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Press Release

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Idaho Potato Stocks Up 17 Percent from Last Year

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on June 1 totaled 24.5 million cwt, 3.50 million cwt more than on hand June 1, 2007. Disappearance, at 107 million cwt, is down from last year's 108 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest counties totaled 800,000 cwt, unchanged from last year. The Other counties' stocks, at 23.7 million cwt, were up from the 20.2 million cwt stored on June 1, 2007. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 7.74 million cwt of 2007 crop raw potatoes during May, up 3 percent from May 2007. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon have used 70.7 million cwt of 2007 crop raw potatoes to June 1, down 0.7 percent from last year. Idaho potatoes accounted for 62.1 million cwt of the total processed. The remaining 8.64 million cwt were produced in other states.

Nationally, The 13 major potato States held 58.7 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2008, up 32 percent from a year ago and 41 percent above June 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 15 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from last year. Disappearance from the start of harvest to June 1 was at 341 million cwt, 1 percent below last year but up 3 percent from 2006. Shrink and loss, at 24.6 million cwt, was down 4 percent from the same period in 2007 but up 4 percent from 2006. Processors in the 9 major States have used 176 million cwt of 2007 crop potatoes this season, down 3 percent from the same period last year's season-to-date usage but up 5 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 37.5 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year but 10 percent above the same period in 2006.

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