



Idaho Potatoes

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IDAHO RUSSET POTATO SIZE AND GRADE SUMMARY – 2011 CROP

The statistics in this publication were obtained from the 2011 Potato Objective Yield Survey. USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service would like to thank all growers who allowed the enumerators to dig samples in their fields. Without the voluntary cooperation of the farmers themselves, obtaining valid and timely agricultural statistics would be much more difficult. Because the samples of potatoes were dug by hand, the size and grade statistics in this document do not reflect harvesting or handling damage.

The survey results showed for the 2011 crop, 25.6 percent of the russet potatoes were at least ten ounces, up from 20.0 percent that reached that size in 2010 and 23.2 percent that reached that size in 2009. Of the Russet potatoes in the 2011 sample, 80.2 percent met the 2.0 inch or 4 oz. minimum size and grade requirements for U.S. No. 1 potatoes, up from 74.2 percent last year. Processing grade and U.S. No. 2 potatoes, with a 1.5 inch minimum, accounted for 18.2 percent of the 2011 crop.

PROCEDURE

The 2011 Potato Objective Yield Survey consisted of 222 samples located throughout Idaho in fields selected in an unbiased manner. The selection of sample fields was based on all known potato acreage planted in 2011, with each acre having an equal chance of being chosen. As a result, growers with large acreages were more likely to be selected to participate in this survey. Several sample fields with varieties other than Russet were selected, but only the reports with Russet potatoes were used to compile the data in Tables 1 and 2. For each sample field, two plots were systematically located using computer generated random numbers. Each plot consisted of a twenty-foot section of a row. Digging of all samples occurred immediately preceding harvest or when all vines had died and growth of the tubers was no longer possible. Three hills of potatoes from each twenty-foot row section were carefully dug, counted, weighed, and then graded according to U.S.D.A. standards. Potatoes less than 1.5 inches in diameter were excluded from this procedure. To measure the harvest loss, post-harvest gleanings were taken for every fourth sample. The gleaning area consisted of two 3-by-6-foot plots, located five paces and five row space equivalents beyond the plots where the potato hills were dug. All potatoes and potato pieces, except whole potatoes less than 1.5 inches in diameter, were collected, weighed, and graded. Geographic distribution of the 2011 sample fields is shown in the following table.

AREA	COUNTIES	NUMBER OF SAMPLE PLOTS
Southwest	Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington	32
South Central	Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka & Twin Falls	57
Eastern	Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida & Power	104
Eastern Seed Counties	Butte, Caribou, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Lemhi & Teton	29

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.

TABLE 1 – IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES: SIZE AND GRADE – 2011 CROP ^{1/}

AREA AND GRADE	1½" - 15/8"	15/8" - 17/8"	17/8" - 2"	2" or 4-6 Oz	6-7 Oz	7-8 Oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 Oz	11-12 oz	12-13 Oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
	Percentages (%)													
SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	23.1	8.7	8.2	9.2	6.4	5.2	3.7	3.2	2.6	10.4	80.7
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.3	5.5	4.5	1.3	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	2.0	17.4
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	-	-	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.9
TOTAL	1.4	5.7	4.6	24.9	9.3	8.8	9.4	6.8	5.9	4.2	3.7	2.8	12.6	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	26.1	10.3	9.4	7.5	6.0	5.4	3.8	3.8	2.2	6.7	81.2
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.2	6.4	4.7	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.7	17.4
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	1.4
TOTAL	1.3	6.6	4.9	27.6	10.8	9.8	7.9	6.4	5.7	4.2	4.0	2.4	8.4	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	30.0	8.2	8.6	5.4	5.3	3.1	3.3	2.5	2.5	7.2	76.1
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.3	9.5	6.5	1.0	0.5	0.1	-	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.2	21.3
Cull ^{4/}	0.2	0.5	0.3	1.2	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	2.6
TOTAL	1.5	10.0	6.8	32.2	8.8	8.8	5.4	5.8	3.3	3.4	2.7	2.9	8.4	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	25.9	9.5	8.8	7.7	6.0	5.0	3.7	3.3	2.4	7.9	80.2
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.3	6.7	4.9	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.7	18.2
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	1.6
TOTAL	1.4	6.9	5.1	27.6	10.0	9.2	8.0	6.4	5.4	4.1	3.6	2.6	9.7	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	23.3	9.1	6.7	9.3	5.7	5.2	4.2	4.1	2.2	9.4	79.2
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.1	5.0	3.9	1.3	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.2	3.0	19.1
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	-	-	-	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.4	1.7
TOTAL	1.2	5.2	4.1	24.9	10.0	7.6	9.8	6.5	6.3	4.8	4.4	2.4	12.8	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	25.8	9.5	8.7	7.8	6.0	5.0	3.7	3.4	2.4	7.9	80.2
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.3	6.6	4.9	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.8	18.2
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	1.6
TOTAL	1.4	6.8	5.1	27.4	10.0	9.2	8.1	6.4	5.4	4.1	3.7	2.6	9.8	100.0

1/ Gross yield basis. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

2/ Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

3/ Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, or Process grade.

4/ Potatoes not meeting the requirements for U.S. #1 or U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, or Process grade.

TABLE 2 – IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES: SIZE AND GRADE – 2010 CROP ^{1/}

AREA AND GRADE	1½" - 15/8"	15/8" - 17/8"	17/8" - 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 Oz	7-8 Oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 Oz	11-12 oz	12-13 Oz	13-14 Oz	14 oz and over	Total
Percentages (%)														
SOUTH CENTRAL COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	26.0	8.5	8.7	7.1	6.3	5.2	4.1	2.8	1.6	7.6	77.9
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.1	5.6	4.4	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.5	17.3
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.4	0.5	1.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	-	0.3	0.2	-	0.1	0.4	4.8
TOTAL	1.2	6.0	4.9	28.5	9.7	9.8	7.9	6.8	6.0	4.6	3.1	2.0	9.5	100.0
EASTERN COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	30.0	9.5	7.4	6.4	5.2	4.0	2.4	1.9	1.5	4.8	73.1
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.6	7.4	6.8	1.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.1	1.6	22.2
Cull ^{4/}	0.2	0.4	0.4	1.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	4.7
TOTAL	1.8	7.8	7.2	32.7	10.5	8.0	7.2	6.0	4.9	3.1	2.3	1.7	6.8	100.0
EASTERN SEED COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	32.4	10.8	8.3	5.1	4.3	3.2	1.1	1.4	1.3	2.0	69.9
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.9	9.6	7.2	1.5	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.8	-	0.3	1.0	25.3
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.3	0.3	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	4.8
TOTAL	2.0	9.9	7.5	35.0	12.2	9.5	6.0	5.4	3.9	2.0	1.6	1.7	3.3	100.0
TOTAL OTHER COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	29.1	9.4	8.0	6.4	5.4	4.3	2.7	2.1	1.5	5.2	74.1
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.5	7.2	6.1	1.3	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	1.4	21.1
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.4	0.4	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	4.8
TOTAL	1.6	7.6	6.5	31.8	10.5	8.8	7.2	6.2	5.1	3.4	2.5	1.8	7.0	100.0
10 SOUTHWEST COUNTIES														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	28.5	9.8	6.9	5.0	5.8	4.5	4.0	3.0	2.8	6.3	76.6
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.5	5.4	5.2	1.5	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.6	-	0.4	1.8	19.8
Cull ^{4/}	0.2	0.4	0.2	1.0	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.5	-	0.1	0.1	0.6	3.6
TOTAL	1.7	5.8	5.4	31.0	10.6	7.9	5.4	6.7	5.8	4.6	3.1	3.3	8.7	100.0
STATE														
U.S. No. 1 (2" min) ^{2/}	-	-	-	29.0	9.5	7.9	6.3	5.5	4.3	2.8	2.1	1.6	5.2	74.2
U.S. No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ min) ^{3/}	1.5	7.1	6.0	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	1.5	21.1
Cull ^{4/}	0.1	0.4	0.4	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	4.7
TOTAL	1.6	7.6	6.4	31.7	10.6	8.8	7.2	6.2	5.1	3.4	2.5	1.9	7.1	100.0

^{1/} Gross yield basis. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

^{2/} Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

^{3/} Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, or Process grade.

^{4/} Potatoes not meeting the requirements for U.S. #1 or U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, or Process grade.

TABLE 3 – IDAHO POTATOES: AVERAGE NUMBER OF HILLS PER ACRE BY TYPE 2010 & 2011 CROPS ^{1/}

TYPE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES		AVERAGE NUMBERS OF HILLS PER ACRE	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
Reds	5	5	17,499	17,571
Whites	5	6	14,200	11,790
Yellows	4	(D)	17,110	(D)
Russets	227	209	12,948	12,906

^{1/} Based on row measurements and counts in potato fields selected for objective yield samples.
(D) Insufficient number of reports to publish data for 2011.

TABLE 4 – IDAHO ALL POTATOES: QUANTITY LEFT IN FIELD AFTER HARVEST – 2010 & 2011 CROPS ^{1/}

AREA	2010 CROP		2011 CROP	
	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT PER ACRE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	CWT PER ACRE
Southwest	6	31	7	26
South Central	14	40	12	34
Eastern	29	29	21	29
Seed Co.'s	8	21	4	23
STATE	57	31	44	30

^{1/} Potatoes left in the field at time of harvest. Based on counts in potato fields selected for post harvest samples.

TABLE 5 - LONG POTATO SIZE CATEGORIES – SELECTED STATES: 2011 ^{1/}

STATE	1½"	15/8"	17/8"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 oz	7-8 Oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 Oz	14 oz and over
	1 5/8"	1 7/8"	2"										
	Percentages (%)												
ID 2/	1.4	6.8	5.1	27.4	10.0	9.2	8.1	6.4	5.4	4.1	3.7	2.6	9.8
MN	4.0	15.3	7.9	31.2	10.5	8.4	6.5	4.7	3.7	2.9	1.5	1.2	2.2
ND	3.2	11.6	5.1	30.7	11.4	9.8	7.2	6.3	4.9	3.7	1.7	1.3	3.1
OR	0.9	4.3	3.6	24.7	10.6	9.4	7.7	7.3	6.1	5.4	4.3	3.2	12.5
WA	0.3	2.9	3.1	27.6	10.5	10.3	8.7	7.1	6.0	5.4	4.4	2.7	11.0
WI	1.0	10.3	8.4	29.5	10.9	9.1	8.0	5.7	5.0	3.2	3.1	1.5	4.3

^{1/} Gross yield basis. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding. Includes Russet, Shepody, Prospect, and Defender varieties unless otherwise noted.
^{2/} Russets only.

TABLE 6 – FALL POTATO GRADING CATEGORIES BY TYPE – SELECTED STATES: 2010 AND 2011 ^{1/}

AREA AND GRADE	U.S. NO. 1 2 INCH MINIMUM ^{2/}		U.S. NO. 2 OR PROCESSING USABLE ^{2/}		CULL ^{3/}	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
LONG POTATOES ^{4/}	Percentages (%)					
ID ^{5/}	74.2	80.2	21.1	18.2	4.7	1.6
ME ^{6/}	66.2	66.9	22.5	15.2	11.6	17.9
MN	70.1	56.9	24.2	35.1	5.7	8.0
ND	62.4	60.6	26.5	32.5	11.1	6.9
OR	81.2	84.9	15.8	14.1	3.0	1.0
WA	82.4	87.8	13.5	10.9	4.2	1.3
WI	80.1	77.0	18.5	22.5	1.4	0.5

^{1/} Gross yield basis. Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding.

^{2/} Potatoes which meet the requirements for U.S. #1 or U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, or Process grade.

^{3/} Potatoes not meeting the requirements for U.S. #1 or U.S. #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, or Process grade.

^{4/} Includes Russet, Shepody, Prospect, and Defender varieties unless otherwise indicated.

^{5/} Russet potatoes only.

^{6/} Percent of net yield – adjusted for harvest loss.