



EDITORIAL

2020 will be remembered as a historic year for many generations due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its enormous impact on the global context. Many reinvented themselves and adapted, becoming more creative and tenacious both in their personal and professional lives. This ability is called resilience.

Without doubt this year, we have learned many important things. We understood that the heart of an institution is not in its physical infrastructure, but in each one of its collaborators, wherever they were, and that achieving the common goal was what really united and guided them strongly.

We have learnt also the importance of the collaborative work and how our partners, some of them forged over the years in the field days, in the corridors of work, in meeting rooms, in congresses, in workshops or in the pleasant coffee hours, became our eyes and hands in places where the pandemic prevented us to reach now. Others, found the time and space to write that pending publication, the project and/or proposal, postponed by the multiple daily activities of life that were carried out before this pandemic. Others, already in retirement, discovered that their passion for their work will never die and that with the proper use of communication technologies, new doors open to multiple opportunities to continue contributing.

The partners and friends of ALAP have been able to avoid the storm. Thanks to their passion for potato crop: researchers, teachers, technicians, assistants, farmers, students and the editorial board of this journal have made it possible to publish this second number, which comes to you with the sole purpose of continuing to spread the progress that has been made in 2020.

One of our articles narrated the inclusive approach to the development of value chains, which triggered innovation processes to improve and promote the trade of native potatoes in Peru, a strategy that was successfully implemented in several countries of the Andean region. In this pandemic scenario, the productive chain participatory approach (PCPA) became current and of priority application.

Another article addresses the issue of climate change and how urgent it is to strengthen the financing of these research works in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and, in particular, in the Andean region. Our colleagues from Bolivia presented in their field and greenhouse research the results of selecting potato cultivars for their resistance to drought and frost stress.

Colleagues from Ecuador through participatory selection have registered for fresh consumption the potato variety "INIAP-FATIMA", an early cultivar, with resistance to late blight, high yield and good attributes of organoleptic quality. In a similar way, in the heart of the Inca Empire -Cuzco- the research professors of the Andean Crops Research Center reported have registered the new potato variety "ÑUST'A-CICA", which showed resistance to late blight, high performance as well as little preference of pest insects: *Premnotrypes sp.*, *Tequus sp.*, *Tomopteryx sp* to the variety; and low percentages of damage in storage by the insects *Phthorimaea operculella* and *Synmetrischema tangolias*.



In Brazil, the demand from the potato production chain led EMBRAPA researchers to evaluate the productive potential and frying quality of potato clones developed by INIA-Chile. A regional collaboration work that should be highlighted and congratulated. Three clones were shown to be superior to the Asterix variety, widely used in Brazil for French fries; while one of them surpassed the Atlantic variety in quality for potato chips.

The editorial board of the journal appreciates and congratulates the work done by all the authors who contributed their articles to this issue and reiterates the invitation to the entire potato scientific community to support the journal with their work. Our best wishes to the entire potato community in Latin America and the world, that the year 2021 represents achievements and professional and personal successes, in addition to achieving the desired well-being for all humanity.

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