



ALBERTA TABLE FRESH POTATOES



The smallest portion of Alberta's potato growing industry is devoted to fresh, table potatoes

In 2011, nearly 2,200 acres of potatoes were harvested for the fresh potato market. While this is an important part of Alberta's potato growing industry, the acreage devoted to fresh, table potatoes is one-third of what it was more than a decade ago. The development of processing facilities in the province created a surge in demand for process potatoes, encouraging many growers to switch their production from fresh to process.

Alberta table potatoes are available in many retail grocery stores. Alberta table potatoes are marketed through potato packing facilities, where they are washed, graded and delivered to wholesale and retail customers. Alberta has five major packing facilities and several smaller farmer-owned packing operations, licensed through the PGA.

While Alberta potato growers produced, on average, more than 41 different varieties of fresh table potatoes each year, the most popular varieties of table potatoes are Russet, Norland and Yukon Gold.

With consumers increasingly buying more local produced produce and wanting to support local growers and farmers, Alberta's fresh potato industry stands poised for significant growth.