

## 2012 POTATO ACREAGE RELEASED

| Province         | 2012<br>Acres | 2011<br>Acres | 11 vs 12<br>Acres | 11 vs 12<br>% |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Newfoundland     | 500           | 500           | 0                 | 0.0%          |
| P.E.I.           | 89,500        | 86,000        | 3,500             | 4.1%          |
| Nova Scotia      | 1,900         | 1,900         | 0                 | 0.0%          |
| New Brunswick    | 53,000        | 52,000        | 1,000             | 1.9%          |
| Quebec           | 42,000        | 42,500        | -500              | -1.2%         |
| Ontario          | 39,800        | 37,700        | 2,100             | 5.6%          |
| Manitoba         | 76,000        | 73,000        | 3,000             | 4.1%          |
| Saskatchewan     | 7,000         | 7,000         | 0                 | 0.0%          |
| Alberta          | 55,700        | 53,800        | 1,900             | 3.5%          |
| British Columbia | 6,500         | 6,500         | 0                 | 0.0%          |
| Canadian Total   | 371,900       | 360,900       | 11,000            | 3.0%          |

Statistics Canada released its preliminary area estimates, on July 20, 2012, for potatoes planted in Canada this spring (publication 22-008x).

- **Canadian** planted potato acreage is up 3 % or 11,000 acres from 2011.
- **P.E.I.** acreage increased 4.1% to 89,500 acres;
- **Manitoba** acreage also increased 4.1% to 76,000 acres.
- **Ontario** showed the largest increase on a percentage basis, 5.6%, to 39,800 acres.
- Much of the increase in 2012 Canadian acreage is attributed to increased processing contract volumes. United Potato Growers of Canada (UPGC) had projected a slightly higher acreage estimate for 2012, but will use the “official” Statistics Canada numbers at this time.



B.C. Mountains Dwarf a Tractor Hilling Potatoes

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## UNITED STATES PLANTED AREA FOR FALL POTATOES

On July 17, 2012, The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the U.S. planted acreage.

Total US fall crop acreage increased by 4.75% or 45,000 acres from a year ago, to hit a total of 1,149,000 acres.

### Highlights include:

- **Idaho** - up 25,000 acres, from 320,000 acres in 2011 to 345,000 acres in 2012
- **Washington** - up 5,000 acres from 160,000 acres in 2011 to 165,000 acres in 2012
- **North Dakota** - up 4,000 acres from 84,000 acres in 2011 to 88,000 acres in 2012
- **Maine** - up 2,000 acres from 57,000 acres in 2011 to 59,000 acres in 2012

While many areas of the U.S. are experiencing drought conditions, observers indicate the U.S. fall potato crop is still in very good shape.



Harvesting the new Warba Crop in British Columbia

## CARNOUSTIE PACK HOUSE SCOTLAND



This pack house outside of Edinburgh, Scotland is one of several managed by The Cooperative Farms, the fifth largest food retailer in the U.K. This state of the art facility, like many in Scotland, stores potatoes in boxes for optimum quality. Each box has a bar code attached to it for food safety traceback. Pallet box dumpers such as this one are common.





**MOVENTO®**

**"OH POTATOES.  
I COULD FEAST  
ON THEM EVERY DAY.  
AND I DID.  
UNTIL THE DAY MOVENTO® CAME.  
THAT'S WHEN EVERYTHING WAS TURNED UPSIDE DOWN  
BY THE CONFIDENT MAN WITH A GLINT IN HIS EYE.  
WITH HIS TRUSTED SPRAY, HE TOOK OUR WORLD AWAY.  
WITH NO REGRET. NO REMORSE. JUST GONE.  
NOW I SPEND MY DAYS LOOKING FOR  
A NEW HOME. TRAVELLING FROM ROOT TO TIP  
OF EACH PLANT. SEARCHING FOR A NEW CROP  
THAT'S FREE OF THE LIQUID I'D RATHER NOT NAME.  
AND THAT'S MUCH HARDER THAN YOU'D THINK.  
THANKS A LOT, SCIENCE.  
YOU'VE REALLY CHANGED THINGS. AND NO ONE  
LIKES CHANGE. ESPECIALLY APHIDS WHO ARE  
NOW HUNGRY AND ALONE WITH  
NO PLACE LEFT TO GO."**

**LEARN MORE AT [BAYERCROPSCIENCE.CA/MOVENTO](http://BAYERCROPSCIENCE.CA/MOVENTO)**



BayerCropScience.ca or 1 888-283-6847 or contact your Bayer CropScience representative.

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Bayer CropScience



**TERMINATE EARLY BLIGHT**



**SCALA<sup>®</sup>**

**THE ONLY GROUP 9**

Scala<sup>®</sup> fungicide is programmed to protect against the threat of early blight in potatoes. And as the only Group 9 fungicide, it utilizes a unique mode of action, making it an exceptional resistance management tool.

Hasta la vista, early blight.



**Bayer CropScience**

BayerCropScience.ca/Scala or 1 888-283-6847  
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H-21-05/12-BCS12002-E

## Your late blight and early blight specialists

# Tattoo<sup>®</sup>C



# SCALA<sup>®</sup>

Every growing season brings potential conditions that are ripe for late blight and/or early blight. Both diseases affect potatoes quite differently, and infect plants at different stages of the growing season. That's why so many farmers are putting more and more thought into their protection programs.

When you consider adding to your current late or early blight protection program this season, look to the superior foliar blight fungicides from Bayer CropScience to protect your valuable crop.

### Early blight

Early blight is quite common in many potato production areas each year, making prevention the key to early blight management. When growing conditions are conducive to plant stress, such as in hot, dry weather, early blight is more prevalent. **Scala<sup>®</sup>** is the only Group 9 fungicide registered to control early blight in potatoes, making it a great resistance management tool. Scala also helps growers reduce their dependence on strobilurins, which is especially important in areas with reduced sensitivity. Scala works through local systemic activity to protect new growth, and through translaminar movement to protect both sides of the potato leaf. Scala is always used in a tank-mix with Bravo<sup>®</sup>, and is registered for both ground and aerial application.

### Late blight

Late blight outbreaks can destroy a potato crop in a matter of days. And in some areas this year, the risk is high. Like early blight, prevention is the best approach to managing late blight.

**Tattoo<sup>®</sup> C** delivers curative and preventative properties for highly effective late blight control. Combining a unique systemic fungicide with a proven contact protectant, Tattoo C protects potatoes by penetrating the stem and leaf surface, and moving through the plant to protect new growth. Ask your retail about the **new lower price** of Tattoo C too!

Here's a quick reference guide for planning your blight protection with Scala and Tattoo C.

| Product  | Mode of action | Pre-harvest interval | Rainfast  | Re-entry | Maximum applications |
|----------|----------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------------------|
| Scala    | Group 9        | 7 days               | 2 hours   | 12 hours | 6                    |
| Tattoo C | Group U + M    | 7 days               | 4-6 hours | 2 days   | 3                    |

For more information on these products, visit **BayerCropScience.ca** or contact your local crop protection retailer.

When you include Scala and Tattoo C in your blight protection plan, you'll also be earning valuable Hot Potatoes<sup>®</sup> reward points as part of the Hot Potatoes Reward Program. Talk to your retailer for more information or visit **Hot-Potatoes.ca** to sign up today.

Always read and follow label directions.

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## EDZO KOK RETIRES AS SECRETARY FOR UPGC



Retiring UPGC Secretary Edzo Kok, (left) receives a certificate of appreciation for his years of service at UPGC from UPGC Chairman Ray Keenan (right).

During UPGC's board meeting in July, Chairman Ray Keenan presented retiring UPGC Secretary Edzo Kok with a certificate of appreciation for his years of service.

Edzo joined the Potato Growers of Alberta as their executive director four years ago. He has had a diverse background, operating French fry plants around the world for McCain Foods, with his last posting in New Zealand.

Edzo has been very generous with his time, serving on many national potato committees. We will miss his guidance on technical issues but wish him well on his retirement in Vancouver Island.

## THE ALLIANCE FOR POTATO RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

The United Potato Growers of Canada spends considerable time in providing growers with information to help them match the supply of potatoes with the demand for potatoes.

Over the past several years, acreage had been declining in North America, and this helped eliminate surplus production while still meeting market demand. This helps improve grower returns, but it is clear that the industry must find ways to stop the decline in consumption and help build demand for the future.

The Alliance for Potato Research and Education (APRE) is a very new organization attempting to do just that. According to its website, "APRE is 100% dedicated to expanding and translating scientific research into evidence-based policy and education initiatives that recognize the role of all forms of the potato—a nutritious vegetable—in promoting health for all age groups."

Public opinion can be positively influenced by pointing out the nutritional benefits of potatoes to dieticians, health professionals, government officials, and consumers themselves.

APRE brings together growers and processors to work on this important issue, and progress has been made in the short time since its formation. More information on APRE is available at [www.apre.org](http://www.apre.org).

As we have our first look at the size of the potato crop across North America, one realizes just a fractional increase in consumption would make everyone's job a little easier in marketing this crop. I would encourage you find out more about APRE and support it on its road to success.

## FRITO LAY GROWERS – EXPLOITATION AGRICOLE G.B. INC., WERE RECENT HOSTS AT THE SUMMER PMANA MEETING



Gabriel and Marie-Josée Blouin deliver their potatoes from this facility in St-Jean-D'Orleans to the chip plant in Lévis, Québec.



## POINTS TO PONDER



**Kevin MacIsaac, GM**  
*United Potato Growers  
of Canada*

During its July meeting, UPGC spent some time estimating the acres planted by sector, ie. fresh, processing and seed, and then projecting the possible volume available for each, assuming average yields. If we look at the acreage planted to fresh potatoes, Canada has done reasonably well in minimizing increased plantings. At this point in the growing season, here is what the picture could look like:

| Total fresh volume (including cullage): |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>2011</b>                             | 24,916,000 cwt. |
| <b>2012</b>                             | 25,336,000 cwt. |
| <b>Difference</b>                       | 420,000 cwt.    |

Estimate as of mid-July

The key to the equation now is projected yield. Yields in Eastern Canada in general, are expected to be at or below average at this point (recognizing there are several more weeks of key crop development to come before harvest).

**Here is a synopsis of how potato industry people across the country assessed the growing conditions on August 1:**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>P.E.I.</b>           | The entire province has had less than adequate moisture. The eastern half of P.E.I., which had not had a significant rain event in seven weeks, received some much needed rain on July 24th. However, more rain is needed for the all areas. |
| <b>Nova Scotia</b>      | All crops are requiring moisture at this time.   |
| <b>New Brunswick</b>    | High amounts of rainfall were received in mid-June, however fields have dried out and are progressing well. Crops in the area below Grand Falls are now in serious need of rain.   |
| <b>Quebec</b>           | In the south, the crop is ready for market early, but in the north yields will be below last year. Rainfall was received recently.   |
| <b>Ontario</b>          | Drought-like conditions in the south are shutting down varieties for the early market too soon. The potato crop around Alliston with access to pivot irrigation looks very good.   |
| <b>Manitoba</b>         | The crop has had good growing conditions, but high temperatures have taken their toll, creating issues like heat runners. The Carberry area has been able to keep up with watering better than some of the southern crop area.               |
| <b>Alberta</b>          | A beautiful crop planted early with excellent growing conditions. It should produce above average yields.  |
| <b>Saskatchewan</b>     | Has had a cool wet spring with excess moisture.  |
| <b>British Columbia</b> | A cool, backward spring stretched planting and delayed emergence. The crop is behind in terms of growth and maturity.  |

AUGUST 2012



**"Providing potato industry information,  
intelligence and analysis that allows  
producers to make timely, informed  
production and marketing decisions."**