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# THE ROLE OF POTATO IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION AND WAYS OF ITS DEVELOPMENT

Introduction. Potato is a vegetable that everyone loves to eat, and it is also considered an important product in agriculture and food production. Potatoes are a vegetable brought from the sea in the middle of the 17th century brought to Europe from South America.

Potatoes are one of the most popular foods in most countries. More than 376.9 million tons of potatoes per year in 156 countries of the world is produced. Uzbekistan ranks 23rd among these countries. Most major producers are China, India, Russia, Ukraine, USA, Germany, Bangladesh, Poland, France and the Netherlands. Therefore, the demand for potatoes is very high, not only in Uzbekistan but also in neighboring countries. Therefore, a number of measures are being developed and implemented in our country to support manufacturers of this product. Food imports will increase the supply of food in the domestic market, reduce prices and create a competitive environment for local producers, which in turn will encourage them to increase efficiency. While potatoes are one of the strategic food products, this agricultural product is also important in terms of developing a profitable agribusiness. In the process of processing potatoes, starch and alcohol are obtained. They are mainly used in the manufacture of sweets and alcoholic beverages. Therefore, the demand for potatoes in Uzbekistan and the level of its satisfaction is growing.

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