

Dr. Claudio Moser
Local Organizer
Istituto Agrario San Michele a/Adige I-
San Michele a/Adige (TN - Italy)
Phone: +39 0461 615314

Information about:

Istituto Agrario San Michele All'Adige (IASMA), available on site: <http://www.iasma.it>

Trentino Region:

From the Alps to the Mediterranean, from the crisp air of the mountain peaks to the lakes. In a journey of a few miles through diverse climates and landscapes, from the Dolomites to Lake Garda, Trentino unfolds like a story with several scenes of action. Vertical rock faces for mountaineering, or sunset, when the rocks of this formation assume a pink or red glow. A web of paths for walking, peaceful blue lakes for sailing or windsurfing, turbulent torrents for rafting or canyoning Or simply green forests for rest and relaxation, breathing normally beneath a clear blue sky, standing still to contemplate the crags, spires and steeples of the Dolomites that aroused the curiosity of Dolomieu, a French naturalist who discovered these cathedrals of nature were different from ordinary rocks and baptised them with his name.

For more details visit: <http://homes.tiscover.com/scms/media.php/6080/brochure%20GB.pdf>

Juliet Astafan
Istituto Agrario S. Michele All'Adige
Tel. 0461-615.145
fax 0461-650.956
Juliet.astafan@iasma.it