AHDB Consumer Insight Snapshot

# A view of potatoes

In the following slides, you will find an overview of consumer perception of potatoes and key figures for the potato retail market.

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### Consumer perception of potatoes



Source: AHDB/YouGov Consumer Tracker, wave 11, Feb 2018 Base: All respondents in potato section (1207)

YGq21: Which THREE, if any, of the following would you say are the best aspects of potatoes? (Please select up to three options); YGq20: Which THREE, if any, of the following put you off buying more fresh potatoes? (Please select up to three options)

## Potato perception and usage

### Key findings from AHDB/YouGov's consumer tracker:

- 90% of people agree 'there are many ways to serve potatoes', highlighting that most perceive potatoes to be a
  versatile ingredient
- 41% of consumers believe that salad/new potatoes are worth paying a bit more for, compared with just 11% who
  feel the same about white potatoes
- 77% of consumers surveyed said that they eat fresh potatoes at least once a week



### Fresh potatoes eaten at home

• The number of meal occasions made and/or eaten at home that included potatoes\* was 5.44 billion in the year ending 25 Feb 2018. According to Kantar Worldpanel Usage data, this figure has declined by 6.7% since 2014

Sources: AHDB/YouGov consumer tracker Base: All respondents in potato section (1207) PQ8a, PQ10: Here are some statements people have made about potatoes. To what extent do you agree or disagree with them? YGq30: How often do you eat fresh potatoes? By fresh potatoes we mean fresh potatoes which are sold as uncooked/unprepared; Kantar Worldpanel Usage, 52 w/e 25 Feb 2018 \* Kantar Worldpanel Usage definition for dishes with potatoes includes: American, Baking Potatoes, New Potatoes, Coated Oven/Fry Products, Old Potatoes, Diced Potato, English, French, Fry Chips, Grated Potatoes, Indian, Instant Mashed Potato, Italian, Jersey Potatoes, Microchips, New Potatoes, Other Snacks, Oven Chips, Potato Products, Potato Salad, Potato Skins, Potato Wedges, Prepared Vegetables, Spanish, Sweet Potatoes, Three Way Cook Chips, Vegetable Accompaniments

## Potato retail performance



## How healthy do consumers think potatoes are?



...however, when compared with other carbohydrates such as pasta and rice, they are viewed as the second healthiest option



Source: AHDB/YouGov Consumer Tracker, wave 11, Feb 2018 Base: All respondents in potato section (1207) PQ3: How healthy do you think potatoes are? PQ5a. Which do you think is the healthiest option?

## Summary

Strengths

 Fresh potatoes have a strong association with versatility and health, which puts them in a good position for meeting the consumer desire for varied meals and eating healthily

#### Challenges

Consumers have increasing choice at mealtimes and this includes the popularity of dish-based meals, which do not always feature potatoes as the main carbohydrate

Average preparation time for an evening meal is now around half an hour, which could be a challenge for fresh potatoes particularly

### **Opportunities**

- Chilled, part-prepared and frozen products can fulfil the consumer desire for quick and easy meals
- Chilled potatoes represent

   a much smaller segment
   of the market in volume
   terms, but they are high value products and have
   experienced continued
   growth in recent times



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