

COLORADO POTATO BALLOT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

Fruit and Vegetable Programs

Northwest Marketing Field Office

1220 SW 3RD AVE SUITE 385

PORTLAND OR 97204-2807

TO COLORADO POTATO PRODUCERS:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is conducting a referendum to determine whether potato producers in Colorado favor continuance of Federal Marketing Order No. 948. As a consequence, an order directing that a referendum be held was published in the Federal Register on _____.

A Producer Referendum Ballot is on the reverse side of this page. Also enclosed are:

- 1) Voting Instructions and Rules Governing Producer Eligibility to Vote;
- 2) News Release issued on the Referendum; and
- 3) Copy of the Referendum Order dated _____.

The voting period for the referendum is _____ through _____. Please vote promptly because **ballots postmarked later than _____, cannot be opened or counted.** Each ballot will be held in strict confidence.

_____, Referendum Agent

Phone: (503) 326-2724

PRODUCER REFERENDUM BALLOT

Marketing Order No. 948: Irish Potatoes Grown in Colorado

Please read the enclosed VOTING INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES GOVERNING PRODUCER ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE before completing this ballot.

This referendum is being held to determine producer support for the federal marketing order regulating the handling of potatoes grown in Colorado. The Secretary of Agriculture will consider termination of this order if less than two-thirds of those voting and less than two-thirds of the volume represented in the referendum favor continuance.

A. Do you favor continuance of Marketing Order No. 948, regulating the handling of potatoes grown in Colorado?

YES

NO

PRODUCER ELIGIBILITY STATEMENT

B. I hereby certify that I am currently a producer of potatoes within the production area and that during the representative period _____, through _____, I produced for the fresh market:

_____ on _____ in _____
 Hundredweight Acres County(ies)

C.

Name of Packing House(s) that Handled your Potatoes	Hundredweight	Affiliation (co-op or independent)

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Referendum Agent

USDA-AMS-F&V-NWMFO

1220 SW 3RD AVE STE 385

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◆ FOLD HERE, TAPE AT THE TOP, AND MAIL PROMPTLY ◆

COLORADO POTATO BALLOT

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES GOVERNING PRODUCER ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

- I. VOTING PERIOD:** _____ through _____
- II. REPRESENTATIVE PERIOD:** _____ through _____
- III. PRODUCTION AREA:** State of Colorado.
- IV. PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE:** Any person who is currently a fresh potato producer in the production area and produced such potatoes during the representative period _____ through _____, is entitled to cast one ballot. **Each separate business unit, partnership, LLC, family enterprise, corporation, association, estate, or firm is entitled to one vote.**

“Producer” means any individual, partnership, LLC, corporation, association, institution, estate, or other business unit who:

- Owns and farms land resulting in ownership of the potatoes produced thereon;
- Rents and farms land resulting in ownership of all or a portion of the potatoes produced thereon; or
- Owns land from which, as rental for such land, ownership is obtained of a portion of the potatoes produced thereon. (A lien holder, cash landlord, or person having only a financial interest in the potato crop is not eligible to vote.)

V. HOW TO VOTE:

- A. Indicate your vote by placing an “X” in the appropriate box.
- B. Certify your fresh potato production by listing the volume in hundredweight that you produced, the number of acres in production, and the county or counties in which such potatoes were produced during the representative period _____ through _____. If you are renting on a share-crop basis, you should show only that part of the crop represented by your share.
- C. List the names of packing houses that handled your potatoes, the hundredweight, and affiliation (co-op or independent).
- D. Print or type your name, phone number, business name, and address.
- E. Proxy voting is not authorized. If ballot is cast by an officer or employee of a partnership, LLC, corporation, association or other business unit, check box to indicate your business designation, and sign to indicate authority to vote. If partnership or joint venture, list names of partners.
- F. Sign below the certification. Incomplete or unsigned ballots cannot be counted. Fold your ballot so the Referendum Agent’s address is displayed, seal with tape and mail to Referendum Agent, USDA-AMS-FV-NWMFO, 1220 SW 3RD AVE STE 385, PORTLAND, OR 97204-2807. For further information, please call (503) 326-2724.

Ballots must be postmarked by _____.