

Summary of Provincial Variety Evaluation Trials - 2020

Trial Location	Trial Manager	Number of Lines Evaluated and Type	Suppliers of Varieties Evaluated	Grower Knowledge Transfer Activities	COVID-19 Impact
East Delta BC	E.S. Cropconsult Ltd.	43 varieties planted in the replicated trial; 27 AAFC varieties evaluated; 70 varieties in hill demo plots	Private industry and the AAFC national breeding program.	Grower field day August 19 (50 attendees).	Scheduled limited access to field trials on grower field day. Objectives for 2020 trial met.
Brooks AB	Lethbridge College University of Lethbridge	57 varieties (French fry, chipping and fresh market) were evaluated including 31 AAFC varieties.	Private industry and the AAFC national breeding program.	Virtual Field Day, August 21, 2019; potato were dug, photographs were taken and compiled to share with industry.	There were challenges encountered as a result of Covid-19 such as delay in seed supply and other logistics. Virtual rather than in-person field day.
Winkler MB	Peak of the Market	42 varieties in replicated trial (fresh market red skinned/white flesh; yellow; white; russet; creamer)	Private breeders, Canadian agents, and variety developers.	Grower field day August 13.	Restricted attendance at field day. Fall grower meeting cancelled and will be moved to virtual meeting in 2021. Objectives for 2020 trial met.
Elora ON	University of Guelph	<p><u>National Trial</u>: 35 elite breeding lines plus standards were grown in replicated plots (fresh market, chip processing, French fry processing, creamers and specialty/health markets).</p> <p><u>Chip and Table Stock Trials</u>: 15 each of promising chip and table stock lines were obtained through collaborations with other breeding programs including the University of Wisconsin and Michigan State University and grown in replicated trials.</p> <p><u>Early Generation Selection of Breeding Lines</u>: Approximately 100 selections representing all market sectors were grown in small plots (i.e. 4 hills and 8 hills). Two early maturing chip lines were identified and will be targeted for advance trial in 2021.</p> <p><u>On-Farm Trials (non-replicated)</u>: Promising new varieties and advanced selections from breeding programs were evaluated in commercial fields in the Alliston and Shelburne areas (scab tolerance).</p>	AAFC breeding program. Chipping and fresh market lines in collaboration with other breeding programs.	Presentations on research highlights to five district meetings during November 2020 and to the Ontario Potato Board Annual Meeting in December.	There was a reduction in the size of the trials. French fry types were omitted this year due to unavailability of AAFC lines, but instead we were able to focus on chip and fresh market lines. The early maturing chip trial in Leamington was not planted due to the lockdown in March and April. The annual field day and tours of the Elora plots were cancelled.

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Ste-Croix QC L'Assomption QC	Progest2001 Inc.	Trials were conducted at two sites with 3 replicates. A total of 42 lines or new varieties and 12 known/check varieties were grown in one of 5 sub-trials according to type; white round (10), yellow flesh (10), long (13), red skinned (15), specialty (6).	AAFC national breeding program (8), Quebec Potato Research Consortium (16), Progest2001 (9), other national and international programs (9).		Trials proceeded as planned.
Harrington, PE	PEI Potato Board, AAFC	Varieties/selections from French fry (5), chipping (8) and fresh market (4) types were evaluated in a replicated trial.	Private industry, AAFC national breeding program, Michigan State University.	Potato Variety Trial Report – 2020 was published and distributed to growers and industry partners.	Trials proceeded as planned.