

## Crop Summary

**Farm:** Golden Valley Farms  
**Owner/Manager:** Wayne Wedel  
**Year:** 2012  
**Field:** Circles 1 and 3: Full Circles, 122 ac. each  
**Crop:** Potatos – Norkota Line 3

**Yield:** Average (awaiting final/18-20 oz tops)      Previous Yrs./Typical: \_\_\_\_\_

### Quality Observations:

For blockiness and percent mis-shapen, Wayne feels this crop is the best quality he has grown since he started farming. Smaller set this year than usual, 5-6 compared to 8-12. Killed earlier than usual, tops were 18-20 oz. Only had to pull out 2% of crop this year compared to 5-8% previous years to maintain a 2% undersized for his bulk shipment contract. Loads were high percentage US #1 grade. Buyer was well pleased and has asked to purchase next year's crop.

### Water Use Observations:

From mid July, only had to put on .6" every 2 ½ days compared to .75"-.8" in previous years. Crop was not using deep moisture from seed piece and below as it has in previous years. Comparing field by field back to 2008 when meters were installed, this year less water was used in total than ever before.

### Fertilizer Use Observations:

Wayne used 50 units less Nitrogen this year compared to previous years. To be fair, he felt he used more than needed in prior years and had planned on reducing some, but was able to reduce much more than planned. Petiole analysis were used to confirm nitrate levels and determine when nitrogen applications were needed. Even with the reduction, nitrate levels in the plants at kill this year were so high that he plans to reduce another 20-30 units next year.

### Other Crop Observations:

Vegetation was bigger and most uniform for Norkota 3's compared to any previous year. Plants had locked in and covered rows by early July. Circle 3 especially looked more uniform than previous crops.