

since 1952

Europatat

European Potato Trade Association



ACTIVITY REPORT 2024-2025

This Activity Report provides an overview of Europatat's work since the previous General Assembly in 2024, which took place in Brussels (Belgium) on 24 May in the frame of the Europatat Congress.

We warmly thank Europatat's Board, Advisory Committee and all associations and company members for their active support throughout the past year. Europatat's work would not have been possible without you!

The Europatat Secretariat

THE ASSOCIATION

President's Foreword	5
Vision & Mission	6
Structure	7
Membership and benefits	9

KEY FIELDS OF ACTION

Policy dossiers	
Agriculture	11
Promotion	13
Plant health	17
Food Safety	21
Trade	23
Sustainability	27
Research & Innovation	32

Public Affairs and Networking	36
-------------------------------	----

Communication	39
---------------	----

RUCIP	41
--------------	----

POTATO SECTOR DATA	42
---------------------------	----

DUNKERQUE PORT



DUNKERQUE-PORT
AU SERVICE DE LA FILIÈRE
DE LA POMME DE TERRE

DUNKERQUE-PORT SERVING THE POTATO TRADE AND INDUSTRY

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD



Dear Members,

Looking back at the past year, we were emerging from a very difficult season and discussing the uncertainty of the one ahead. The theme of the Europatat Congress 2025, *"Potato leaders of the future: deciding under uncertainty"* reflects that uncertainty continues to be a constant companion in our sector, though not everything is uncertain.

The European industry, particularly the French fry segment, continues to grow and is outlining ambitious plans for further expansion in the years to come. This growth, coupled with the influence of international markets, creates a volatile environment for seed and ware suppliers. Despite still feeling the effects of the previous season, overall business improved, although fluctuations in the availability of seed and ware potatoes led to corresponding price changes.

A further source of uncertainty is the evolution of European legislation, especially the ongoing restrictions on the use of plant protection products, which directly affect the primary production of our trade goods. On a more positive note, the trialogue on New Genomic Techniques (NGTs) has begun, potentially opening new opportunities for breeders to develop varieties that enhance the stability and sustainability of our sector. We can expect intensive debates on the implementation, use, and acceptance of these techniques. It is crucial that we take an active role in these discussions, assessing the risks, opportunities, and potential consequences for the potato trade sector.

Climate change and increasingly unpredictable local weather conditions continue to disrupt growing conditions, making planning challenging and in-field performance even more so. Imbalances may well become a permanent feature of our work.

In this context, the role of traders gains even greater value. Whereas, in the past, the importance of trade was sometimes questioned in light of an increasingly integrated value chain, today trade is vital in helping to stabilise markets and support resilience across the sector. Expanding international cooperation is key to this effort, and Europatat plays an essential role in facilitating this process.

New, highly specific challenges continue to emerge and impact our trade. Addressing them requires deep expertise. We have strengthened our links with European research bodies to help our members identify solutions and respond effectively.

One aspect of our business remains certain: the professional and consistent work of our association. The increasing number of participants in our web meetings highlights how essential this work is. We can be proud of the recognition and interest these meetings have generated, even beyond our membership. Strengthening our role within the Potato Value Chain has been one of our priorities. We have initiated direct consultations with neighbouring associations and can confidently say we are moving in the right direction.

I would like to thank you, our members, for your continued engagement, as well as our Board and the Chairs of our Commissions for their dedication and effort. My sincere thanks also go to Berta and Romans, our trusted and reliable team in Brussels.

This year's Congress is the perfect opportunity to discuss ways to reduce uncertainty and to develop strategies for a sustainable future for our sector.

Tigran Richter,
President of Europatat

THE ASSOCIATION

More than 70 years representing European potato traders



The "European Union for the Wholesale Trade in Potatoes" was established on 12 January 1952 in Paris, including members from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland. More than seventy years later, Europatat has become a well recognised international non-profit association that today counts 71 members in more than 20 countries in the EU and beyond and is more active than ever.



Currently, the association comprises both national organisations and individual companies involved in the trade of seed, ware and early potatoes throughout Europe. Europatat's members include a wide range of traders (including breeders, distributors, storers, packers, importers and exporters) delivering seed potatoes to farmers, as well as raw material to the food industry, packed potatoes to the retailers and food service sector.

Our Mission

To connect, represent and coordinate a common voice for all actors in the European seed and ware potato trade chain towards European and international decision makers and other stakeholders.

Our Vision

Europatat wants to be recognised as a proactive representative body that actively engages with its network.



Structure

Board and Advisory Committee

Europatat is structured around a General Assembly, a Board and five commissions. This organisation enables, in spite of occasional conflicting opinions and interests, to define with an open mind a common position defending the profession.

Tigran Richter President	Vlastimil Rasocha Vice-President	Heero Gramsma Treasurer	Board
Peter Ton Chair Seed Potatoes	Thomas Herkenrath Chair Consumption Potatoes		Advisory Committee
Domenico Citterio Chair RUCIP	Johan van der Stee Chair Sustainability	Florimond Desprez Chair Technical & Regulatory	

The Secretariat

The daily work of Europatat is conducted by the Secretariat of the Association, who is based in Brussels and is competent in various European languages.

Europatat's team, which is composed by Berta Redondo Benito, Secretary General, and Romans Vorss, Technical Affairs Director, is leading a proactive work of the Secretariat on several important topics for potato trade, always with the support of all the members and stakeholders across the potato value chain.



*Supercharge
your soil.*



 **SERENADE[®]**
SOIL ACTIV



**More powerful roots, better potatoes
with SERENADE[®] SOIL ACTIV.**

MEMBERSHIP & BENEFITS

Europatat presently incorporates the national associations of the biggest potato trade partners in Europe as well as individual companies active in the potato trade.

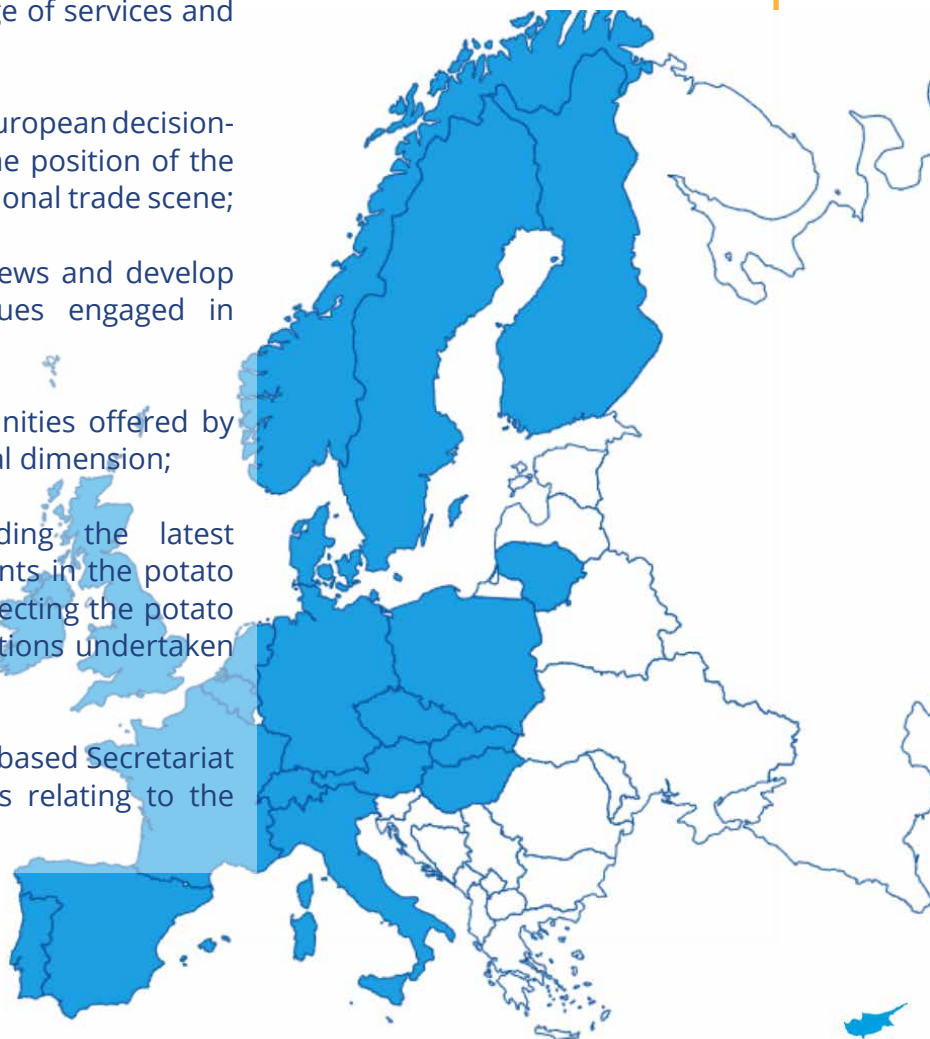
In total, the Association currently has 71 members that represent more than 20 countries in the EU and beyond. More precisely, Europatat's membership is composed by 19 national associations, 44 companies and 8 associated members. The complete list of members can be found at the end of this report.

The membership of Europatat is balanced between the different types of members and their focus. This guarantees a good balance of interests and a wide diversity of expertise is available to the association.

In the past year, Europatat has welcomed new members from all around Europe. We were glad to welcome all of them to the Europatat family!

Besides granting to the association the strengths of their support and their professional input, members of Europatat benefit from a wide range of services and advantages including:

- Having the ability to influence the European decision-making process and strengthen the position of the potato trade sector on the international trade scene;
- Having the ability to exchange views and develop common positions with colleagues engaged in similar activities;
- Enjoying the networking opportunities offered by an association with an international dimension;
- Two regular newsletters including the latest information on crucial developments in the potato trade and European legislation affecting the potato supply chain, as well as on the actions undertaken by the Europatat's Secretariat;
- Services of a multilingual Brussels-based Secretariat for fast answers to key questions relating to the potato sector.



TELONE™ & TRIPICRIN

TRUSTED SOLUTIONS FOR TARGETING NEMATODES & SOILBORNE DISEASES

TELONE™ and Tripicrin fumigant products are effective tools to manage soilborne diseases in potatoes (including nematodes, Verticillium wilt, common scab, Rhizoctonia, Colletotrichum, Fusarium, Pythium, and Phytophthora). Our products suppress soilborne diseases and nematode activity while promoting native beneficial soil microbes. This leads to increases in plant production efficiency, allowing growers to produce more potatoes on less land and can reduce crop production inputs. TELONE™ and Tripicrin are both applied by professionally trained applicators, ensuring the highest level of product stewardship from transportation through application.

REMEMBER THERE'S NO COMING BACK FROM A POOR START.



Learn more about TELONE™ & Tripicrin in the EU:



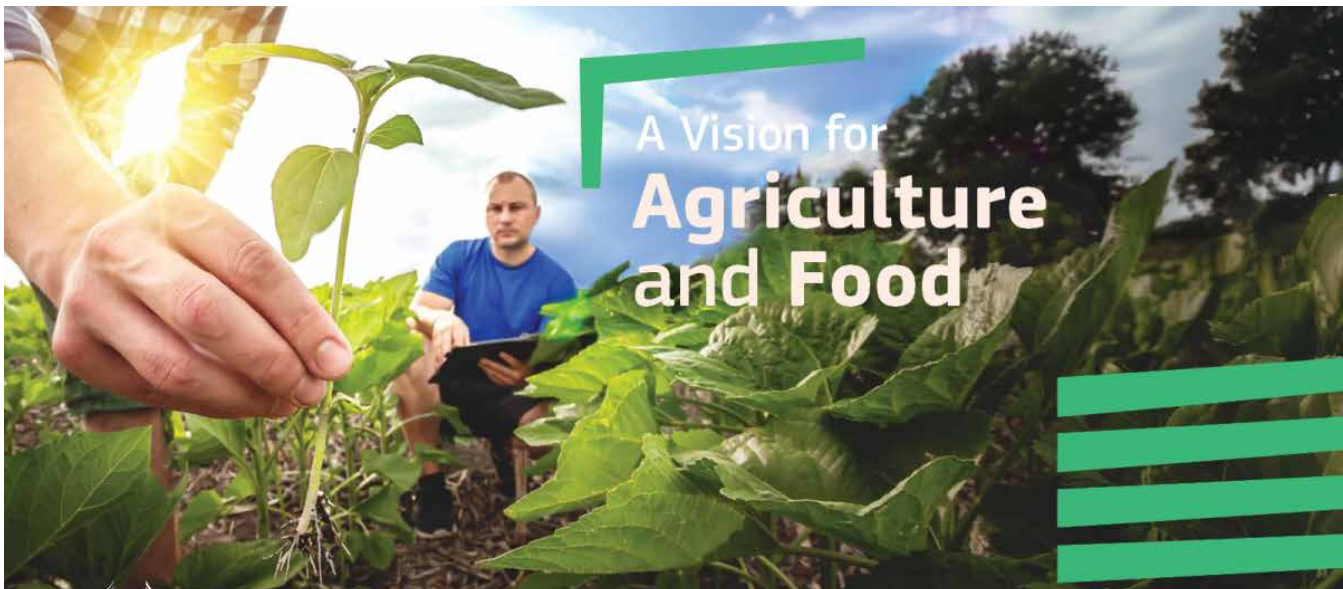
Agricultural policy

Potatoes are crucial for European agriculture due to their versatile nature, providing essential nutrients for millions of consumers while also driving significant trade in and out the EU, contributing to economic stability and enhancing agricultural diversity. In the European Union alone, potato production reached a record production of 50 million tons in 2024, demonstrating its status as a crucial crop.

New EU vision for Agriculture and Food

On 19 February, the European Commission unveiled the 'Vision for Agriculture & Food', a 5-year roadmap for a stronger, fairer agri-food sector. The text builds on the final report of the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of EU Agriculture published in early September 2024.

The Vision focuses on supporting farmers, boosting competitiveness, and ensuring sustainability. Key actions include revising Common Agriculture Policy rules, reducing administrative burdens, aligning import standards, launching an EU Observatory on Farmland, and promoting carbon farming and biopesticides. Rural areas will benefit from updated support plans, short supply chains, and a new Women in Farming Platform.



Europatat can play a key role in monitoring and influencing the implementation of the EU's Vision for Agriculture & Food to ensure the interests of the potato sector are well represented. By actively engaging in policy discussions and EU dialogues, Europatat will advocate for fair and science-based rules and simplified legislation that benefit its members.

At the same time, Europatat will inform and support the sector with insights on funding opportunities, innovation tools and other initiatives, helping the industry stay competitive and future-proof.

OUR RESPONSE TO LATE BLIGHT

Meet our Next Generation varieties!

Our Next Generation varieties have a natural protection against the potato disease late blight. The natural protection in our varieties contribute directly to growers' yield security by significantly reducing the risk of crop failure. The varieties are the link between answering the global need for sustainability and increased yield security while maintaining excellent consumption characteristics.

Do you want to know more about our innovative Next Generation potato varieties?
Please visit our website.

agricopotatoes.com

Say potato,
say **Agrico.**



Promotion and consumption

The role of Promotion in the EU's Vision for Agriculture and Food

In the new Vision for Agriculture and Food, the EU Commission emphasises the need to align promotional efforts with evolving consumer expectations, environmental goals, and international market opportunities.

However, despite this ambition, the EU agri-food promotion budget is undergoing a significant cut, especially for multi programmes, jeopardising the future of this vital policy. This contradiction risks undermining the very objectives of the Vision, as reduced funding may limit the EU's ability to support quality schemes, sustainable production, and international visibility.

For Europatat, the EU Promotion Policy must remain a strategic instrument to raise awareness and appreciation of the diverse, high-quality, and sustainably produced agri-food products from across Europe. Ensuring balanced and sufficient funding is not only a matter of fairness, it is a prerequisite for meeting the EU's broader goals for a resilient, sustainable, and trusted food system.



Preparing the 2026 Annual Work Programme

EU agricultural promotion policy plays a critical role in creating new market opportunities for EU agri-food products and consolidating existing ones. In the case of fresh potatoes, such campaigns are instrumental in increasing consumer awareness, appreciation, and ultimately, consumption.

Throughout the period covered by this Activity Report, Europatat has actively contributed to shaping the priorities of the European Commission's 2026 Annual Work Programme. Recognising the increasing challenges within the global agri-food landscape and the ambitious objectives set out in the EU's Vision for Agriculture and Food, Europatat has urged the Commission to ensure the promotion policy remains a strong and strategic tool.

In its official input, Europatat called on the Commission to:

- Safeguard a robust and fair budget for the EU promotion policy, particularly for multi programmes that exemplify European cooperation;
- Re-establish sufficient funding for "generic" promotion topics, especially those highlighting EU quality schemes and sustainable production methods;
- Restore balance in funding between organic and generic themes to ensure equal and proportionate support across all sectors.

The Potato Calendar: Promoting potatoes with 365 seasonal recipes

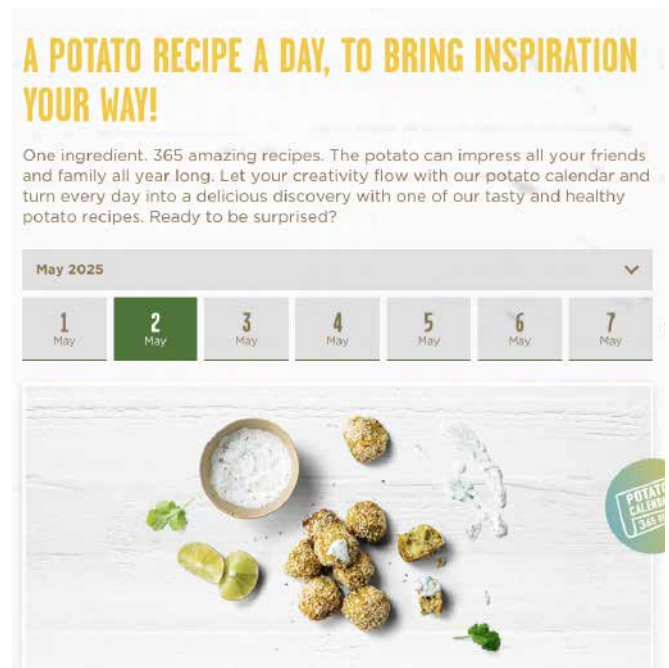
Launched in 2020, the European promotion campaign “Potatoes, prepare to be surprised – Europe’s favourite since 1536” continues to promote the versatility, sustainability, and nutritional benefits of fresh potatoes across six EU countries (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Poland). The programme is co-funded by the European Union and will run until December 2025.

To slow down the negative fresh potatoes’ consumption trend, the campaign puts fresh potatoes back in the minds and lives of millennials with a clear message: potatoes fit in a modern, healthy and sustainable lifestyle of millennials, because they are a tasty, versatile and high-quality food with good nutritional and health benefits!

A major highlight of the last year of the campaign is the launch of the interactive **Potato Calendar**, a new digital tool designed to inspire consumers with creative, seasonal, and healthy potato recipes all year round. Accessible through the campaign website, the calendar features a potato recipe per day, out of the 365 recipes created for the campaign!

In the context of this campaign, Europatat has made available a large number of materials to its members. Don’t hesitate to contact us for accessing them!

Are you prepared to be surprised? Follow us!





Potatoes
PREPARE
TO BE
SURPRISED
Europe's favourite
SINCE 1536

L'aube des Champs

POTATO PACKAGING AND TRADING

- We have a washing and packaging facility in the Aube Valley in France, **one of the finest producing area in Europe for potatoes.**
- We pack a wide range of packaging units and with a **large production capacity.**
- We develop long term relationship with our own potato producers.



Route d'Ormes « Le Chêne » 10700 Arcis-sur-Aube
Phone : 00 33 (0)6 31 26 09 39 - jjfavre@aubedeschamps.com

Plant Health

EU Plant Health is one of the core policy areas actively followed by Europatat.

EU's plant health rules introduce more effective measures to safeguard the EU's territory and plant resources. They also aim to facilitate safe trade and help mitigate the impact of climate change on the health of crops and forests.

Wireworms

Europatat is part of the European Wireworm Research Network (EWRN), which aims at coordinating and facilitating research efforts across Europe. The EWRN holds regular meetings to share updates on ongoing research and explore opportunities for collaborative projects supported by various funding programmes.



Stolbur

Another pest under close monitoring by Europatat is Stolbur. In March 2025, Europatat organised a webinar featuring experts from Germany, Hungary, and Serbia, who presented the current state of research and shared insights into ongoing initiatives.

Following the webinar, Europatat conducted a survey among its members, who expressed strong interest in the topic and requested more guidance on distinguishing Stolbur symptoms from those of other common plant diseases. This is particularly important, as the symptoms of Stolbur closely resemble those of several other pests.

Climate change is increasingly influencing the spread of pests and affecting potato production across Europe. Below, you can find examples of pests that are closely monitored by Europatat. Also, Europatat is actively collaborating with organisations in the potato supply chain and research institutes to address these challenges.

Late blight

This pest has had a significant negative impact on potato production in recent years, largely due to weather conditions that favour its spread.



Europatat works closely with EuroBlight to address the challenges posed by early and late blight both in Europe and globally. Through this partnership, Europatat gains insight into the latest trends in pest development and spread across the continent. Additionally, Europatat hosted a workshop for its members, during which several plant protection companies presented available products for managing and controlling Late Blight.



« Smart & Sustainable Packaging for Fresh Produce »



Who are CMSA & what do we do?

+35

Specialists with 35 years' experience in the manufacture of packaging & manufacturing systems for the fresh produce industry.



Lean Manufacturing is the key driver of manufacturing system design to deliver maximum yields and reduce labour spend through fully automated bespoke solutions.



CMSA

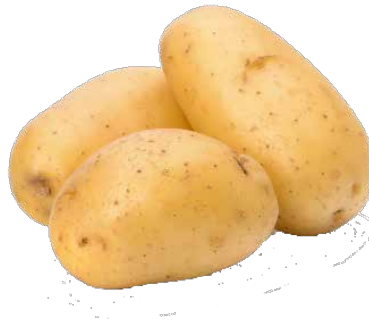
FILM MESH & VERTICAL PACKAGING SOLUTIONS

www.cmsa.es

Revision of the measures against *Ralstonia solanacearum* on ware potatoes from Egypt

The European Commission has initiated a process to revise the current EU Decision 2011/787/EU, which imposes additional requirements concerning *Ralstonia solanacearum* on ware potatoes imported from Egypt. This process was launched in response to recent interceptions of this pest in imported consumption potatoes from Egypt, highlighting the need to ensure that Member States are equipped with sufficient legal measures to prevent the introduction of the pest into the EU market and its spread within EU territory.

Europatat has been actively monitoring the discussions at the EU level and keeping its members informed about the latest developments in order to minimise any potential trade disruptions. Throughout the process, Europatat has consistently emphasised that any new rules must be both effective in preventing the pest's introduction into the EU and practical for the industry to implement.



Revision of the Plant Reproductive Material Legislation

On 5 July 2023, the European Commission put forward a proposal for a regulation on the production and marketing of plant reproductive material (PRM). This proposal aims to replace the ten existing PRM directives, which currently govern the rules for seeds, tubers, cuttings, seedlings, and young plants. Notably, EU Directive 2002/56/EC on the marketing of seed potatoes has also been incorporated into the Commission's proposal.

Europatat is closely monitoring all developments related to the ongoing discussions on the PRM legislation and has held several meetings with its members to identify priorities for the sector. During its Plenary Session in April 2024, the European Parliament adopted a position that includes numerous derogations and permits the exchange of all types of PRM between farmers without adequate oversight from the authorities. Europatat continues to emphasise that any derogations must be specific and include requirements for traceability and quality control.

We are now awaiting the EU Council's position, which is a prerequisite for launching the trilogue discussions that will ultimately lead to the adoption of the final regulation. However, progress in the Council is slow, as Member States are still working to reach a compromise on key provisions. In addition, the Polish Presidency has scheduled only three meetings in the first half of 2025, which is insufficient to make meaningful progress.



Babylon.

Yellow-fleshed variety with
good storage potential and
excellent yield



- ▶▶ Easy to grow
- ▶▶ Excellent frying quality
- ▶▶ Good storability



Food Safety

Transition towards sustainable farming

The European Commission has initiated a public consultation on the forthcoming EU Bioeconomy Strategy, aiming for adoption by the end of 2025.

A key component of this strategy is the planned Biotech Act, which is expected to provide a definition for biocontrol plant protection products. This legislative framework aims to facilitate the development and market introduction of biocontrol solutions, aligning with the EU's broader objectives of sustainability and circularity.

Given the evolving landscape, there is an urgent need to expedite the approval process for biocontrol plant protection products. It's crucial to adapt authorisation requirements to the unique characteristics of biological solutions, such as microbials and natural substances, which differ significantly from traditional chemical pesticides in terms of risk and safety assessments. Aligning these processes with the objectives of the upcoming Bioeconomy Strategy and the Biotech Act will be essential to ensure the effective integration of biocontrol products into the EU market.

This initiative is particularly relevant for the potato industry, where the availability of effective and sustainable plant protection products is critical to combat emerging plant health threats. Europatat has consistently emphasised the need for faster access to innovative biocontrol solutions to ensure crop resilience, reduce reliance on chemical pesticides, and maintain high quality and yields across Europe.



Contaminants: Glycoalkaloids

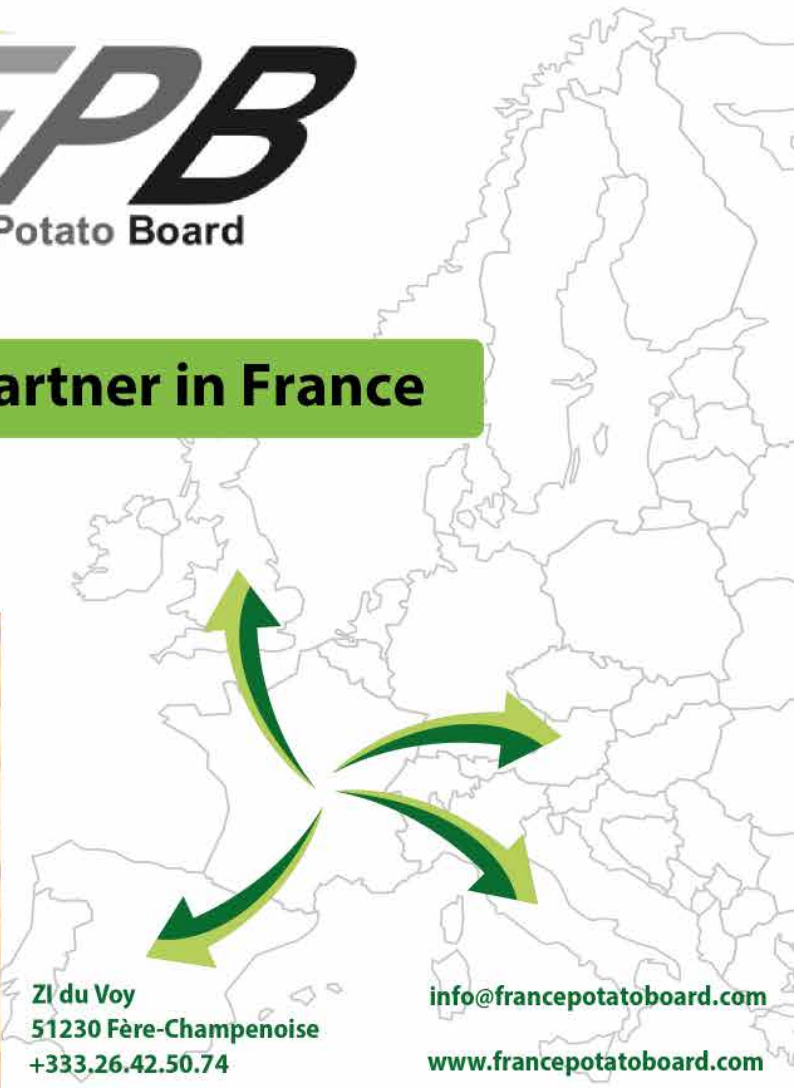
In 2022, the European Commission issued Recommendation 2022/561, calling on EU Member States and business operators to test potatoes and potato-derived products for the presence of glycoalkaloids (α -solanine and α -chaconine). The Recommendation also established an indicative level of 100 mg/kg for the combined content of α -solanine and α -chaconine in potatoes and processed potato products. Any exceedances of this level must be investigated to identify the factors contributing to such levels.

Europatat has held discussions with its members to see how to contribute towards the Commission's monitoring of glycoalkaloids, a contaminant already closely watched by the industry. Many Member States have set national or guidance limits in table potatoes and potato products. As natural compounds that help protect plants from certain pests, glycoalkaloids are especially relevant given the shrinking list of approved plant protection products under the EU Green Deal.

Europatat participates in ongoing research projects and having internal discussions with members on how to adapt the potato supply chain to prevent excessive formation of glycoalkaloids.



Your potato partner in France



ZI du Voy
51230 Fère-Champenoise
+333.26.42.50.74

info@francepotatoboard.com

www.francepotatoboard.com

Trade and Market access

EU is a net exporter of seed potatoes and it remains the key topic followed by Europatat. In 2024-2025, there were several key markets that have been closely followed. Some of them include:

Egypt

This country remains one of the most important destinations for seed potato exports from the European Union. As the largest supplier to the Egyptian market, the EU-27 plays a vital role in supporting Egypt's agricultural productivity through the provision of high-quality seed potatoes.

To maintain this strong trading relationship, Europatat emphasises the importance of ongoing dialogue with Egyptian authorities regarding import requirements. Ensuring that these requirements remain up to date and reflective of the realities of seed potato production is essential to safeguarding trade flow and meeting Egypt's agricultural needs.

Europatat particularly appreciated the extension of the deadline for submitting applications for import permits submitted in 2024 which has provided exporters with additional time to comply with requirements. This extension reflects a spirit of cooperation and flexibility that benefits all parties involved, and we thank the Egyptian authorities for their consideration.

Europatat is committed to maintaining a constructive and transparent relationship with its Egyptian counterparts. Through close cooperation with the EU Delegation in Cairo and the Egyptian Embassy in Brussels, we ensure a regular and open channel of communication. Europatat especially appreciates the support of the European Commission in ensuring the ongoing dialogue on the import requirements.



Türkiye

This country is another important destination for EU-grown seed potatoes, with export volumes rising significantly in recent years—from 19,500 tonnes in 2021 to 33,600 tonnes in 2023. As the fourth-largest market for EU seed potatoes, Türkiye offers strong potential for future trade growth, benefiting both EU exporters and Turkish agriculture.

Despite this positive trade trend, EU exporters are currently facing significant challenges related to Turkish border controls and evolving plant health requirements. These rejections are raising concerns, particularly because all consignments undergo strict pre-export testing and must already comply with Turkish import conditions.

Europatat has been actively engaging with both the European Commission and Member States to address these concerns. We have been informed about the efforts by some Member States and the European Commission with the Turkish Authorities to find the way forward.



Berlin 4|5|6 Feb 2026

fruitlogistica.com

LET'S GROW!

Innovation. Interaction. Inspiration.

**FRUIT
LOGISTICA**

The leading trade show for the
global fresh produce business.

BECOME
EXHIBITOR



FRUITNET

**MESSE
BERLIN**

EU-UK trade

Since 1 January 2021, the import of seed potatoes from Great Britain (GB) into the European Union has been prohibited due to the UK's departure from the EU. This ongoing restriction continues to raise significant concern across the EU potato industry, particularly among Europatat members, who are feeling the long-term impact of Brexit on the seed potato supply chain.

Before Brexit, Scotland was a key supplier of high-quality seed potatoes to EU markets. Scottish seed potatoes highly valued due to its low levels of disease and virus. Also, Scottish seed potatoes are imported and appreciated by EU growers for multiplication purposes within the EU seed potato supply system. Its absence is now felt throughout the sector, both in terms of quality and supply stability.

Europatat maintains regular contacts with EU politicians, various stakeholders and the European Commission officials to keep this topic high on the EU agenda. During the bilateral EU-UK meetings, the UK authorities have reiterated their strong interest in resuming bilateral seed potato trade. The UK government maintains that this is a priority issue, though no breakthrough has yet been achieved.

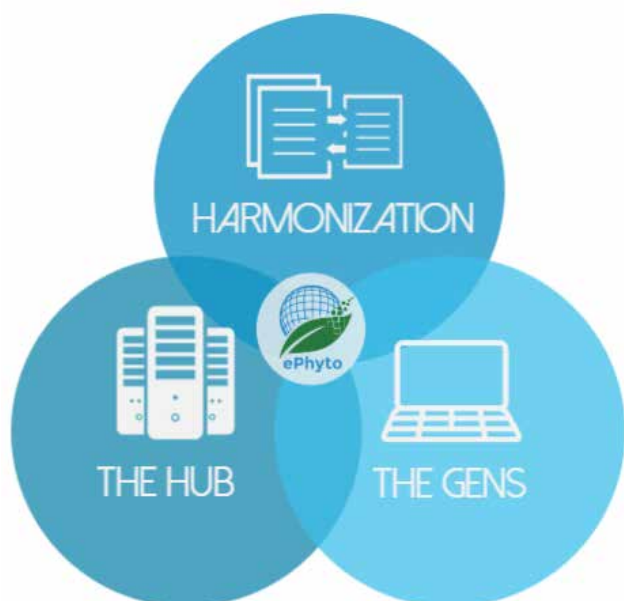


The IPPC ePhyto Solution

ePhyto certificates are digital formats of paper phytosanitary certificates attesting that plants and plant products do not carry pests and diseases that could impede trade or threaten economies and the environment.

This makes trade cheaper, faster and safer by eliminating fraud and bureaucracy often associated with producing and exchanging paper certificates.

Europatat is a member of the ePhyto Industry Advisory Group (IAG) and is thus directly involved in all discussions related to the advancement of this project. The ePhyto use keeps growing around the world and Europatat is glad to be part of this initiative.





**OUR MISSION
CREATE VARIETIES THAT
INCREASE YOUR PERFORMANCE!**



GERMICOPA
POTATO VARIETIES
germicopa.com

Sustainability

The concern regarding sustainability along the food supply chain has been increasing both in the political agenda and at company level in the past decade. At business' level, more and more companies have embarked or are starting a journey to assess and

monitor their sustainability impact. The basis of the current corporate social responsibility is a strategy that seeks a balance between the social, environmental and economic aspects. These three aspects provide the basis for the 3 Ps: People, Planet & Profit.

Inspirational checklist for Europatat members

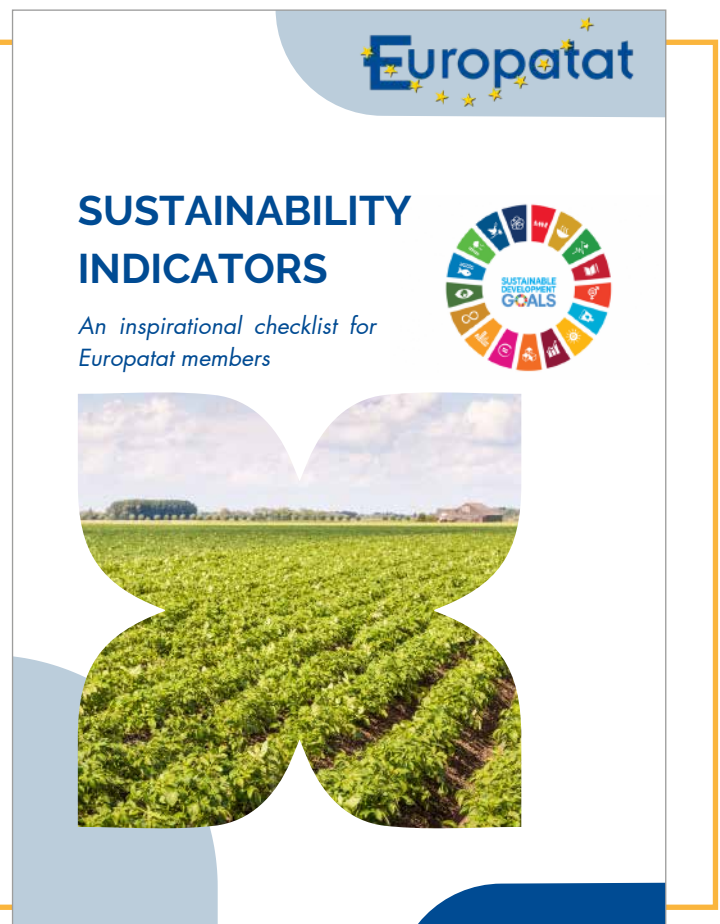
To reply to new environmental, social and market demands and to achieve EU Green Deal's goals, Europatat created in 2022 a new Sustainability commission as a platform for internal discussion and exchange of information and best practices among potato traders.

The new commission rapidly received a great support from all Europatat members and, shortly after its creation, a working group (WG) on potato sustainability indicators was set up. In the past two years, the WG has been meeting virtually once every 2-3 months to analyse how potato companies can measure their sustainability impact according to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The main deliverable of this task is an guiding document, which serves as an inspiring checklist for Europatat members, focusing on the UN's SDGs. The document includes a detailed analysis of each SDG, along with specific targets and indicators related to the potato supply chain.

The aim of the so-called "*Sustainability Indicators - An inspirational checklist for Europatat members*" is to support and guide Europatat member's efforts to contribute to the SDGs and thus accompany them in their sustainability journey.

The checklist was presented to all Europatat members during the Europatat Congress 2024 in Brussels. New actions, such an annual survey and further promotion of the checklist are to be discussed by Europatat members during the meeting of the Sustainability Commission scheduled on the first day of the Europatat Congress 2025 in Lille, France.



santé et prévoyance

Diriger une exploitation agricole, c'est relever des défis au quotidien !

Malakoff Humanis a développé des services et solutions pensés pour vous et vos salariés.

Votre contact :

relations-externes@malakoffhumanis.com



 **malakoff
humanis**

New Packaging Regulation

On 22 January 2025, the final text of the new Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) was officially published in the EU Official Journal, marking the end of a long legislative process that began in November 2022. The Regulation entered into force on 11 February 2025 and will become applicable from 12 August 2026.

The PPWR introduces far-reaching changes aimed at improving packaging sustainability across the EU, including new rules on recyclability, compostability, labelling, recycled content, and restrictions on single-use packaging. **Particularly relevant to the potato sector is Article 25 and Annex V, which lay down packaging restrictions for single-use plastic packaging for less than 1.5 kg of pre-packed fresh fruit and vegetables.**

To avoid market disruption and ensure successful implementation, the timely adoption of secondary legislation based on robust scientific evidence will be critical. Europatat has actively engaged with the European Commission, including both DG ENVIRONMENT and DG AGRICULTURE, on the preparation of the future guidelines that will clarify the scope of Annex V, including possible exemptions and illustrative packaging examples. These guidelines are expected by early 2027 and will be prepared in consultation with Member States and EFSA.

In this context, Europatat has requested to be included in the development process of the guidelines and is collecting data to support potential exemptions, such as for early potatoes or microwavable packaging formats.

Omnibus Simplification Package

As part of the European Commission's commitment to reduce administrative burdens for businesses, and particularly SMEs, by 35% before the end of its current mandate, the European Commission published the Omnibus Simplification Package on 26 February 2025.

The package introduces important changes to EU sustainability frameworks, including the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD), EU Taxonomy Regulation, and other related legislation. Following this, on 14 April 2025, the Council formally adopted the so-called "Stop-the-clock" directive, providing legal certainty to EU companies by delaying several key deadlines. Member States must transpose the directive into national legislation by 31 December 2025.

Key changes include:

- **CSRD:** The entry into application for large companies that have not yet started reporting has been postponed to 2028 (for reporting on 2027 data), and listed SMEs will now begin reporting in 2029. Moreover, large companies will not be required to collect data from non-CSRD partners in their supply chain.
- **CSDDD:** The application for the largest companies has been delayed to July 2028, with the transposition deadline now set for 2028. Due diligence obligations have been limited to direct suppliers only.

In order to further understand how the new legislation will affect potato companies, a dedicated session on sustainability reporting is to be dedicated during the meeting of Europatat's Sustainability Commission in the context of the Europatat Congress 2025. Europatat will also continue to monitor legislative developments and inform members of any updates on this dossier.



PARMENTINE

400 PRODUCERS

5 WASHING,
STORAGE AND
PACKAGING FACILITIES

180 000 TONS
OF POTATOES / YEAR

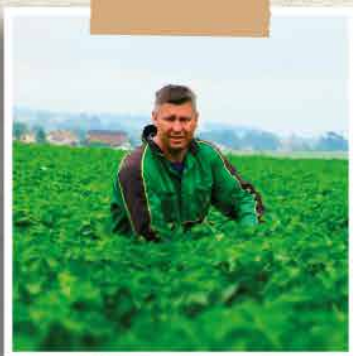
SAINT-MÉEN-
LE-GRAND

VOVES

FÈRE-
CHAMPENOISE

SAMAZAN

CAVAILLON



WWW.PARMENTINE.FR

03 26 42 08 80 - INFO@PARMENTINE.FR

EU formally adopts binding reduction targets for food waste

On 17 February 2025, the Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on the revision of the Waste Framework Directive, marking a significant milestone in the EU's efforts to reduce food waste. The co-legislators agreed to introduce binding national food waste reduction targets to be met by 31 December 2030: at least 10% in food processing and manufacturing and 30% per capita in retail, food services, restaurants, and households.

The agreement also foresees a review by 2027, where the Commission will evaluate food waste during primary production, the influence of production trends on target achievability, and the possibility of setting new targets for 2035. A correction factor will also be established to account for tourism's impact.

Once adopted, Member States will have up to 20 months to align their national laws with the new rules. Europatat, as an active member of the EU Platform, will continue to monitor this file and keep members informed of all relevant developments.



Europatat and WASTELESS project

Launched in January 2023, the EU Horizon Europe project WASTELESS aims to develop innovative tools and methodological recommendations for measuring and monitoring food loss and food waste along the food supply chain in the EU. Europatat is part of the multidisciplinary consortium formed by 17 institutions from 14 EU countries and coordinated by UTAD (University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Portugal). Within the project, Europatat is supporting the dissemination of project's goals, results and other related key information.

Among other deliverables, the project will develop a toolbox (an innovative set of decision-support tools for all those working along the food chain as well policymakers) developed in partnership with consumers and non-governmental organisations as well as HORECA representatives through hubs across the EU.



Join WASTELESS Community of Practice to collaborate, exchange ideas, and work towards innovative solutions to contribute to tackling food losses and waste in Europe!

Research and Innovation

The potato sector is continuously investing in research and innovation along the complete chain. The sector is always exploring ways to produce crops efficiently and economically, driven by customer needs and innovation with the aim of meeting consumer requirements for affordable and convenient potatoes and exploiting export markets with a range of potato varieties and improvements. From his side, Europatat remains committed to supporting initiatives that promote innovation and sustainability within the potato industry.

ADAPT: 4 productive years of potato research



The Horizon 2020-funded ADAPT project (*Accelerated Development of multiple-stress tolerAnt PoTato*) officially concluded in October 2024 after four years of intensive research.

Led by the University of Vienna, the project brought together 15 partners, including Europatat, to investigate the mechanisms underlying multi-stress resilience in potatoes.

The project's final results were presented during a dedicated session at the Europatat Congress 2024 in Brussels, highlighting significant advancements in understanding how potatoes respond to combined abiotic stresses such as heat, drought, and waterlogging. Key outcomes include the identification of stress-resilient potato varieties and the development of molecular markers to assist in breeding programs aimed at enhancing climate resilience.

Europatat contributed to the project by facilitating communication between researchers and the potato trade sector, ensuring that the findings are effectively disseminated and can be translated into practical applications. Europatat is honoured to have been an active partner in such a significant project and looks forward to future collaborations that will further explore and build upon the valuable results of ADAPT!



Visit the official project's website (adapt.univie.ac.at) and X account for more information!

PATAFEST: Fighting against potato emergency pests



PATAFEST

Europatat is part of the consortium of the project PataFEST, which is funded under Horizon Europe programme. This project is managed by 18 partners around Europe, including the international cooperation with Ecuador.

The goal of PataFEST is to reduce:

- the risk of introducing and spreading emerging potato pests that could endanger EU agriculture and
- the presence of soil-borne pathogens in the potato postharvest activities.

The selected threats in this project are:

- *Candidatus Liberibacter solanacearum* and its vectors affecting potato and causing Zebra Chip disease within the crop cycle (preharvest threat) and
- Soil-borne pathogens such as *Fusarium sambucinum*, *Colletotrichum coccodes*, and *Helminthosporium solani* causing high incidence of rot and skin blemish on potato tubers during postharvest storage (postharvest threat).

The latest consortium meeting took place in Brussels in February 2025. It was a great opportunity for partners to discuss the progress made. Project leaders also presented the project's progress to officials from the European Commission. The evaluation report produced by the Commission after the meeting shows that the project is on the right track and highly appreciated.

Europatat's participation in this project is of great benefit to its members and to other professionals in the potato industry. Special communication efforts will be made to ensure the effective dissemination of information about Zebra Chip.





OVER **40**
COUNTRIES
delivered across
the globe

3
certified
SITES
IFS
Food

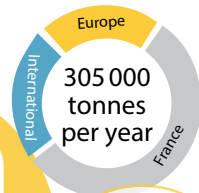
5
PRODUCTION
REGIONS
in France

400
contracted
PRODUCERS

+60
VARIETIES
cultivated



800
TONNES/DAY
PACKAGING
CAPACITY



150,000
TONNES OF
STOCKAGE



AGIR
COLLECTIVEMENT
POUR LE *Meilleur*
DE LA POMME DE TERRE



Meilleur
POUR LE GOÛT



Meilleur
POUR LES
PRODUCTEURS



Meilleur
POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT

POMATO: Controlling the spread of potato pests in the EU

Europatat has joined a new project which will be funded under the Horizon Europe programme. POMATO aims to protect potato and tomato crops and improve product quality by controlling the spread of *Clavibacter* and *Ralstonia*.

The project focuses on four main objectives:

1. Isolate and identify *Clavibacter* and *Ralstonia* and understand resistance genes in potatoes and tomatoes.
2. Develop early detection and surveillance strategies, including AI models, disease detection devices, and drones for field monitoring.
3. Create natural and bio-control solutions for seed, plant, and soil protection, such as plant-derived substances and beneficial microorganisms.
4. Validate these strategies through field trials and prepare an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan to reduce pest incidence by 40-60%.

The project brings together academic, industry, and international partners, including farmers, to ensure effective solutions and widespread adoption of POMATO's IPM approach.

Europatat is proud to be part of this project and keep its members informed about potential solutions.

More information and a project's website are to be released in the course of 2025.



New Breeding Plant Techniques

On 14 March 2025, the EU Council approved a negotiating mandate on the regulation of plants obtained through New Genomic Techniques (NGTs), setting the stage for negotiations with the European Parliament. The mandate includes key changes to the European Commission's proposal, such as allowing Member States to opt-out of cultivating certain NGT plants and requiring transparency on patents.

Europatat has been actively involved in the ongoing discussion, welcoming the proposal's introduction of two categories of NGT plants. Europatat emphasised the importance of embracing innovation for sustainable food production and educating the public about the safety of NGTs. With ongoing debates within the EU, Europatat continues to advocate for a regulatory framework that supports technological advancement while ensuring transparency and safety.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS & NETWORKING

Connecting the sector

Europatat annual Congress

In 2024, the Europatat Congress went back to Brussels, Belgium. Under the title “European Potato Trade in 2030: a sector in transition”, the event focused on the main environmental, economic and social challenges for the potato sector and traders for the coming years, but also on the solutions and opportunities that new tools and techniques can deliver.

All the information, including pictures, is available on the website www.europatatcongress.com



In 2025, the Europatat Congress is to be held in Lille, France, on 11-13 June. Under the theme “*Potato leaders of the future: deciding under uncertainty*”, this major annual event will serve as a pivotal platform for Europatat members and other stakeholders in the European potato sector to evaluate current trends and explore how industry leaders can navigate challenges in an ever-evolving political, environmental and social landscape.

More details are available on the website www.europatatcongress2025.com



Europatat Commissions

Europatat Commissions allow Europatat to be continuously updated on key issues for the potato trade sector and to respond to all legal developments on the EU level in a quick and efficient way and thus carry out the main activities of the association.

To facilitate the participation of Europatat members to the meetings, and to reduce the carbon footprint of the associations’ activities, the meetings of these Commissions are now organised in a virtual format. In the past year, more than 20 virtual meetings and webinars were organised!



Representing the sector

In order to voice the professional views of the sector, Europatat regularly cooperates with the EU Institutions and stakeholders as the European representative organisation for the potato trade.

EU events and meetings

The Europatat secretariat and members participate on a regular basis in EU Advisory Groups whose work touches upon the potato trade. Committees of DG AGRI include the renewed Civil Dialogue Groups on International Aspects of Agriculture, Organic Farming and Quality and Promotion.

Europatat is also represented in the work of DG SANTE, particularly in the Advisory Group on Sustainability of Food Systems, in the EU Platform on Food Losses and Waste, and in other specific ad-hoc working groups. In regard to DG TRADE, Europatat regularly attends the Civil Society Dialogue meetings on trade issues and the Market Access Working Group on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues.

Meetings with industry stakeholders

Europatat cooperates with other EU trade associations in order to maximise synergies and raise awareness on common concerns. In this light, the association engages with the European Seed Association (ESA), the European Potato Processors Association (EUPPA), the European Snacks Association (ESA), the European Starch industry (Starch Europe), the European Fresh produce Association (Freshfel), the European Fruit and Vegetable Processors Association (PROFEL) as well as other major roof organisations in the food supply chain (COPA-COGECA, FoodDrinkEurope, EUROCOMMERCE).

Meetings with potato traders

Europatat team attends all trade shows and events related to the potato sector in order to present the work of the association and multiply contacts with members and stakeholders of the sector. With these objectives in mind, in 2024 and 2025 Europatat was present at Potato Europe in France, Fruit Attraction in Spain, the Potato Variety Days in the Netherlands, Interpom in Belgium and Fruit Logistica in Berlin. Europatat also organised several physical and virtual bilateral meetings with members throughout the past year!



Vitalis

GR O U P E

Expert in packing and trading of

**potatoes,
onions and alliums**



Follow us !

www.vitalis-reseau.com



+33 6 44 26 37 82

COMMUNICATION

Information flow is key for building policy positions, for networking and for accountability. Europatat has therefore developed several tools to communicate on a regular basis with its members and the outside world in the most efficient manner.

Communicating to the members

The main internal communication tools that Europatat currently uses are:

- **Alerts emails.**
- **Europatat newsletters** (Circular - internal -, and Insights - internal and external -) include the latest information on crucial legislation and important developments within the potato trade. They also inform members on actions undertaken by the Association.
- **Europatat press releases and position papers** on a variety of topics to raise awareness for matters of interest to the potato sector.
- **The Europatat Extranet**, which is exclusive for members and contains documents such as position papers, presentations and minutes from meetings or newsletters. The Extranet also contains an exclusive digital directory of members, a forum and a browser notification system.

Strengthening Europatat's visibility

In order to increase the Association's visibility and highlight the latest activities of the Secretariat, the newsletter "Europatat Insights" is circulated within all Europatat contacts (internal & external) once every two months. Nowadays, the Europatat Insights reaches more than 500 subscribers!

The Secretariat is also continuously updating the official website www.europatat.eu and being active on Twitter, LinkedIn and its new Instagram profile with one main goal: to stay in touch with stakeholders, policy and decision makers and, more generally, to connect with people interested in the sector and the work that Europatat is doing.

FOLLOW US!



Europatat Insights
Latest activities and news from the European Potato Trade Association
February - March 2025

Europatat Congress: Registration is now open!
Europatat and Fedepom are excited to announce the opening of registrations for the annual Europatat Congress that will take place at the Hôtel Barrière in Lille (France) on 11, 12 and 13 June 2025. Register today and don't miss the opportunity to join the annual gathering of the European potato community!

Europatat Congress
LILLE, 11 - 13 JUNE 2025
Potato leaders of the future: deciding under uncertainty

WIN the inspirational keynote speech of **Patrick Baudry**, renowned former French astronaut
And the panel discussion "The French table: leader and its impact on the rest of Europe!"

REGISTER NOW
www.europatatcongress2025.com

Under the theme "Potato leaders of the future: deciding under uncertainty", the Europatat Congress will serve once again as a pivotal platform for Europatat members and other stakeholders in the European potato sector to evaluate current trends and explore how industry leaders can navigate challenges in an ever-evolving political, environmental and social landscape.

On Wednesday 11 June, Europatat members will review the different activities of the association during the meetings of its five Commissions (consumption potatoes, seed potatoes, sustainability, technical and regulatory issues, and RUCIP). On the next day, Thursday 12 June, the day will kick off with the Europatat General Assembly and will be followed by a public session which will count with the inspirational speech of Patrick Baudry, renowned former French astronaut and keynote speaker, and the panel discussion titled "The French table: potato market and its impact on the rest of Europe".

Further speakers and programme details will be announced very soon. Visit the official congress website www.europatatcongress2025.com for more information and registration.

REGISTER NOW

37 May 2025
Join us to celebrate the **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF POTATO**

Exceptional meetings at Fruit Logistica 2025
Once again, the International trade fair Fruit Logistica, which took place in Berlin (Germany) from 5-7 February, proved to be an essential event for the fresh produce industry.



Priméale

POTATOES EXPERTS



Potatoes coming from the best French production areas.



A panel of Production and Sales experts available on the European market.



A partner of choice to supply a wide range of potatoes.





RUCIP

RULES & PRACTICES
OF THE INTER-EUROPEAN
TRADE IN POTATOES

Since 1956 RUCIP is the reference for the potato trade at national and international level. RUCIP can be used in all potato contracts between professionals in the potato chain (producers, trade, processor) as it offers a chapter on rules (the contract, the potatoes, cost and risks of transport, delivery and payment, complaints and disputes) and as well the possibility of expertise as arbitration much quicker than court proceedings. Once a clear reference of RUCIP has been mentioned on the contract signed by the concerned parties the RUCIP rules apply.

Since the RUCIP foundation by Europatat in 1956, it has been modified several times, to adapt to the demands of the trade and the technical evolution within the potato sector. The most recent version is effective since 1 January 2021.

New RUCIP rules to be published in 2024

To adapt the rules and practices of the inter-European trade in potatoes to the current practices in the sector, a thorough revision of the RUCIP rules has been done in the past years.

The exhausting revision of all articles and feedback received is now finalised, and the new rules are expected to be finalised and published in English in 2025.

Advantages

- Faster procedures
- Professionals involved
- Confidentiality
- Precise, practical and reliable



RUCIP EUROPEAN SECRETARIAT

Berta Redondo Benito

c/o Europatat

Rue des Deux Eglises 26, 1000 Brussels

Belgium

Tel.+32 (2) 229 21 56

info@rucip.eu

EUROPEAN RUCIP COMMITTEE

Cristina Pohlmann

c/o Deutscher Kartoffelhandelsverband e.V. (DKHV)

Schumannstr. 5, 10117 Berlin

Germany

T: +49 30 1663520 50

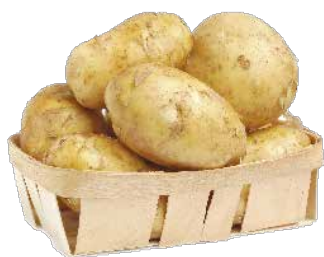
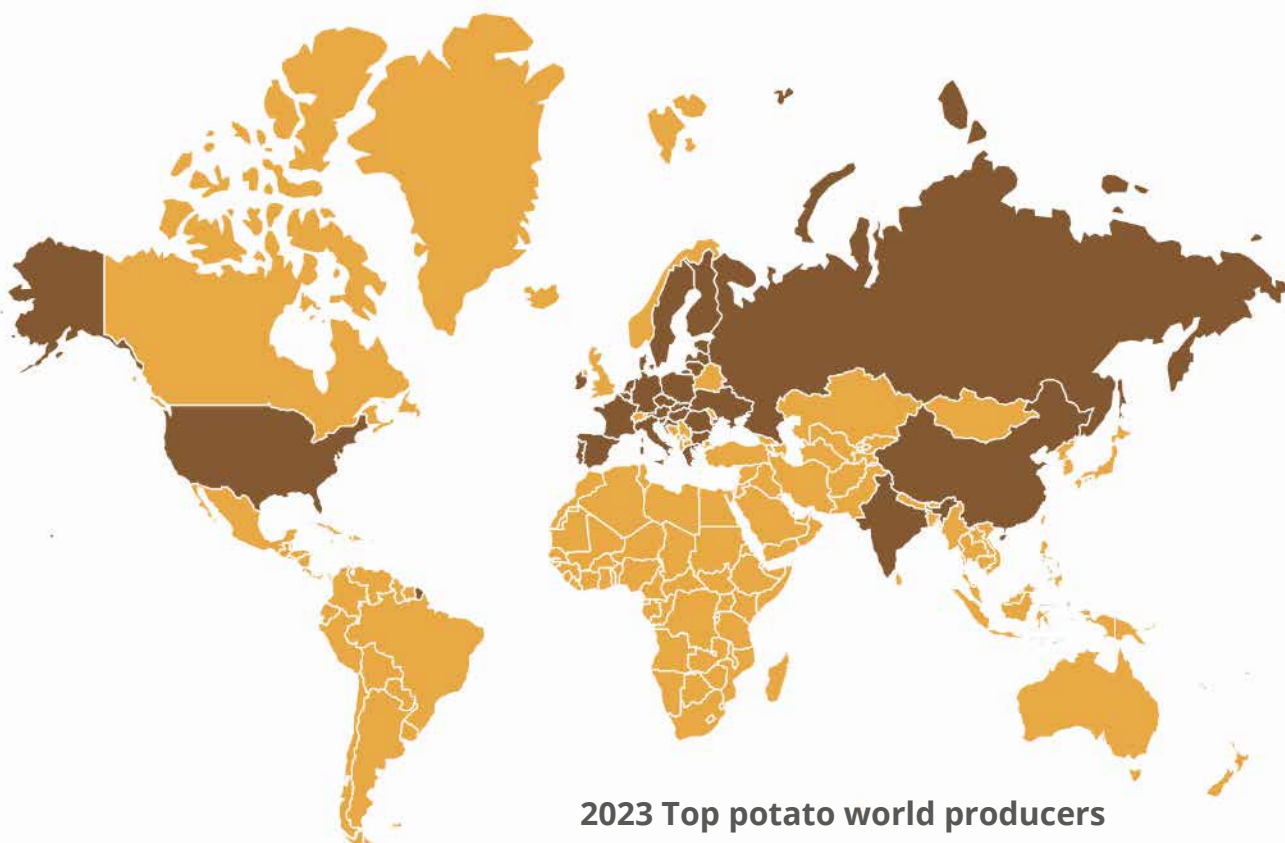
F: +49 30 1663520 59

eu.delegate@rucip.eu

World production

According with FAO's latest available data, 2023 achieved a world's record production of 383 million tonnes of potatoes (+2,6% than the previous year).

Potatoes remain a highly productive crop per hectare, but are in competition with other crops such as maize and soybeans.



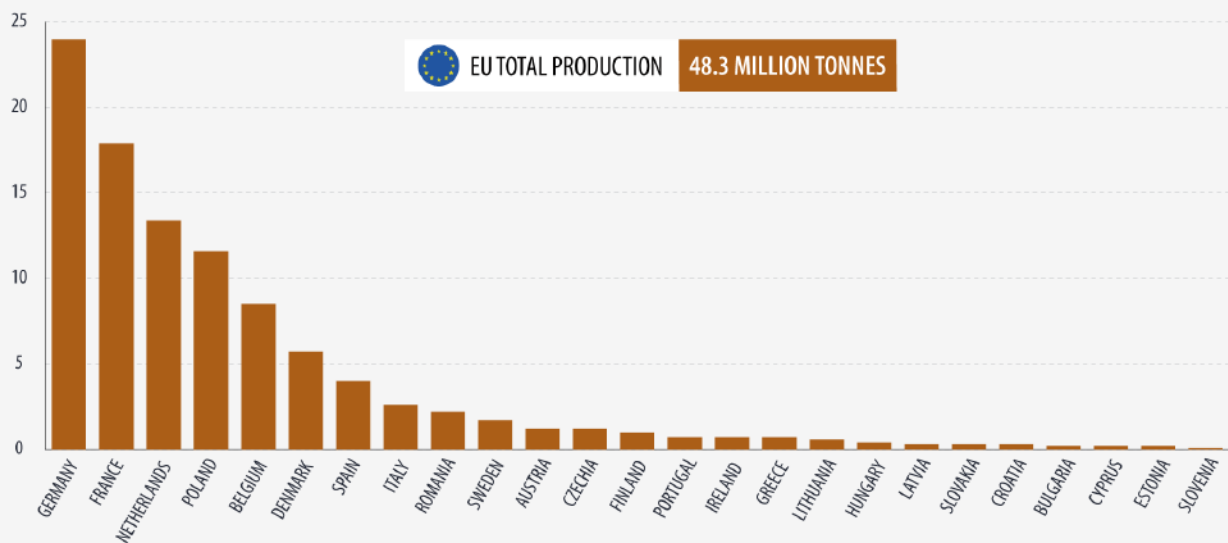
European production

The European potato sector continues to evolve amid shifting production patterns, market trends, and climate-related challenges. According to Eurostat figures, in 2023 the EU produced 48.3 million tonnes of potatoes across 1.3 million hectares, with a total value of €19.4 billion—representing 3.8% of the EU’s total agricultural output.

Germany, France, the Netherlands, Poland and Belgium remain the top 5 producers in the EU. Germany, France and the Netherlands alone accounted for a majority (55.4 %) of the harvested production of potatoes in 2023.

Production of potatoes, including seed potatoes, in the EU, 2023

(share of total EU production, %)



EU TOTAL PRODUCTION 48.3 MILLION TONNES

Luxembourg and Malta not shown as their relative shares of the EU total are less than 0.03%.

eurostat

For 2024, World Potato Markets forecasts a record harvest of 50.98 million tonnes, the highest level since 2020 and a 5.8% increase from the previous year, supported by higher yields and increased cultivated area (+16.3% vs 2023), particularly in Germany, France, and Belgium.

The EU’s average yield is expected to reach an all-time high of 36.5 tonnes per hectare, reflecting both favourable weather conditions and technological advances.

WORLD POTATO MARKETS
INDISPENSABLE MARKET NEWS AND ANALYSIS FOR WORLD POTATO PROFESSIONALS

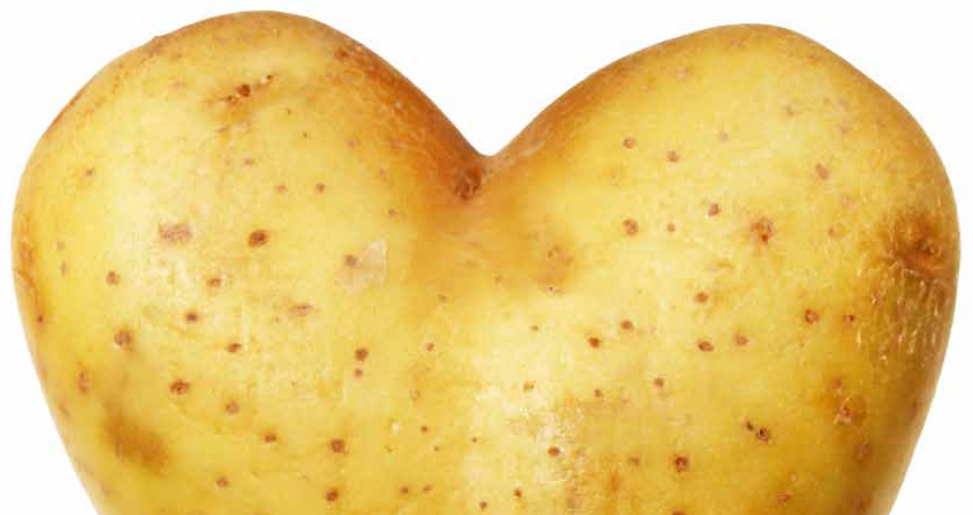




National Associations



Associated Members



Companies



since 1952

Europatat

European Potato Trade Association

Rue des Deux Églises 26
1000 Brussels, Belgium
secretariat@europatat.eu

www.europatat.eu |