Participants:

Barb Christ (PA)
Mark Clough (NC)
Walter De Jong (NY)
David DeKoeyer (NB)
Zenaida Ganga (ME)
Don Halseth (NY)
Dave Hammond (WA)
Kathy Haynes (USDA-ARS)
Mel Henninger (NJ)
Chad Hutchinson (FL)
Matt Kleinhenz (OH)
Greg Porter (ME)
Stephen Reiling (ME)
Rikki Sterrett (VA)
Richard Veilleux (VA)
Craig Yencho (NC)

Brief Summary of Minutes of Annual Meeting:

1. Meeting called to order at 8AM by M. Kleinhenz, Chair.

2. Agenda introduced, additions solicited and agenda approved.

3. Minutes of 2002 meeting approved.

4. Introductions

   a. All participants introduced themselves; Dave Hammond, Lamb Weston, WA and Stephen Reiling, NE-1014 Project Administrative Advisor were especially welcomed.

   b. A moment of silence was observed to remember Dave McKenzie, former NE-184 Administrative Advisor, who passed away during 2002.

5. Appointments of committees for 2003

   a. Site selection: B. Christ and R. Sterrett

   b. Resolutions: M. Henninger and R. Veilleux

   c. Nominations: G. Porter and C. Hutchinson

6. Local arrangements (C. Yencho): C. Yencho indicated that roughly $20 would be added to hotel bills to cover meeting room expenses and coffee breaks.
7. Administrative advisor report (S. Reiling): S. Reiling introduced himself as the new Administrator for the Project. He is the Assoc. Director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station and Director of the UM Agricultural Center. He indicated that the NE-184 Project has been approved for five more years with a new project number - we are now the NE-1014 Project. He also noted that Minutes of the Technical Meeting and the Project Report were to be sent to him posted on the Regional Project website 60 days after the meeting.

8. USDA-CSREES report (A. Thro): A. Thro could not attend. C Yencho indicated that he had spoken to her regarding the yearly funding cycle of the USDA-CSREES Potato Special Grants (PSG) Program and that she was checking to determine if projects could be funded for longer periods. All participants agreed that the 1-year funding cycle was too short and the paperwork associated with the proposals extremely burdensome for investigators, administrators, and grants and contracts offices. G. Porter and others stressed the importance of industry members and commodity organizations in support of a change in the funding cycle from 1 year to 3-5 year projects.

   a. Action: C. Yencho to contact A. Thro to follow up on this and solicit advice on how to proceed with letters, etc.

9. Eastern Region USDA-CSREES PSG Project Update (G. Porter)

   a. G. Porter indicated that we were off to a good start and that a coherent project had lead to increased overall support in 2002 for the east.

   b. Special thanks were given to A. Bushway (UM) for assisting with paperwork, forms, etc.

   c. Support of $355,000 requested for 2003 project.

   d. Reviews of the 2002 project were good overall, but we need to integrate the project better with each participant contributing something unique to the potato variety development needs of the eastern US. Better reviews are also needed from reviewers for project improvement.

      i. A discussion ensued regarding similarities/differences between the Tri-State Potato Project, the Western Regional Potato Project and the Eastern States Potato Project, with the objective of improving the Eastern Project.

      ii. Action: M. Henninger agreed to contact S. Love (UI) for copy of Tri-State Proposal/Report to see how they structure their project and share with eastern cooperators.

   e. G. Porter provided an update on the 2002 USDA-CSREES PSG Project budget process and problems.

      i. Problems experienced were mostly _growing pains_ for UM and USDA-CSREES and things should be better for 2003.

      ii. Cooperators were urged to work closely with respective grants and contract offices to ensure that paperwork is not held up and completed quickly.

      iii. In 2003 UM will begin to pre-process paperwork on notice of approval.
iv. UM will probably apply for a no-cost extension for 2002 project.

f. G. Porter requested input for upcoming Project Report. He stressed this is an important report and it should emphasize practical outcomes & cohesiveness of overall project.

i. Substantial discussion ensued on formatting and content of Annual Report and CRIS Reports for project. A general consensus was that we needed to establish a reporting process that: 1) provides relevance; 2) establishes leadership; and 3) can be used to generate additional support.

ii. Reporting might include such diverse venues as web-based postings and a variety database to articles in trade journals, newsletters, etc. as a way to increase visibility. These need not be highly technical. CRIS reports, however, need to integrated.

iii. Action: Motion was made (M. Kleinhenz) to establish an ad-hoc Progress Report Committee. This was passed unanimously and G. Porter, B. Christ, M. Kleinhenz and C. Hutchinson agreed to serve.

iv. Action: G. Porter agreed to convene a meeting at the Annual PAA Meetings to discuss development of the Progress Report and project re-writes.

10. NE-184 (1014) Project Re-write (G. Porter)

a. G. Porter noted that the CSREES and NE-184 projects were very similar.

b. Outcomes and Impacts Sections are new to the regional project. These need to be reviewed yearly by project leaders to make sure that they are correct and doable.

c. Action: 2004 Chair (De Jong) to add Outcomes and Impacts item to Annual Report section (Item 19) of Technical Meeting.


a. New Brunswick (D. DeKoeyер) - Good early moisture, dry Aug., yields down; many changes have been made with the Ag. Canada Reorganization (see report of National Potato Breeding Study led by R. Tarn); George Tai retired; Bacterial Ring Rot testing will enable NE-1014 materials to be imported into Canada after 2007.

b. Florida (C. Hutchinson) (~35,000 acres) - Hastings Res. Stn. officially closed. Technicians will be moving to farm. C. Hutchinson will be moving office to Gainesville, but will still work at Res. Stn; Good prices for crop in 2002. Reds, whites $20 /50 lbs; Florida yield low due to freeze in Feb. and Mar. Hastings Chip market looks to be strong due to poor quality in storage.

c. Maine (G. Porter) (~62,000 acres) - OK year. Processing expansion on hold, MacCain had a minor expansion, prices good, PMTV concerns settling out. Cool, wet spring delayed planting, wet Jul., dry Aug., very dry in central ME. Without irrigation yields very variable across State due to drought.

d. New Jersey (M. Henninger) (~3,500 acres) - Hot, dry season, lots of IHN and HH, wet Sep. and Oct. Most acreage in south Jersey. Chips and fresh market are important. Good
prices.

e. New York-Upstate & Long Island (D. Halseth) (~23,000 Acres _ 22,000 harvested) - Bill Brodie - retired after 47 years. Season - wet start, then variable and very dry in Jul. and Aug.; 1/3 acres irrigated and they produce ok yields; those without were very low; prices were strong for table stocks and open market chips;

f. North Carolina (C. Yencho) (~17,500 acres) - Season was highly variable; started wet putting planting behind, then temperatures fluctuated between hot and cool conditions while remaining dry until the last week of the season resulting in much lower yields than normal; Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus (TSWV) was detected for the 1st time in NC at very high levels; impact on yield unclear; Atlantic one of the most susceptible varieties.

g. Ohio (M. Kleinhenz) (~4,300 acres) - Specialty-types up; Crop 1/2 chipstock 1/2 tablestock; very hot during Jun., Jul. and Aug.; good reports on NE-184 materials generally.

h. Pennsylvania (B. Christ) (~16,000 _ 18,000 acres) - Started dry to mid May _ Jun., had a cool spring with a severe freeze at the end of May which damaged crop; late blight found in Crawford City (NW PA) Jun.; source of inoculum unknown (US 8); after this PA was very dry and hot from mid Jun.-Sep., when it started raining at harvest.

i. Virginia (R. Sterrett) (~5,000 acres) - Planted early, mid Mar.; good conditions early, then drought, but most acres irrigated; Good yields. 2001- 225cwt. 2002 -300cwt? $14. -$16. cwt; no TSWV reported.

12. Comments from industry representatives:

a. Dave Hammond shared his impressions from Washington but cautioned they were based on limited experiment since he started in July 2002. His impression was that the industry in the west was increasingly interested in diversifying from fries only. Examples of this included new mashed products, new reds with skins products, wedge products, and yellow-fleshed products. Alturis, a new processing selection with high yields from USDA-ARS Aberdeen, was mentioned.

b. A brief discussion on how to increase industry input for the NE-1014 Project was held and whether or not we should try to attract more industry members to the Technical Meetings. Major points:

i. G.Porter - pointed out that individual interaction at the State level is already occurring, but it might be a good idea to tailor something more specific for the industry for our project. We need to advertise our efforts more effectively.

ii. M. Henninger - Regional Meetings keep us connected to the Industry.

iii. C. Yencho _ To attract industry members to technical meeting we might need to provide an incentive or modify our format, or add an extra 1/2 day because we need at least a full day presently and industry not highly interested in technical aspects of our meeting.

iv. Group agreed that we need to:

1. Document formal and informal-involvement with growers;

2. Develop a formal mechanism to enhance industry participation; and
3. Develop fact sheets for cultivars released complete with pictures and pedigrees. These can be placed in newsletters and magazines and on the web.

13. Pathology test reports (B. Christ) _ Early blight, late blight and powdery scab reports presented. Discussion of PMTV held. B. Christ has powdery scab collections dating back to _92 and they are using PCR primers to detect PMTV in these samples. To date, all samples testing negative. They are also conducting studies to determine host range of PMTV.


a. W. De Jong (Cornell) - seed supply low, lots of scab; focus on development of lines with resistance to GN R02; NY112 released as Marcy; NY120, a chipper, NY 126 (yellow-fleshed) and NY 129 (red skinned) will be available to NE-1014 this year. NY 120 and NY 126 are breeder_s choices for 2003.

b. K. Haynes (USDA-ARS, Beltsville) _ B0564-8 being released as Harley Blackwell; release note currently circulating; B0766-3 to be released in 2003; B1523-4 and B1758-3 dropped for 2002, virus levels too high; B1240-l breeders choice for 2003.

c. Z. Ganga _ Started in August 2002; last few months spent learning about program; four promising clones; focus of program is on processing types. Breeders Choice for 2003 AF2115-1 and AF2207-4.

d. C. Yencho _ NC continues to collaborate with USDA-ARS, Cornell and UM on early generation selection projects and is making a limited number of crosses.

e. D. DeKoeyer _ Presented an update and provided sheet on Canadian potato cultivar develop and genetic enhancement program and changes in program occurring in Ag. Caqnada. Several clones released in 2002, some exclusive releases, others not (see report distributed).

15. Results using AMMI and cluster analysis (D. Halseth and G. Tai)

a. D. Halseth presented results of recent AMMI analyses of important clones.

b. Discussions held on model, possibility of including weather data, and use of AMMI in variety release decision making process

Accomplishments:

16. Increasing project impact, documentation of impact, and stakeholder involvement. (see 9 and 12 above)

17. Seed orders, shopping list, new entries (G. Porter)
a. Update on seed supply, and PMTV situation and its impact on NE-1014 provided.

b. Research farm, UM breeding program and NE-1014 clones all negative for PMTV.

c. Out of 51 lines virus tested, 3 dropped for mosaic _Russet Burbank, AF178-7 and B1758-3_

18. Annual publication, including web-site development (D. Halseth and G. Porter)

a. Discussion on ongoing web-site development and establishment of a variety database. D. Halseth commended for his work on the site.

b. Project Web-Site

i. Items to be added - Annual Reports, USDA-ARS Germplasm Report (?), non-technical items of interest (e.g. What_s Looking Good? - Link to new numbered clones and newly released varieties); database?

c. Project Database

i. Action _ Members of website committee (D. Halseth, B. Christ, C. Hutchinson, D. Lambert) to recommend a database format.

ii. Action _ M. Clough and C. Yencho to head development and maintenance of database on NC server since NC already has a database for NC developed. M. Clough to request data from cooperators using recommended format and post data. D. Halseth will place link on website to interface with database.

19. Annual Report Forms _ W. De Jong, (Vice-chair) will be distributing (via email) forms for this year_s results and will submit to S. Reiling.

20. Old Business:

a. G. Porter provided update on National Potato Variety Trial results. Clones B0564-8, B0766-3 and NY112 submitted last year. There are no new entries this year.

21. New Business:

a. R. Veilleux expressed interest in participating in USDA-CSREES eastern US PSG project. He is interested in developing yellow and white-fleshed specialty-type creamers.

22. Committee Reports:

a. Site Selection _ 2004 Meeting _ Portland, ME _ G. Porter

b. Nominations _ 2004 Executive: W. De Jong, Chair; C. Yencho, Vice-Chair; Z. Ganga, Secretary

c. Resolutions _ Whereas the annual NE-1014, formerly (NE184) technical committee
meeting has been a productive and enjoyable gathering let us resolve to:

i. commend G. Porter and A. Bushway for their efforts on the USDA-CSREES PSG Proposal;

ii. commend C. Yencho for his efforts on local arrangements;

iii. commend G. Tai & D. Halseth for their work on AMMI analysis, their work demonstrates an example of the value of individual skills used to contribute improvement to a group effort;

iv. commend the NE-184 rewrite committee (G. Porter, C. Hutchinson, W. DeJong, D. Lambert, C. Yencho, and M. Kleinhenz) for their hard work and accomplishments;

v. commend the 2002-2003 officers (M. Kleinhenz, W. De Jong and C. Yencho) for their service to NE-1014;

vi. welcome S. Reiling to the role of administrative advisor to the NE-1014 group;

vii. recognize the many contributions and the long and productive careers of G. Tai (Ag. Canada) and B. Brody (USDA-ARS) who recently retired;

viii. regret the untimely passing of D. MacKenzie, our former NE-184 Advisor, who served the national and international potato community in many capacities for many years