



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Released: December 15, 2011

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Idaho Potato Stocks Up 9 Percent from Last Year

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on December 1 totaled 88.0 million cwt, 7.0 million cwt more than on hand December 1, 2010. Disappearance, at 39.1 million cwt is up 22 percent from last year's 32.0 million cwt. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 7.54 million cwt of raw potatoes during November, an increase of 17 percent from last November. Accumulated processing of 2011 crop raw potatoes to December 1 was 28.1 million cwt, up 33 percent from last year. Idaho potatoes accounted for 23.0 million cwt of the total processed, up 39 percent from last year. The remaining 5.04 million cwt were produced in other states.

Nationally, 13 major potato States held 250 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2011, up 4 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 66 percent of the 2011 fall storage States' production, one percentage point below December 1, 2010. Potato disappearance, at 129 million cwt, was 10 percent above December 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 13.5 million cwt, was up 6 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 73.0 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 17 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 13.4 million cwt of the total processing, up 68 percent from last year.

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