UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Research Service
Washington, D.C.

and

THE PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA

and

THE MAINE AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
University Of Maine
Orono, ME

and

THE NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY

and

THE NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ

and

THE NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC

and

THE FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
University Of Florida
Gainesville, FL

NAMING AND RELEASE OF THE LITTLE RUBY POTATO VARIETY

The Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Agricultural Experiment Stations of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Florida, The North Carolina Agricultural Research Service, and the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station announce the release of the potato variety Little Ruby, an early-maturing, small, round, red-

skinned, light yellow-fleshed potato variety primarily adapted to the northeastern U.S. and Canada.

Little Ruby, evaluated under the pedigree B2152-17, was selected from a cross of B0811-2 x Redsen and first grown in the field in 2000. B0811-2 was a red-skinned, yellow-fleshed selection. Redsen was a small, red-skinned, white-fleshed variety.

Breeding and seedling tuber production of Little Ruby were done at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), Beltsville, MD, by K.G. Haynes. Clonal selection and field performance evaluations were done on Chapman and Aroostook Farms in Presque Isle, Maine by K.G. Haynes. Foliar and soil-borne disease evaluations were done by K.G. Haynes, and X. Qu (The Pennsylvania State University). Preliminary evaluations were undertaken with cooperators in Florida (L. Zotarelli, D. Gergela), Pennsylvania (X. Qu, M. Pike), New Jersey (M.R. Henninger), New York (D.E. Halseth, S.R. Menasha), North Carolina (C.G. Yencho, M.E. Clough), and Maine (G.A. Porter, P.C. Ocaya). Inter-regional performance trials through the NE-1231 (formerly NE1014) Project began in 2007. Results are shown in the attached tables.

Little Ruby is an early maturing variety. Tubers are small, round, fairly smooth, red-skinned and have shallower eyes than most red-skinned varieties. Because of its small size, marketable yields have been considerably less than standard red-skinned varieties and yields decrease even more so under warmer growing environments. Specific gravity of Little Ruby has been slightly higher than other standard red-skinned varieties. Flesh color is light yellow. The carotenoid content of Little Ruby tubers has averaged 66% of Yukon Gold. External and internal defects have been minimal. Little Ruby is being released primarily for the 'baby red' market.

Total glycoalkaloid content of Little Ruby tubers averaged 12.14 mg per 100 g fresh weight (FW) in 3 years of testing as compared to 8.81 and 12.90 mg per 100 g FW for Dark Red Norland and Yukon Gold, respectively.

Little Ruby is moderately resistant to common scab (Streptomyces scabies) and powdery scab (Spongospora subterranean f. sp. subterranea), susceptible to late blight (Phytophthora infestans), early blight (Alternaria solani), Verticillium wilt, potato virus S (PVS) and potato virus Y (PVY – strain undetermined).

Plant Variety Protection will be requested for Little Ruby. Tissue cultured plantlets are available from Dr. Keith Perry at Cornell University. It is requested that appropriate recognition be made if this variety contributes to the development of a new breeding line or variety.

Signatures:

Richard T. Roush — 30 Oct 2015

~~Associate~~ Dean ~~for Research~~ — Date
The Pennsylvania State University

_____ — _____
Dean of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture — Date
Director Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station

_____ — _____
Senior Associate Dean — Date
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Cornell University

_____ — _____
Senior Associate Director — Date
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

_____ — _____
Associate Dean and Director — Date
North Carolina Agricultural Research Service
North Carolina State University

_____ — _____
Dean for Research, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences — Date
Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station

_____ — _____
Acting Deputy Administrator, Crop Production and Protection — Date
Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Signatures:

Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences Pennsylvania State University	Date
Edward A. Ashworth Dean, College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture University of Maine	11-2-15 Date
Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Cornell University	Date
Executive Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	Date
Associate Dean for Research CALS and Director NCARS North Carolina State University	Date
Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station University of Florida	Date
Acting Deputy Administrator, Crop Production and Protection Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture	Date

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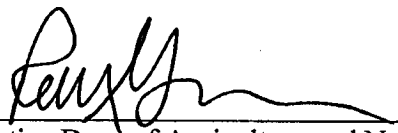 Executive Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	11/2/2015 Date
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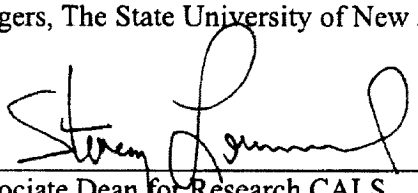
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Date



11/4/15

Associate Dean for Research CALS
and Director NCARS
North Carolina State University

Date

Dean for Research and Director of the Florida
Agricultural Experiment Station
University of Florida

Date

Acting Deputy Administrator, Crop Production and Protection
Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

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Dean of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture
Director Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station

Date

~~Senior Associate Dean~~ Associate Dean
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Cornell University

11/25/15
Date

Senior Associate Director
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Date

Associate Dean and Director
North Carolina Agricultural Research Service
North Carolina State University

Date

Dean for Research, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station

Date

Acting Deputy Administrator, Crop Production and Protection
Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

12/1/15
Date