



## **Northland Potato Growers**

### **Reporting to SBARE – December 9, 2025**

**Overview:** North Dakota's potato industry, in the North Dakota region, is a significant US producer (around 12 to 17% of the national crop), valued in the hundreds of millions, supporting thousands of jobs, and crucial for the regional economy through growing, storage, and processing, with modern trends including increased irrigation for consistent quality, and recent investments in major processing facilities like Cavendish Farms and Agristo currently under construction. The NPPGA views our industry as stable with huge upside potential. North Dakota is rare in that it supports fresh pack, processing, chipping and seed supply specialties that are all quality driven.

Research and Extension for North Dakota's potato industry, let by NDSU Extension and partners like NPGA, focus on critical areas: managing herbicide injury, controlling viral diseases (PVY, PLRV) via aphid management, optimizing fertilization (P, Ca, Mg), ensuring seed health, understanding variety performance, and delivering unbiased and timely info to stakeholders. Operating capital is an essential resource to provide these services. Due to the soil type preferences, the potato industry does not use any of the Research and Extension Centers for research irrigated and non-irrigated field plots.

Within the last 4 to 5 years, operating costs have increased 30 to 35% making it extremely challenging to continue all of the projects necessary. NPGA has been a champion for research and extension to assist and ensure vital work continues to be funded.

Thank you for your past and continued support for the potato industry. I look forward to visiting and answering any questions you may have.

Gary Shields

Northland Potato Growers Association

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