

IDAHO POTATO PULSE



Brought to you by the Idaho Potato Commission
Website: www.idahopotato.com

President's Report By Frank Muir

The University of Idaho will convene its annual IDAHO POTATO CONFERENCE in Pocatello, Idaho, at the ISU Student Union on January 20-21, 2009. The Idaho Potato Commission would like to encourage members of our industry to support and attend the conference to interact with top experts on the crop that made Idaho famous.

The Commission will again be hosting a hospitality room for Idaho Potato Industry members (growers, shippers & processors who pay the potato tax) in the *Heritage Room* of the Student Union. The room will be open on Wednesday, January 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On Thursday, January 21st, the hospitality room hours will be from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. SEE YOU THERE!

Government Affairs Report By Pat Kole

Last week Korean officials visited Idaho as part of an APHIS visit. The Koreans had spent the prior two weeks on the east coast learning how APHIS handles various phytosanitary issues. The Idaho visit, which included a visit to the PCN program and a potato packing facility, was to learn how an emergency program operates. The visit went well, and we are looking forward to the upcoming bi-lateral meeting this spring with Korea in the effort to reinstate fresh potato shipments from Idaho to Korea.

Industry Relations Report By Todd Cornelison

PCN Program Office Open House

Do you ever find yourself wondering how the PCN eradication process is coming along, or do you ask yourself what actually goes on at the PCN Program office? Well here is your chance to find out. You are cordially invited to the PCN Program office open house at 2281 Heyrend Way in Idaho Falls on Tuesday, December 22, 2009, from 12:00 to 4:30 p.m. Representatives from USDA, ISDA, and the Idaho Potato Commission will be in attendance. This open house is available to the entire industry and facility tours will be available.

USDA Portal training workshop to be held in Idaho Falls

Every season the USDA collects important data on the state of our industry, however, most of this data goes unused because people don't know where and how to access it. In an effort to educate people on the use of the data, the USDA is holding a workshop on how to access data from their "Portal." Come join us for this hands-on Portal training at the University Place Campus in Idaho Falls on Thursday, March 18 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. It will be held in Room 204 in the Center for Higher Education Building (CHE). The workshop is FREE but **pre-registration is required as space is limited**. You can pre-register by email: Mick.Davie@ams.usda.gov or Patty.Willkie@ams.usda.gov or by calling (208) 525-0166. This workshop is co-sponsored by the University of Idaho.

Note: Parking permits are required and will be available in Room 204.

Calendar

December

22 PCN program Office Open House, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m., 2281 Heyrend Way, 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

12 United of Idaho Board Meeting, Idaho Falls, ID

19 Cost of Production Meeting, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Red lion Hotel, Pocatello, ID

19 ICIA Seed Seminar, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m., Holiday Inn, Pocatello, ID

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

21 IPC Marketing Committee Meeting, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Student Union Building, ISU campus, Pocatello, ID

26-27 IPC Commission Meeting, Eagle, ID

26 IPC Legislative Dinner, Boise Center on the Grove, Boise ID

February

8 Ag Trans Workshop, Doubletree Riverside, Boise, ID

8-9 2010 Larry Branen Idaho Ag Summit, Doubletree Riverside, Boise, ID

18-25 2010 Potato Industry Leadership Institute, Washington, DC

22-25 NPC Public Policy Conference, Washington, DC

March

2 United of Idaho Board Meeting, Idaho Falls, ID

11-12 USPB Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

16-17 IPC Commission Meeting, Eagle, ID

18 USDA Portal Training Workshop - Pre-Registration Required

1:00-5:00 p.m. University Place Campus - Idaho Falls, ID

Room 204, Center for Higher Education Building (CHE)