**MPIC Research Priorities**

Adopted August 6, 2015

* Improving soil quality and health in potato management systems with emphasis on beneficial soil microbial activity, fertility and organic amendments
* Genetic improvement through variety development and trials for traits to improve
  + Storage management
  + Commercialization
  + Resistance to Colorado Potato Beetle and other insects
  + Reduced invertase levels to address acrylamide
  + Consumer taste preference
* Integrated management of soil, seed and foliar borne diseases to reduce vine and tuber rotting in potatoes, in particular addressing late blight and emerging new diseases
* Improved resource use efficiency and sustainability in modern potato production (water, phosphorus and nitrogen)
* Monitoring and managing insecticide resistance of Colorado Potato Beetle and other emerging pests
  + Developing alternative managing strategies for current controls
* Post-harvest handling of potatoes (storage issues including new sprout inhibitor development and controlling storage pathogens)
* Improve the use of weather data to better understand abiotic and biotic stress that takes place in potato production systems
* Investigate the factors that influence stem number and tuber set in potato. These factor include, but are not limited to: ethylene exposure, application of growth hormones, any factors influencing physiological age, thermal time and storage practices that may alter seed age
* Development of new weed control management strategies in potato, including vine descants, volunteer and invasive species