

2001 POTATO VARIETY TRIAL RESULTS

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The tables on the following pages summarize research results from our Tri-State, Regional and advanced Trials grown in Idaho.

The Tri-State, Western Regional and Western Regional Chip trials were planted in Aberdeen, ID using an Iron Age assist-feed plate planter and harvested using a one-row Grimme harvester. The Western Regional trial at Kimberly also was planted and harvested using similar equipment. The advanced trial at Shelley, ID also was planted using an Iron Age assist-feed plate planter, but harvested using a level bed digger and hand picked into burlap bags. Planting, vine kill and harvest dates are shown in the table below.

Trial	Planting	Vine Kill	Harvest
Aberdeen Western Regional	May 2	September 6	September 21
Kimberly Western Regional	April 30	September 10	October 9
Aberdeen Tri-State	May 2	September 6	September 19
Shelley Advanced Variety	April 26		September 17
Aberdeen Western Regional Chip	May 2	September 6	September 21

Weather in the Aberdeen area was characterized by a warmer than normal spring with 5 days over 90 °F in early July prior to row closure. These hot spring temperatures contributed to heat stress symptoms on some varieties. Aside from the warmer than normal spring temperatures, the trial returned excellent results. Weed control was optimal this year due to excellent soil conditions during herbicide application.

Weather in the Kimberly area also was characterized by a warmer than normal spring. No other major problems were encountered in this trial. Tuber greening and wireworm damage were observed on some tubers during grading. Overall, the trial returned good results with average to above average yields observed.

The Shelley advanced variety trial was conducted on a grower field north of Shelley, ID. Weather conditions similar to Aberdeen existed, however, the earlier planting date along with the sandier soil conditions may have allowed plant growth to progress further than at Aberdeen, thereby overcoming the heat-stress symptoms observed in other trials. No major problems were encountered at Shelley with excellent results observed.