

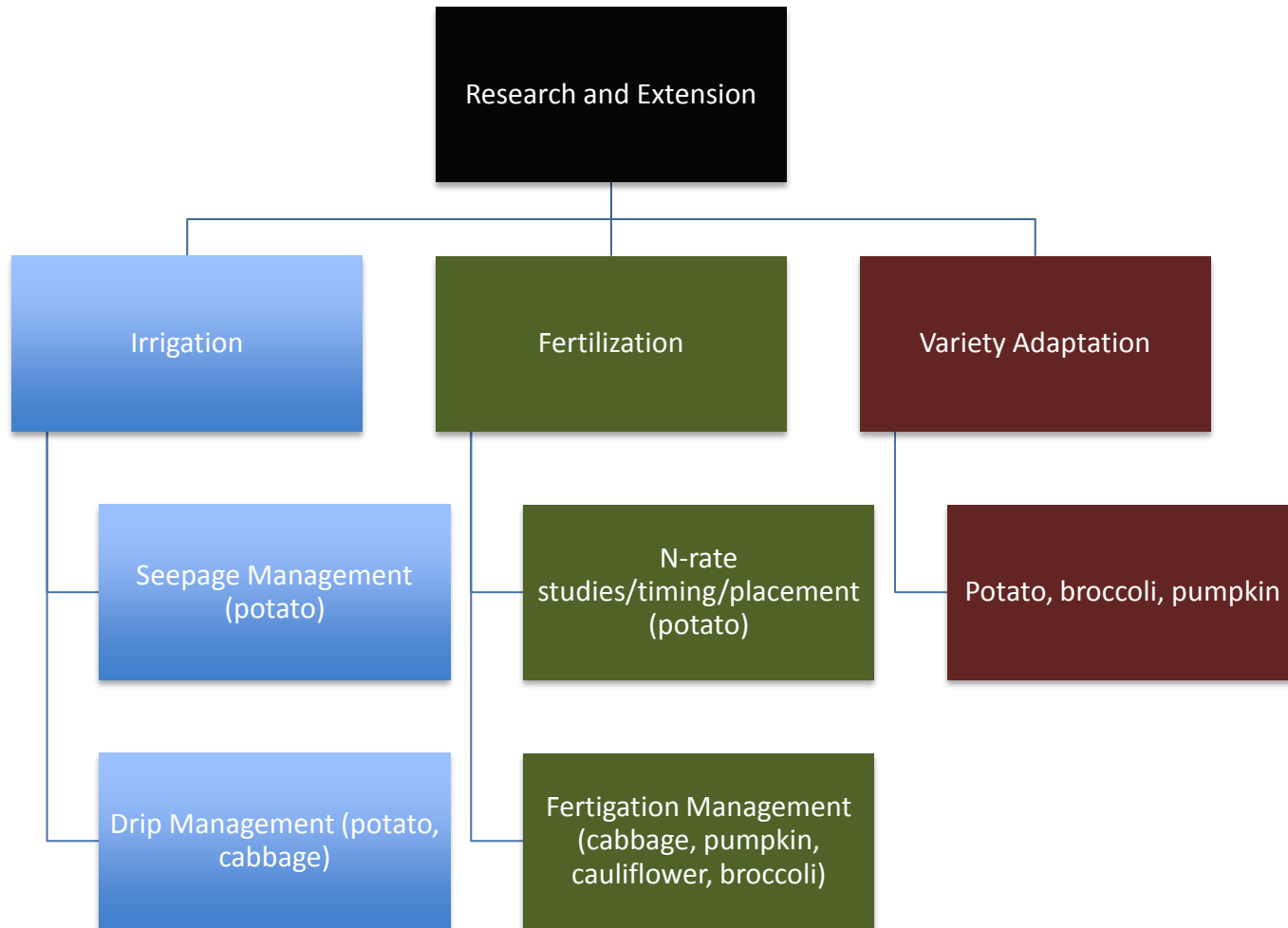
UF Partnership for Water, Agriculture & Community Sustainability at Hastings Downtown Facility

An aerial photograph of a large agricultural field, likely a sugarcane field, with a canal in the foreground. The field is divided into rows, and the canal is filled with water. The sky is overcast.

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Horticultural Sciences Department
University of Florida



Research/Extension/Educational Program Areas



Potato Research/Extension

Potato Variety Trials

Objective: *“The overall goal of the project is to develop an array of attractive, highly productive, disease- and insect-resistant potato varieties that can be employed by small and large potato producers to enhance marketing opportunities, farm sustainability and grower profits.*

The specific objectives (Florida)

3) Evaluate the yield, quality, and pest resistance of advanced potato breeding lines at multiple eastern locations;

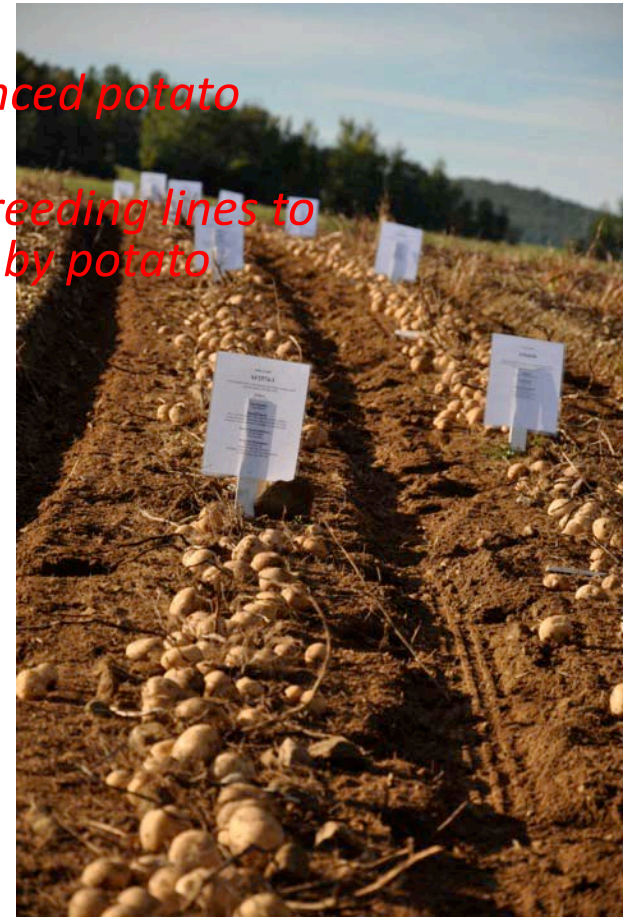
4) Conduct initial commercial trials of advanced potato breeding lines to facilitate commercial adoption of improved new varieties by potato growers and industry members;

Cowpen Branch Research Farm

- ✓ Variety data since 1998 – Data bank
- ✓ More than 1,200 varieties tested every year

1. On farm demonstration – B-1992-106 / Elkton

- ✓ 2011 – 2 commercial trials - Smiths and J. Revels
- ✓ 2012/13 – official USDA variety release
- ✓ 2013 – Commercial trial across state



Potato Research/Extension

Potato Variety Trials

Who is working on this project:

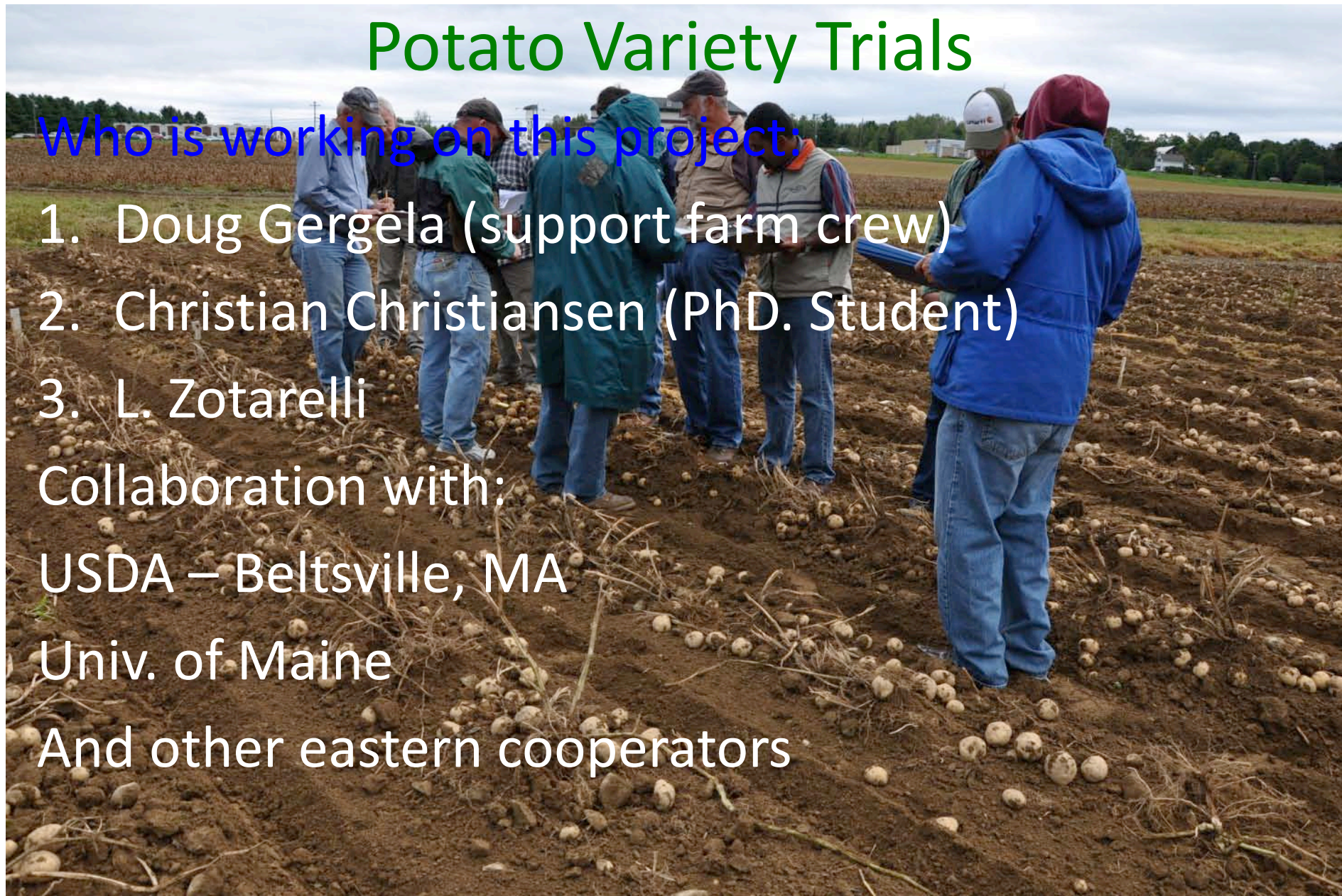
1. Doug Gergela (support farm crew)
2. Christian Christiansen (PhD. Student)
3. L. Zotarelli

Collaboration with:

USDA – Beltsville, MA

Univ. of Maine

And other eastern cooperators



Potato Research/Extension

Potato Variety Trials

2012 – Efforts expected from TCAA-Extension Team

- ✓ Field day – Potato School (not enough);
- ✓ Collect information about the grower's interest in new potato varieties/table stock conversion
- ✓ **Help to build up bridges between grower and research**
- ✓ Make viable on farm demonstration of advanced variety trials (table stock and chipping varieties)
- ✓ Improvement of knowledge on alternative varieties; variety characteristics, quality characteristics; disease/pest resistance, etc



Thank you!

