



# K<sub>2</sub>O Grades of the Patience Lake Member of the Prairie Formation

## Crosby 100K Sheet, North Dakota



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2018

This series of maps of the Crosby 100K Sheet was based on public data from 225 wells gathered by the North Dakota Industrial Commission – Department of Mineral Resources, Oil & Gas Division. The Patience Lake Member was identified on the geophysical logs of 187 wells. Isopach contours were generated via PETRA (ver. 3.9.13) geological software utilizing a grid size of 254 rows and 346 columns. The contour lines were computer-generated based on well-control data only, with minimal adjustments made by the author. Areas with a geological anomaly may not be accurately portrayed. The potash member thickness for each well, and the isopach contours generated from them, were modified from Kruger (2014). The maps are presented to include the area between the western boundary of the Crosby 100K Sheet and the North Dakota/Montana border.

All calculations were based on gamma-ray log measurements recorded in API units taken at six-inch increments throughout the potash-containing portion of the log. Corrections for borehole size and drilling mud weight as well as removal of the baseline gamma-ray signal were made (Crain, 2014) (Crain & Anderson, 1966). The corrected gamma-ray measurements were converted into apparent potassium oxide (K<sub>2</sub>O) concentrations. Average (K<sub>2</sub>O) concentrations and potash member thicknesses were obtained using the grade-thickness method described in Nelson (2007), where bed thickness is equal to the distance between the elevations at which the gamma-ray response declines to one-half its maximum value.

When a potash member displayed multiple gamma-ray log peaks separated by troughs representing salt or insolubles such as clay or anhydrite, thin potash intervals at the upper or lower boundaries of the member were not included in thickness or average-potash-grade calculations if the corrected gamma-ray measurements were less than 100 API or separated by more than four feet from main body of the potash member. This occurred most frequently in deposits of the White Bear Member, which may appear as one or two potash-rich beds underlying a thin potash-containing zone separated by an interbed of halite.

**Legend**

<b>Thickness</b>	<b>Symbols</b>
0	Well Control
1-3	Avg K <sub>2</sub> O % / Thickness (feet)
4-6	<b>Other Features</b>
7-9	City
8-12	Federal Highway
13-15	State Highway
16-18	
19-21	
21-24	



Mercator Projection  
Standard Parallel 48°30'N  
North American 1983 Datum  
Central Meridian 103°30'W

**References:**

Crain, E. R., 2014, Crain's petrophysical handbook; URL <<http://spec2000.net/17-speopotash.htm>>, accessed 14 January 2014.

Crain, E.R., and Anderson, W.B., 1966, Quantitative log evaluation of the Prairie Evaporite formation in Saskatchewan; Journal of Canadian Petroleum Technology, vol. 5, p. 145-152.

Kruger, N.W., 2014, The Potash Members of the Prairie Formation in North Dakota: North Dakota Geological Survey, Report of Investigation no. 113, 39 p.

Nelson, P.H., 2007, Evaluation of potash grade with gamma-ray logs: U.S. Geological Survey, Open File Report 2007-1292, 14 p.

