

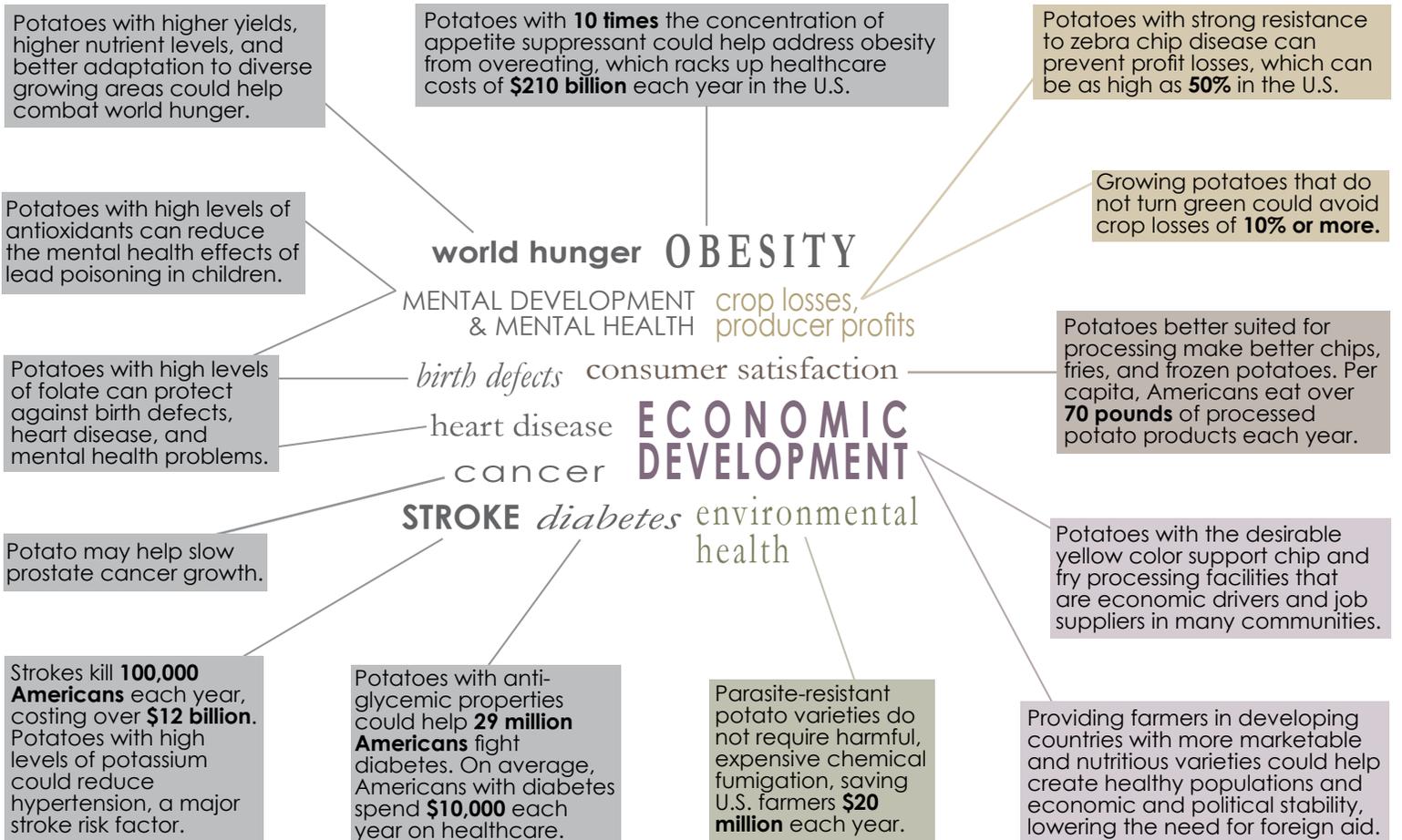
BREEDING BETTER POTATOES

As the most widely grown and consumed vegetable in the U.S., potatoes can have a huge impact on the economy, the environment, and human health. Potatoes are a popular food choice because they are filling, palatable, nutrient-dense, and affordable, and the international market for frozen potatoes, French fries, and potato chips is booming. The value of potato production in the U.S. totals over \$4.3 billion each year, with over \$1 billion in exports.

Improving potato varieties is key to sustaining this important crop. Since 1947, researchers, breeders, and farmers have used seeds and data from the U.S. Potato Genebank to conduct potato research and cultivate new, desirable potato varieties. A group of researchers coordinates the genebank and supports its efforts by improving techniques and tools for collecting, analyzing, and preserving potato specimens from around the world. A diverse genebank means that researchers, breeders, and farmers will have the resources they need to overcome potato production challenges and sustain the crop for future generations.



Benefits of Genebank Research & Potato Varieties



Want to know more?

National Research Support Project NRSP-6 is supported, in part, through USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture by the Multistate Research Fund established in by the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act, which encourages and enhances multistate, multidisciplinary research on critical national or regional issues. Additional funds have been provided by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, private industry sponsors, and the University of Wisconsin. NRSP-6 has been renewed through 2020. For more information on the project, visit <http://www.ars-grin.gov/nr6/>. For more information on the Multistate Research Program or the Impact Writing Initiative that produced this document, visit <http://www.multistateresearchimpacts.org/>.