

Potato Industry Meeting



January 22, 2015

Agenda

**Plant Materials Center
5310 S. Bodenbug Spur
Palmer, AK 99645
745-4469**

**Call in number
1-800-315-6338
Access code - 44691**

- **Potato Budget Overview**
 - Franci Havemeister
- **2014 Certification Update**
 - Mia Kirk, Inspector
- **Bacteria and Virus Testing**
 - Todd Steinlage, Agronomist
- **Introduction & Future Direction**
 - Bryan Bowen, Agronomist
- **Discussion**

Potato Funding



Base funding

- Potato program operated on year to year funding through FY11
- \$220,000 added to base funding in FY12
- Program covers:
 - Plant propagation
 - Greenhouse production
 - Field planting at PMC
 - Outreach/education
 - Limited variety trials

\$300,000 appropriation

- 2 year appropriation
 - FY14-FY15
- Scheduled to sunset in June 30, 2015
- Specific intent language
- Request to extend through FY17

\$300,000 appropriation

\$300,000 Seed Potato Funding

***Sec 30.DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.** The unexpended and unobligated balance, estimated to be \$300,000 of the appropriation made in Sec. 24(b), ch. 5, FSSLA 2011 (Department of Commerce, Community, Economic development, phytosanitary testing of seed potatoes through the University of Alaska Fairbank's Plant materials laboratory as required by the negotiated trade protocol with China - \$600,000) is re-appropriated to the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture, Plant Materials Center, for seed potato testing, promotion and education for the purposes of potato export for the fiscal years funding June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015. (Chapter 16 SLA 13)

- Developed budget, with heavy emphasis on BRR testing, research plot, outreach, education, training and market exploration
- Purchased a real time polymerase chain reaction system (PCR) system for disease scoping assessment
 - Enabled PMC to perform disease testing in house
- Diseases of concern:
 - BRR
 - Potato Virus X (PVX)
 - Potato Virus Y (PVY)
 - Potato Leaf Roll Virus (PLRV)

Appropriation Expenditure's to Date (Highlights)



FY 14

- Purchase of PCR system
- Staff training
- Potato Symposium
- Offered voluntary BRR testing
- BRR plot at UAF station
- Increased field testing
- Inspector training

FY14 expenditure - \$44,142.78

FY15

- Field testing
- Lab upgrades
- Seed production upgrades
- Inspector training

FY15 expenditure - \$21,385.55
(to date)

Future Plans



**\$221,971.67 – remaining balance to date
(\$12,500 encumbered)**

- Continue field testing
- Upgrade the PMC's production greenhouse
- Outreach and education
- Inspector training
- Upgrade the potato storage unit
- Collaborate with the Office of International Trade to explore potential markets



Questions?



Franci Havemeister, Director

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