Current Development and Prospect: Potato Production and Processing in China

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The importance of potato industry

- Fifth most important food crop in China:
  - Vegetables and staple food
  - Processing
  - Poverty alleviation
  - Food security
  - Farmer’s income
1. Overview potato production in China

1.1 Steady growth of production

Changes of planting area in the last 22 years
Changes of potato production in the last 20 years
Changes of potato yield in the last 22 years

tons per ha

10 leading provinces by area

- Gansu: 22%
- Inner Mongolia: 13%
- Guizhou: 13%
- Yunnan: 13%
- Chongqing: 13%
- Shanxi: 12%
- Sichuan: 9%
- Shaanxi: 6%
- Heilongjiang: 6%
- Ningxia: 6%
- Other: 4%
Yield changes by province in 2007

The bar chart illustrates the yield changes by province in 2007. The provinces are listed along the x-axis, and the y-axis represents the yield change in percentage. The chart shows a significant variation in yield changes across different provinces, with some showing a decrease and others an increase.
Distribution of potato
1.2 Dominant zones being formed

- Growing 49% of China’s potato
- Main region for seed potatoes
- For processing
- For fresh market

The Northern single cropping zone
- 5% of China’s potato
- Early fresh
- For export

The Southwestern mixed cropping zone
- 39%
- Diverse geography and climate
- For fresh and processing

Winter cropping zone
- 7%
- Expanding
- Rotation with rice
- Early fresh and export
1.3 Expanded use of improved variety and quality seed

Varieties

- >120 varieties have been developed in last 10 years
- 90 of them being grown commercially presently
1.3 Expanded use of improved variety and quality seed

Seed potatoes production

- 400 million of minitubers produced
- 25% of total growing area use good quality seed
- Seed and marketing participated by institutes, universities, enterprises and joint ventures
- 23 national minituber propagation centers have been established
- 2 national potato quality supervision centers
Seed potatoes production
Main seed potato production region

North single cropping regions
- Inner Mongolia, Heilongjiang, Hebei, Gansu, Ningxia, and Qinghai
- Seed tubers are transported to central and winter cropping area

Southwest mixed-cropping regions
- Guizhou, Yunnan, Hubei, Chongqing, Sichuan
- Supplying seed tubers inside the region
1.4 Improvement in cropping mode and culture technology

- Mechanized farming
- Mulching for keeping soil moisture in the North
- Dripping under mulch in Qinghai
1.4 Improvement in cropping mode and culture technology

- Mulching for keeping soil warm
- Intercropping
1.4 Improvement in cropping mode and culture technology

no/less tillage with rice straw covering
2. Overview of potato Processing industry

- > 5000 enterprises, among them, only 140 in large scale (10,000 products per year)
- Refined starch: 2 million tons of designed capacity, 300,000 tonnes output. Potato shortage.
- flour: about 10 companies with a capacity of 100,000 tons, output 30,000 tons
- fries: about 10 companies with processing capacity of 130,000 tons, output 70,000 tons
- Chips: about 30 with processing capacity of 130,000 tons
- Starch noodles: 80,000 tons
3. Technical needs

- Seed potatoes quality improvement
- Varieties development
- Mechanization of farming
- Storage technology
- Processing
4. Prospects

Growing consumer demand inside China

- Per capita increased from 14kg in 2000 to 38 kg in 2006.
- More Raw material for processing
- Quality seed potatoes

Bright prospects for exports

- Increasing of international trade in 2000-2006
- Geographical advantage for export potato to neighbouring countries (potential markets)
Importers of frozen fries in ESEA (2002)

- Japan: 54%
- China: 17%
- ASEAN: 20%
- Rep. of Korea: 9%
Thank you!