

**People...**

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## Russian Potato Scientists Visit Wisconsin

As part of the USDA – ARS Former Soviet Union Scientific Cooperation Program, three Russian potato scientists visited Wisconsin in October, sharing information on late blight resistance.

Dr. Emil Khavkin, Head of the Laboratory of Plant DNA Markers with the All Russian Research Institute for Agricultural Biotechnology in Moscow, was accompanied by Dr. Elena Rogozina and Dr. Oksana Fadina.

The three Russian scientists visited the ARS Genetic Improvement of Fruits and Vegetables Laboratory in Beltsville, Maryland before coming to Wisconsin. In Wisconsin, they visited the U.S. Potato Genebank Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Station in Sturgeon Bay,

the ARS Vegetable Crops Research Unit in Madison, as well as the Controlled Environment Technology Services (CETS) seed potato production facility in Grand Marsh.

While in Wisconsin, they met with ARS scientists David Spooner, Dennis Halterman, John Bamberg and Shelley Jansky, to participate in research meetings in support of a project titled, "DNA Markers of Potato Genes for Late Blight Resistance." They also met with Dr. Ray Bula of CETS to observe technology which enables the rapid increase of disease-free seed potatoes.

Funding for their travel was provided by ARS through the International Science and Technology Center. **CT**



Russian scientists Elena Rogozina, Emil Khavkin and Oksana Fadina are pictured at the Haystack Supper Club in Westfield, Wisconsin.

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