



Press Release

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Released: November 9, 2011

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Idaho Potato Production Up 12 Percent from 2010

Idaho's potato production is expected to total 127 million cwt, up 12 percent from last year's 113 million cwt, but 4 percent below the 2009 crop. Planted acres of 320,000 and harvested acres of 319,000 are up 25,000 acres from 2010. Statewide, yield is 398 cwt (field-run basis), up 14 cwt from last year. Yield in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 530 cwt, decreased 15 cwt from last year's record high for this area. Acreage for the 10 Southwest counties, at 19,000 acres planted and harvested, increased 3,000 acres from last year. Because of the acreage increase, total production in the area is up 15 percent from last year at 10.1 million cwt. In Idaho's "other counties," yield is estimated at 390 cwt, compared to 375 cwt a year ago. Other area production from 300,000 harvested acres is expected to total 117 million cwt, 12 percent above last year's 104 million cwt. Idaho's sugarbeet production for 2011 is forecast at 6.02 million tons, up 14 percent from the 5.27 million tons produced a year ago. Yield of 33.8 tons per acre is up from last year's 31.0 tons per acre. Harvested acres of 178,000 are up from 2010's 170,000 harvested acres. Idaho's dry edible pea production is estimated at 270,000 cwt, a decrease of 44 percent from the 480,000 cwt produced in 2010. Yield of 1,800 pounds per acre is up 200 pounds per acre from last year. Harvested acres of 15,000 are down from 2010's 30,000 harvested acres. Lentil production of 351,000 cwt is down 32 percent from last year's 513,000 cwt. Yield of 1,300 pounds per acre is up from last year's yield of 950 pounds per acre. Acreage harvested for 2011, at 27,000 acres, is down from last year's 54,000 harvested acres. Austrian winter pea production of 85,000 cwt is down 14 percent from the 99,000 cwt produced in 2010. Yield of 1,700 pounds per acre is up 600 pounds per acre from last year. Harvested acres of 5,000 are down 4,000 acres from 2010.

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2011 is forecast at 385 million cwt, up 5 percent from a year ago. Area harvested, at 938,500 acres, is up 6 percent from last year. The average yield forecast, at 410 cwt per acre, is down 6 cwt per acre from last year's yield. Sugarbeet production for the U. S. is forecast at 28.9 million tons, down 10 percent from last year's production of 31.9 million tons. Area for harvest, at 1.21 million acres, is up 4 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 23.9 tons per acre, down 3.7 tons from last year. Dry edible pea production for the U. S. is expected to total 5.39 million cwt, down 62 percent from the 2010 estimate. Lentil production, at 4.72 million cwt is down 46 percent from last year. Austrian winter pea production of 199,000 cwt is down 16 percent from 2010.

Small grain updates were made for Idaho based on reports from re-contacted operators who had reported acreage not yet harvested during the September survey. The following yield changes have been made based on those reports. Barley yield, at 93 bushels per acre, is up 1 bushel per acre.