

Potato world

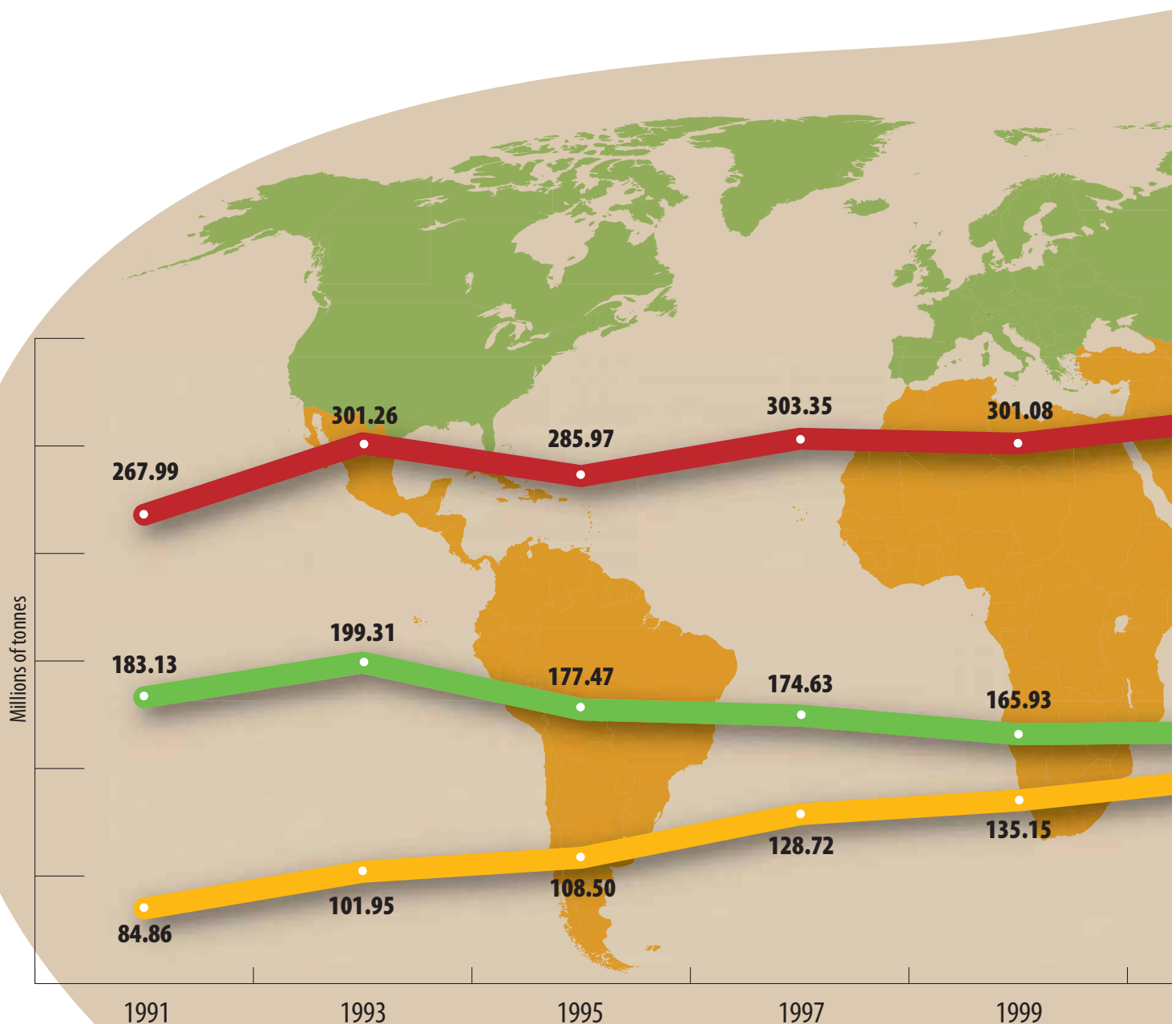
The potato is grown in more than 100 countries from the Arctic Circle to the southern extremity of South America, and at all latitudes in between.

Profiles of the world's top producers reveal the potato's extraordinarily rich past – and point to a bright future



48 ✨ International Year
of the Potato 2008
*New light on a hidden
treasure*

World potato production



The world potato sector is undergoing major changes. Until the early 1990s, most potatoes were grown and consumed in Europe, North America and countries of the former Soviet Union. Since then, there has been a dramatic increase in potato production

and demand in Asia, Africa and Latin America, where output rose from less than 30 million tonnes in the early 1960s to more than 165 million tonnes in 2007. FAO data show that in 2005, for the first time, the developing world's potato production exceeded that of the developed world. China is

now the world's biggest potato producer, and almost a third of all potatoes is harvested in China and India.

Top potato producers, 2007

	tonnes
1 China	72 040 000
2 Russian Federation	36 784 200
3 India	26 280 000
4 United States of America	20 373 267
5 Ukraine	19 102 000
6 Poland	11 791 072
7 Germany	11 643 769
8 Belarus	8 743 976
9 Netherlands	7 200 000
10 France	6 271 000

Source: FAOSTAT

