Are hybrid potatoes in your future?

Shelley Jansky and Paul Bethke, USDA-ARS, Madison, WI



Where we are today

Breeding system Unpredictable offspring

Long odds for improvement

Seed system Slow increase

Disease accumulation



What we can change

Simplify the genetic system

Discard genetic baggage

Stack the genetic deck in our favor

Create uniform hybrids from true seed



Potential outcomes

Breeding system Targeted improvements

Non-GMO

Seed system Faster increase

Reduction in disease



Long-term goals

Adapt to climate change

Reduce financial risk

Promote environmental sustainability

