

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE Plant Materials Center

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2015 Potato Evaluation PMC

Alaskan potato growers and staff collaborated to select new varieties of interest in a 2015 field trial. Potato seed stock was acquired from various breeders and planted at the PMC. Approximately 8,000 single-hill plants were planted from over 1,000 seedling tuber families, each representing a genetically unique true seed potato. Additionally, 30 advanced-line variety selections were planted for evaluation in blocks of 50 or 25 tubers each. At our October harvest, the public was invited to participate in an evaluation where the varieties were assessed based on size, shape, uniformity, yield, and skin/flesh characteristics. From that, 80 varieties or lines of interest were retained. These varieties will be planted in spring 2016 in greater quantities and will be subjected to ongoing evaluations. It is hoped that, from this trial, the PMC will be able to provide new potato cultivars that perform well in Alaskan growing conditions and are of marketable value for producers statewide.

Characteristics of tubers retained:

Skin Color	Russet	<u>Light</u> <u>Russet</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Yellow</u>	<u>Specialty</u>	Red
Number retained	14	12	25	14	11	4

Of the advanced line trials, the following varieties were retained:

Variety or Line Retained	Variety or Line Retained		
05-121	Defender		
08-181r	Merlot		
08-326	ND 08068-5Russ		
Alegria	Rus Norkotah Sel3		
Allora	Sage Russet		
Alpine Russet	Soraya		
CO04063-4r/r	Wega		
Crestone Russet	WND 8625-2Russ		
Dakota Ruby	F Sales		