



Potato

cluster



Growing potatoes is not limited to the fields. Many potato specialists work together to ensure the development and maintenance of excellence for our product.

The Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) Potato Research Centre, located in Fredericton, NB, maintains a national repository of potato gene resources, conducts research on soil management and conservation, and coordinates the activities of the AAFC Potato Research Network. The Center also operates the Benton Ridge Potato Breeding Substation where the highest stringent phytosanitary requirements are in place to ensure the best potato varieties to satisfy the needs of the market.

The New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture's (DAFA) Potato Development Centre established to "strengthen the primary and value-added growth, competitiveness, innovation, and sustainability of the NB potato sector is" Located in Wicklow, NB, in the middle of the potato belt, the Centre provides specialized service to more than 150 potato growers and industry members throughout the province. The Centre also operates the Plant Propagation Centre in Fredericton. The Potato Quality Testing Laboratory provides quality testing and analysis of tuber sucrose and glucose levels as well as processing chip and fry color and holds expertise in plant propagation, potato physiology and

pathology, business entrepreneurship as well as innovative technology .

The Plant Propagation Centre include a modern tissue culture laboratory and four separate growth rooms, and produces over 300,000 potato propagules annually. All material entering the facility is held in quarantine until testing has verified freedom from potato pathogens. The Centre produces Nuclear Stock plantlets and microtubers which become the basis for New Brunswick's seed potato industry, and supplies a full range of varieties to customers across North America. The Plant Propagation Centre also houses the Canadian Potato Variety Repository, an extensive collection of varieties and seedlings.

The Bon Accord Elite Seed Potato Centre, owned by Potatoes NB is located in Victoria County, provides top quality, high-class seed to the New Brunswick potato industry; conducts ongoing, applied research on seed potato physiology, management and storage; and produces a complete range of varieties, enabling New Brunswick seed growers to rapidly respond to changing market demands.

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