







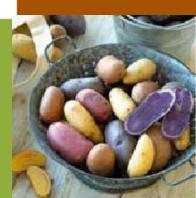




February 20, 2013







USPB Retail Programs

USPB works with retailers in two main ways:

- Retailer Communications
 - Retail Outreach meetings
 - State of the Potato Category (SOPC) newsletter
 - Personal relationships and conversations
- Retail Partnership programs
 - Collaborative Category Optimization (CCO) programs
 - Test & Learn programs

In my work, I continually hear from retailers about what they want.

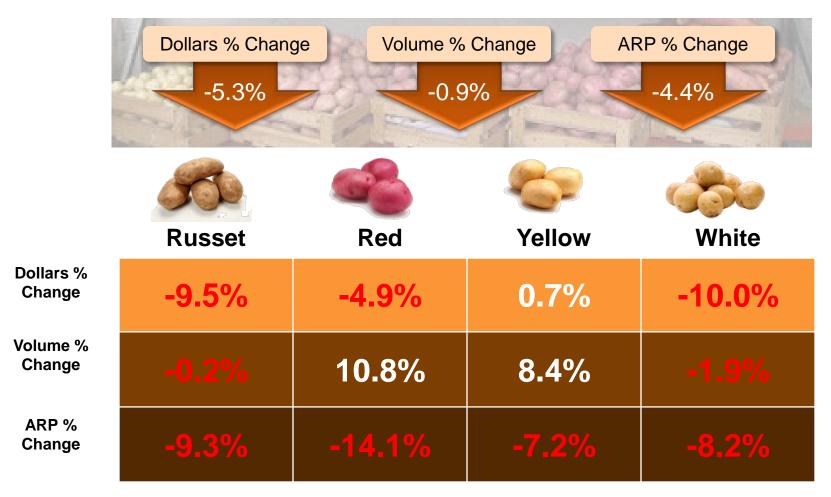
What follows is a summary of their most frequent requests, and how the USPB can help you respond to these opportunities for increasing sales.



But First... How Is Retail Doing?

Lower prices limited dollar growth

Total Potatoes, Full Year 2012



Source: Nielsen Perishables Group FreshFacts® data, 52 weeks ending 12/29/12



Consumer interests evident

Full Year 2012 Volume % Change vs. YAG

Convenience Shoppers



Micro/ Steamer +31.6% Single Wrapped +12.7%

Gourmet/ Foodie
Shoppers



Fingerlings,
Purples &
Medleys
+12.7%

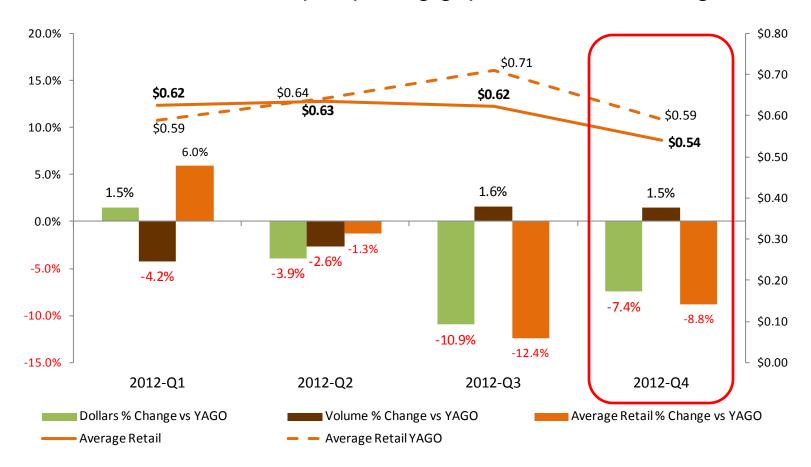
Petite
Potatoes
+4.5%

Source: Nielsen Perishables Group FreshFacts® data, 52 weeks ending 12/29/12



Volume grew for 2nd straight quarter

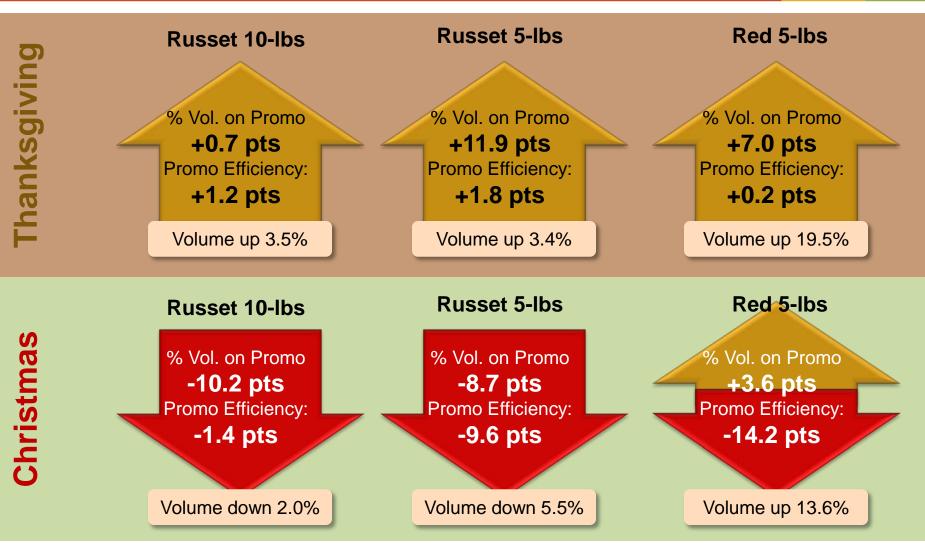
Growth continued despite pricing gap vs. YAG narrowing



Source: Nielsen Perishables Group FreshFacts® data through 12/29/12



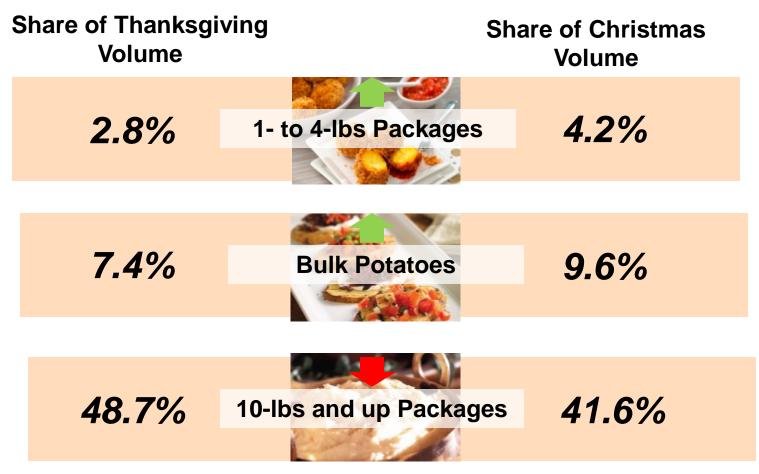
Promotional results varied by holiday



Source: Nielsen Perishables Group FreshFacts® data through 12/29/12



Thanksgiving=tradition, Christmas=variety



13.3% of 2012-Q4 potato volume was sold during the week of Thanksgiving!

Nielsen Perishables Group FreshFacts® Data, Thanksgiving: week ending 11/24/12, Christmas: 2 weeks ending 12/29/12



What Retailers Want

Where Do Potatoes Come From?

Shoppers are asking them "where does my food come from?"

- Want to help their shoppers understand how potatoes are grown, harvested and handled
- Desire to increase confidence (i.e. safety) in the foods they carry and the quality of the produce they provide
- Eager to get their hands on videos, photos, "meet the grower" stories and other relevant content





Where Do Potatoes Come From?

- USPB featuring "Meet A Potato Grower" on our consumer website
- Many retailers have a similar section on their websites
- Opportunity for potatoes to be better represented – lots of interest from retailers in video rather than text





Where Do Potatoes Come From?







Local, Local, Local

- LOTS of interest in the local movement!
- Asking USPB about relevance of "local" to the potato category
- Want to know how they can "be more local" with their potato program









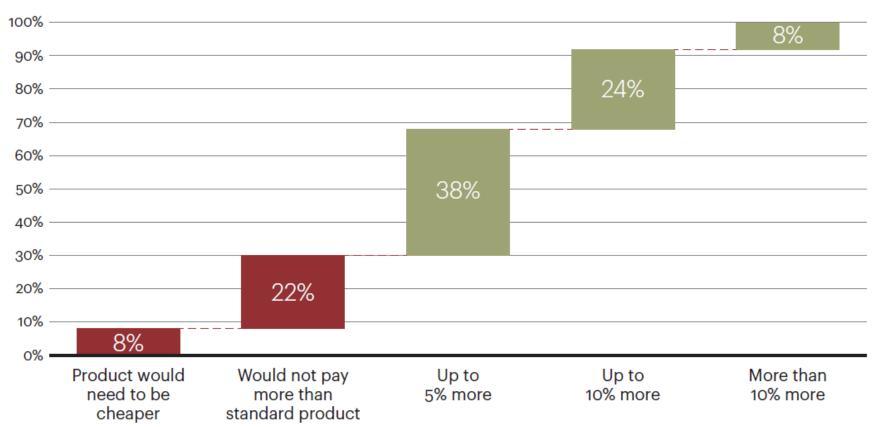
Recent research into shoppers' perceptions of local food found:

- 66% of grocery shoppers believe buying locally-grown food helps their local economy
- 60% feel it delivers a broader and better assortment of foods
- 68% feel locally-grown food contributes positively to sustainability
 - only 50% feel this same way about organic food
- 45% believe it provides healthier alternatives
- 19% buy local food to improve their carbon footprint
- 41% say they would spend more on local groceries if retailers did a better job educated shoppers on the foods' origins



How much extra are you willing to pay for local food?

(% of respondents)



And shoppers are willing to pay more for local food!



Recent research into shoppers' perceptions of local food found:

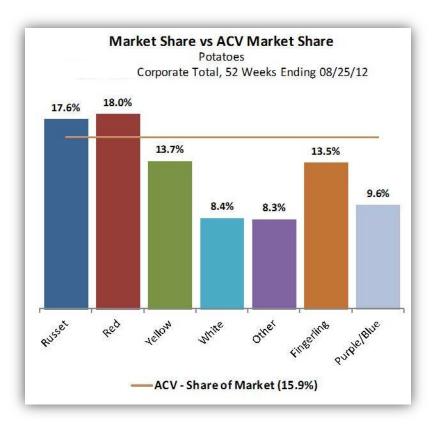
- 64% consider food "local" if it is grown within 100 miles of the store
- 37% consider products from the same state to be local
- Shoppers will switch stores for a better local food selection 30% say they consider purchasing food elsewhere if their preferred store does not carry local foods





Seeking Growth by Driving HH Penetration of Additional Types

- See as key opportunity for increasing overall category sales
- In many instances, they are underperforming on specific types and looking to recapture "fair share"



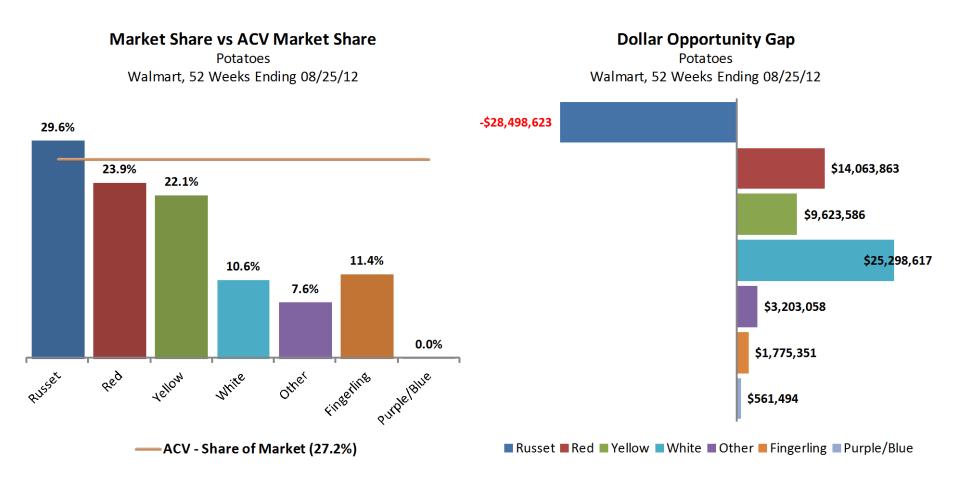


Huge gaps in household penetration of potato types often exist

Households Purchasing by Potato Type (Percent of households buying at least once in a year) Russet Yellow White Purple/ Red Specialty Brookshire's 15% 1% 82% 39% 4% Brookshire's 88% 1%* 47% 19% 4% Linda 73% 1% 51% 25% 39% Linda



And these gaps offer huge potential for added sales!





Much more can be done to encourage shoppers to try new types







Small Potatoes Going Big-Time

Big Interest in Little Potatoes

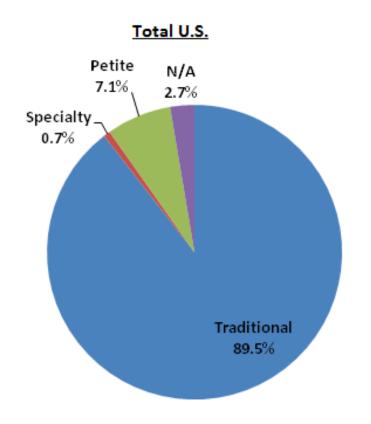
- Seeing the sales of petite potatoes as almost 100% incremental
- Using aggressive discounting to drive trial
- One chain reporting small potato ads rival volume of 5lb russet ads





Small Potatoes Going Big-Time

Petite potatoes accounted for over 7% of category dollar sales in 2012



Potato Class Dollar Share 52 Weeks Ending 12/29/12

	Total U.S.	Class
	-6.6%	Traditional
Dollars %	4.8%	Specialty
Change*	8.0%	Petite
	7.4%	N/A
	-1.2%	Traditional
Volume %	9.0%	Specialty
Change*	4.5%	Petite
	13.6%	N/A

 [%] Change vs. 52 Weeks Ending 12/31/11



Small Potatoes Going Big-Time

- However, retailers still may be missing the opportunities to:
 - Leverage petites to drive purchases of other sizes/types (e.g. reds)
 - Utilize "portability" of petite packages to merchandise beyond produce





What's New? What's Next?

Anxious for Innovation

 Are wary of the heavy reliance on russet volume, and fear the same erosion they have witnessed with sales of iceberg lettuce and red delicious apples

 Retailers are looking for innovation that goes beyond mere packaging to bring them new varieties, tastes and textures





More Stability in Potato Pricing

Distressed Over Deflation

Worried about impact of sinking prices on \$ales and profit\$

• Feel others are discounting unnecessarily, although often quick to follow

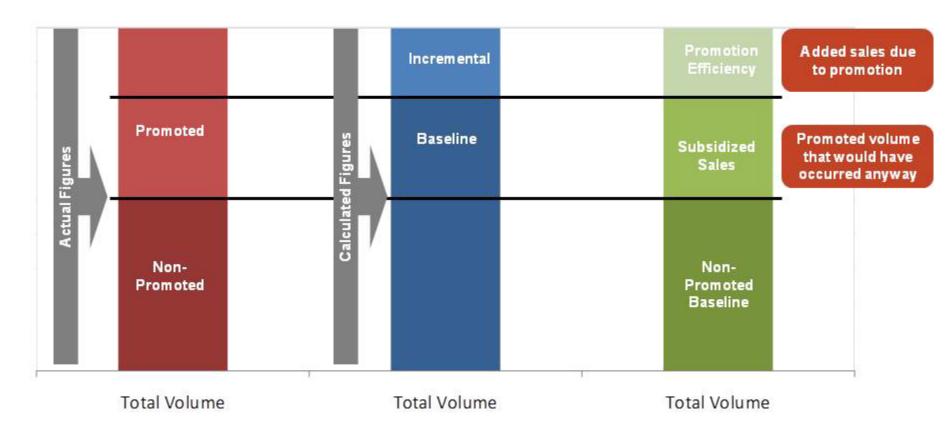
• Key to breaking out of this vicious cycle is selling potatoes on a basis

other than price alone



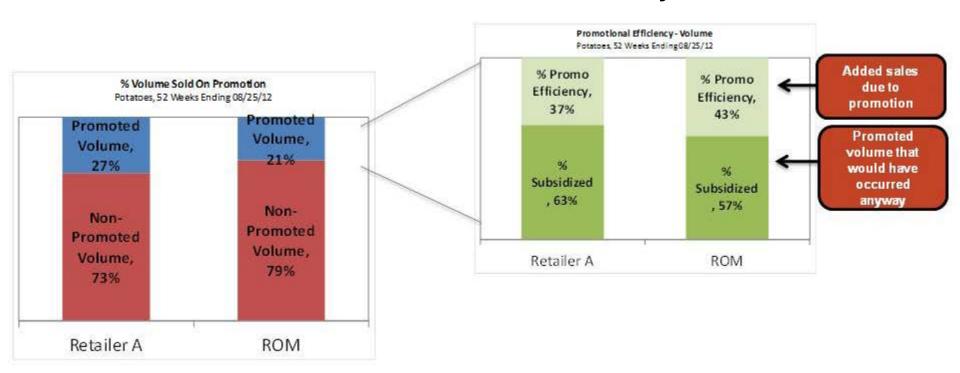
How Can We Increase Our Promotional Efficiency on Potatoes?

Three different ways to look at potato sales:





How Can We Increase Our Promotional Efficiency on Potatoes?



- Promotional efficiency revolves around 3 primary factors:
 - Frequency of discounting
 - Depth of discounting
 - Items being promoted



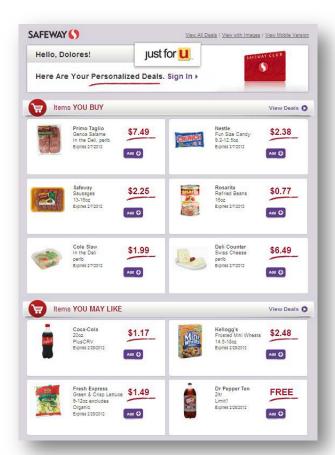
- You can help your retail customers become more efficient by offering data-driven recommendations on how to improve promotional response
 - Nielsen FreshFacts[™] sales data
 - ECRM Marketgate ad tracking

28	Russet	72.2%	
		12.270	
1	Red	15.9%	Kroger Jumbo Russet Potatoes 8 b Rag
0	White	0.3%	
0	Yellow	6.0%	
0	Petite/Other	2.7%	
0	Fingerling	0.0%	
0	Purple	0.1%	
	0 0 0	0 Yellow 0 Petite/Other 0 Fingerling 0 Purple	0 Yellow 6.0% 0 Petite/Other 2.7% 0 Fingerling 0.0%



- Consider participating in targeted offers using retailers' loyalty card data, investing dollars specifically where it will generate the strongest returns
 - Direct mailer programs like Kroger's Loyal Customer Mailer
 - Digital programs like Safeway's Just for U



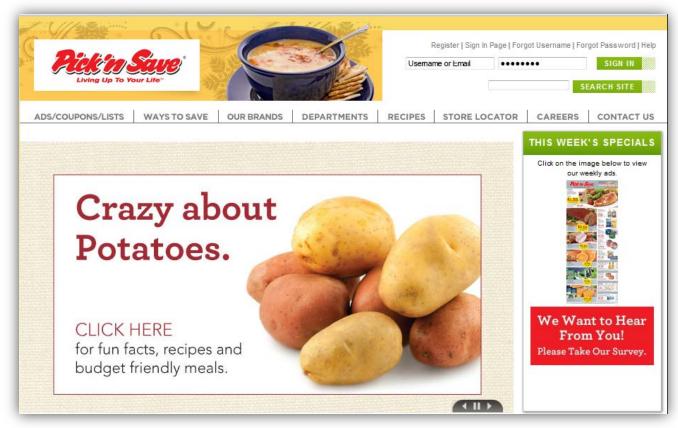




End the Digital Drought

Desperate for More Digital Content

- Looking to get the produce department more involved in their company's social media activities and online sites
- Anxious for videos, recipes, photos and links to other relevant content

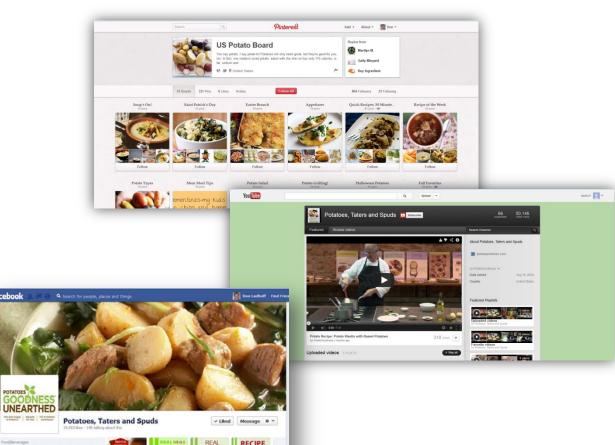




End the Digital Drought

- Start with the digital content and resources that the USPB can provide to aid your efforts with your retail customers
 - Potatogoodness.com
 - Facebook
 - YouTube
 - Pinterest



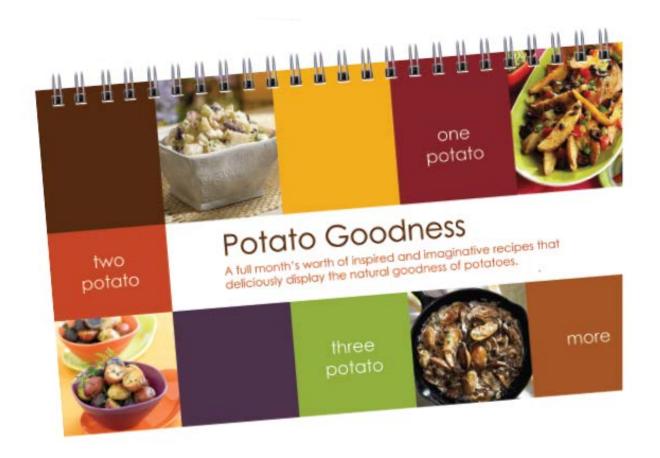




End the Digital Drought

Potato Goodness e-cookbook

• Available in both .epub (iPad) and .mobi (Kindle) formats





Utilizing Our Retail RDs

Love To Leverage Retail RDs for Potato Category More

- Growing awareness of the influence of their own RDs and how they can positively impact produce sales
- Want to get their RDs more information on potatoes' nutritional benefits and find ways to leverage their activities to benefit the potato category





Utilizing Our Retail RDs

 USPB has several ready-made resources that you can bring to your retail customers' RDs



Retail RD monthly newsletter



Annual Potato Nutrition Guide

Nutrition Library handouts



Many people mistakenly believe that they only "burn calories" when they exercise. In fact, your body is burning calories

all of the time (yes, even when sleeping!). The calories that



long as calories are reduced.97 in fact, the scientific evidence

Asking for Merchandising Tools

- Retailers understand that increasing potato awareness and offering new usage ideas can spur greater consumption and sales – and they want our help in communicating this to their shoppers
- Repeatedly asking USPB for pallet bins, display racks, iron man posters, recipe cards and other merchandising tools that exceed our purview



What Retailers would like



What Retailers sometimes get



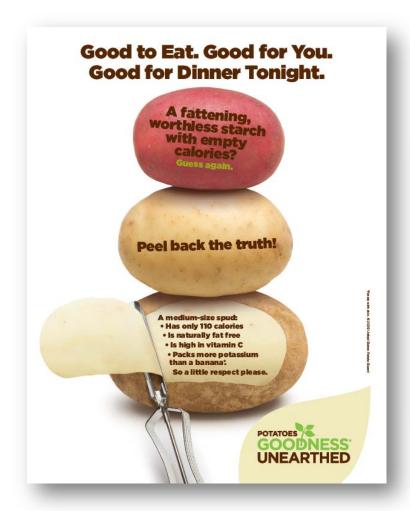
- USPB has developed a range of POS elements that industry members can produce as-is or adapt to fit their specific opportunity
- Here's just a sampling of what you can find on our Resource Center...



UNEARTHED Find this recipe and hundreds of others at potatogoodness.com



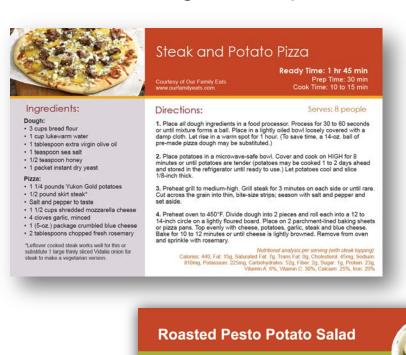
More signs from our Resource Center…







As well as a range of recipe cards...



Ingredients

- 3 pounds medium-size red potatoes
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- · 1/3 cup white or golden balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
 Olive oil cooking spray

Place potatoes in a large microwave-safe bowl; cover with lid or plastic wrap. Note: If using plastic wrap, make sure plastic wrap is not touching any ingredients and poke one small hole in cover to vent. Microwave on high for 10 to 12 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Use oven mitts to carefully remove from microwave. When cool enough to handle, cut potatoes in half or quarters and spray liberally with olive oil. Roast in 450 degree oven for 5 to 7 minutes, turning occasionally. Remove from heat and let cool. Cut into bite-size pieces and place in large bowl.

Whisk together vinegar, oil, salt and garlic; pour over potatoes and toss lightly to coat. Season with pepper, then cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. Just before serving, toss with Parmesan cheese and basil, then sprinkle with pine nuts.







 We also have a range of materials created for retailer-specific programs that you could adapt to your own needs







 We also have a range of materials created for retailer-specific programs that you could adapt to your own needs









 We've also talked to retailers about the "magic" of promoting potatoes & onions together. Retailers understand the synergies of co-promoting these categories, and are looking for tools to use in this effort.

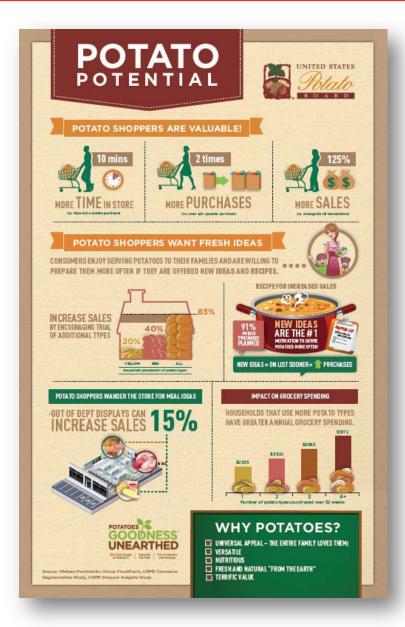








Potatoes Have BIG Potential!



 USPB has created a simple infographic poster to remind your retailers of the sizable sales potential that potatoes offer!



USPB Online Resources

Industry website

www.uspotatoes.com



Retailer website

www.potatoretailer.com



Consumer website

www.potatogoodness.com



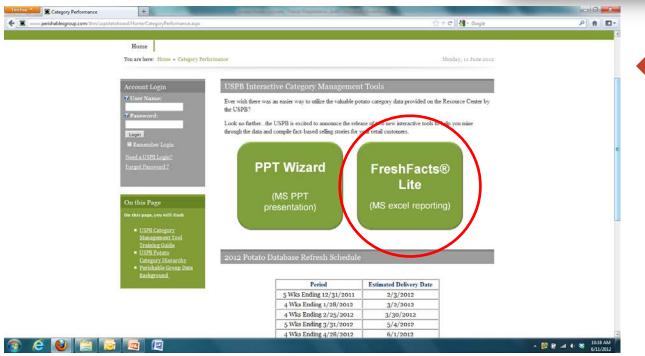


Nielsen FreshFacts Available Online

Industry website

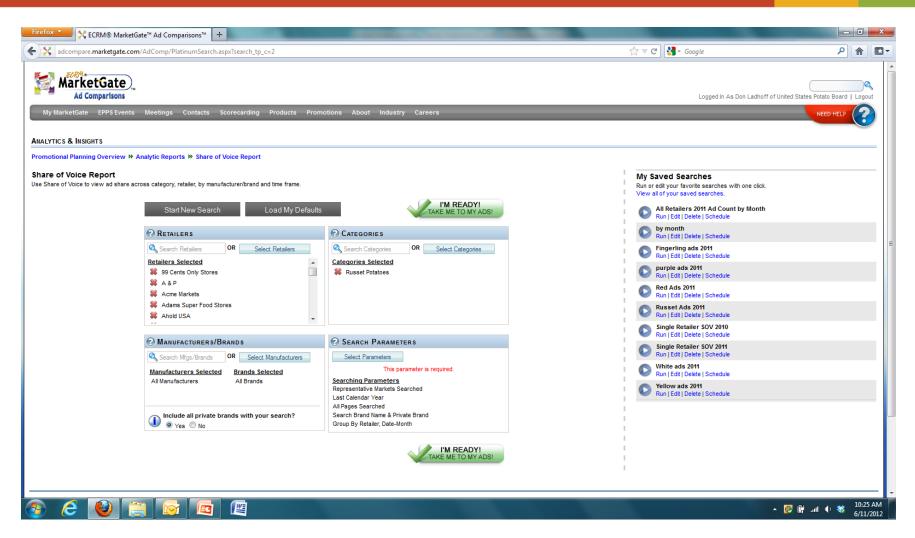
www.uspotatoes.com







ECRM Marketgate Ad Tracking Tool

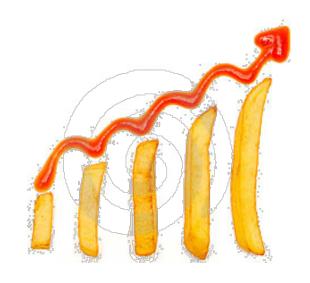


Free access for industry members – contact Don to get logon and password



Thanks!

How can we help you get retail sales growing faster?



Don Ladhoff
USPB Retail Programs Consultant
don.ladhoff@uspotatoes.com
415.215.2448

