



WASHINGTON POTATOES

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PROCESSING POTATOES

Processors in Washington and Oregon (excluding Malheur County) used 29.0 million cwt of raw potatoes to December 1, 2007, 2.0 million cwt less than the 31.0 million cwt processed during the same period last year and 1.3 million cwt less than the 30.3 million cwt processed during the same time frame two years ago. Processing to December 1, 2007 in Washington and Oregon (excluding Malheur County) accounted for 28.3 percent of the 2007 production. Processing in the nine processing states totaled 72.0 million cwt of raw potatoes to December 1, 2007, 2.8 percent below the same period last year. Dehydrating usage in the nine processing states, excluding starch and flour, accounted for 12.7 million cwt of raw potatoes, 12.7 percent less than 2006.

FALL POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING,^{1/} SELECTED STATES, 2006 & 2007

STATE	STORAGE SEASON	TO OCT 1	TO NOV 1	TO DEC 1	TO JAN 1	TO FEB 1	TO MAR 1	TO APR 1	TO MAY 1	TO JUN 1	ENTIRE SEASON
1,000 Cwt											
Idaho & Malheur Co., Ore.	2006-07	8,080	19,010	27,090	34,070	41,350	48,940	56,650	63,680	71,220	85,630
	2007-08	10,860	18,650	26,230							
Maine 2/	2006-07			1,755	2,360	2,910	3,465	4,185	4,810	5,470	7,560
	2007-08			1,695							
Wash. & Other Area, Ore.	2006-07	16,950	23,895	30,980	37,060	42,190	49,930	56,690	63,170	70,410	77,355
	2007-08	15,060	22,305	28,995							
Other States 3/	2006-07			14,270	17,695	21,290	24,545	28,040	31,370	34,830	43,315
	2007-08			15,120							
TOTAL	2006-07			74,095	91,185	107,740	126,880	145,565	163,030	181,930	213,860
	2007-08			72,040							
Dehydrated 4/	2006-07			14,590	19,250	23,635	27,885	32,210	36,480	40,915	49,370
	2007-08			12,740							

1/ Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME and WI.

2/ Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

3/ CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI.

4/ Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Included in above totals. Includes CO, ID, NV, ND, OR, WA, and WI.

POTATO STOCKS

Potatoes stored in Washington on December 1, 2007 were estimated at 60.0 million cwt, 11 million cwt more than the 49.0 million cwt in storage on December 1, 2006. Disappearance of the State's crop was 42.3 million cwt as of December 1, 2007, compared with 40.9 million cwt in 2006.

Potato Stocks Up 4 Percent from Last Year

The 13 major potato States held 270 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2007, up 4 percent from last year and 6 percent above December 1, 2005. Potatoes in storage account for 68 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 1 percentage point from last year. Klamath Basin stocks total 4.20 million cwt on December 1, 2007, up 5 percent from last year. Klamath Basin includes California and Klamath County, Oregon potato stocks.

Western States held 193 million cwt of potatoes in storage on December 1, up 9 percent from last year and 8 percent above 2005. Idaho's potato stocks are up 4 percent from last year, Washington's potato sheds held 22 percent more than last year, and Oregon's stocks increased 13 percent from last season. Montana's potato sheds held 9 percent more stocks than last year and California's potato stocks increased 11 percent from last season. Colorado's potato stocks declined 12 percent from last year.

Central States accounted for 61.7 million cwt of potato stocks on December 1, down 4 percent from last year but 3 percent above the same date in 2005. Wisconsin's potato stocks declined 5 percent from last year, North Dakota's sheds held 16 percent less, and potato stocks in Nebraska are 10 percent below last season. Minnesota's potato stocks are up 2 percent from last year and Michigan's potato sheds held 17 percent more than on the same date in 2006.

Eastern States stored 15.5 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, down 11 percent from last year but up 1 percent from December 1, 2005. Maine's potato sheds held 12 percent less than last year, while New York's potato stocks declined 7 percent from a year ago.

FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION & STOCKS, WASHINGTON & 13 FALL STATES, 2002-2007

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS						
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR					
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1	JUN 1
WASHINGTON		1,000 Cwt.						
2002	92,340	50,000	43,500	38,500	30,500	23,000	16,500	9,000
2003	93,150	51,000	44,000	38,000	29,500	21,500	15,000	7,000
2004	93,810	50,000	43,000	36,500	29,000	22,000	15,500	8,000
2005	95,480	52,500	46,500	40,500	32,500	25,000	17,500	9,400
2006	89,900	49,000	42,500	36,500	28,500	21,000	14,000	7,000
2007	102,300	60,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
13 STATES 1/								
2002	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003	403,181	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004	403,587	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005	374,298	253,800	220,500	189,100	155,500	115,700	75,900	41,560
2006	389,272	259,300	226,100	192,600	159,700	121,000	79,050	44,460
2007	399,834	270,000	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ See table below for listing of 13 states.

PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS AND LOCAL DEALERS ON DECEMBER 1, 2006 & DECEMBER 1, 2007 1/

STATE	CROP OF 2006			CROP OF 2007		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2006	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2007	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION
	1,000 Cwt		Percent	1,000 Cwt		Percent
California	3,870	1,800	47	4,223	2,000	47
Colorado	22,686	17,200	76	20,981	15,200	72
Idaho	128,915	90,000	70	131,650	94,000	71
Maine	17,980	14,400	80	16,530	12,700	77
Michigan	14,190	8,100	57	14,700	9,500	65
Minnesota	20,400	13,300	65	20,680	13,500	65
Montana	3,518	3,300	94	3,696	3,600	97
Nebraska	8,730	5,800	66	7,800	5,200	67
New York	5,700	3,000	53	5,216	2,800	54
N. Dakota	25,480	17,300	68	23,660	14,500	61
Oregon	18,533	16,000	86	20,238	18,000	89
Washington	89,900	49,000	55	102,300	60,000	59
Wisconsin	29,370	20,100	68	28,160	19,000	67
13 STATES TOTAL	389,272	259,300	67	399,834	270,000	68
Klamath Basin 2/		4,000			4,200	

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2007 totaled 26.4 million cwt.

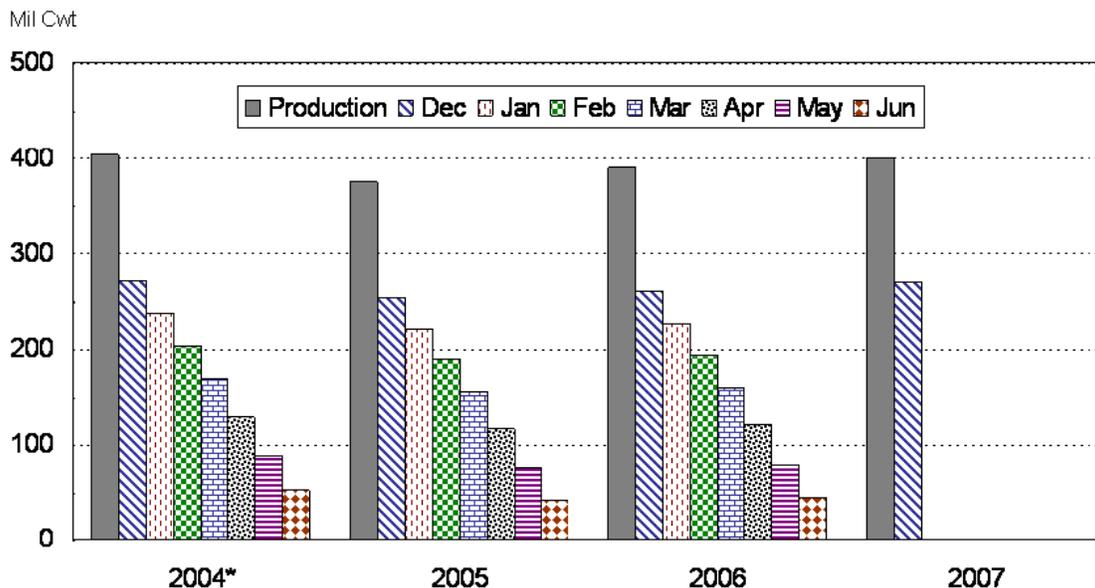
2/ Estimates began in 2006. Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath County, OR.

FALL POTATOES - PRODUCTION FORECAST - DECEMBER 1, 2007

States	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Acres		Cwt			
WINTER 1/	17.5	11.5	257	215	4,495	2,473
SPRING 1/	67.5	70.4	293	294	19,766	20,668
SUMMER 1/	53.9	50.3	337	328	18,166	16,504
FALL:						
California	8.6	8.2	450	515	3,870	4,223
Colorado	59.7	59.1	380	355	22,686	20,981
Idaho, All	334.0	349.0	386	377	128,915	131,650
10 SW Counties	21.0	21.0	475	490	9,975	10,290
Other Areas	313.0	328.0	380	370	118,940	121,360
Maine	58.0	57.0	310	290	17,980	16,530
Massachusetts	3.1	2.7	240	295	744	797
Michigan	43.0	42.0	330	350	14,190	14,700
Minnesota	48.0	47.0	425	440	20,400	20,680
Montana	10.5	11.2	335	330	3,518	3,696
Nebraska	19.4	20.0	450	390	8,730	7,800
Nevada	6.6	7.5	445	390	2,937	2,925
New Mexico	5.0	5.5	420	420	2,100	2,310
New York	19.0	18.3	300	285	5,700	5,216
North Dakota	98.0	91.0	260	260	25,480	23,660
Ohio	3.1	3.0	325	325	1,008	975
Oregon, All	35.0	36.5	530	554	18,533	20,238
Malheur County	3.5	3.5	435	455	1,523	1,593
Other Areas	31.5	33.0	540	565	17,010	18,645
Pennsylvania	10.5	10.0	260	220	2,730	2,200
Rhode Island	0.5	0.6	260	300	130	180
Washington	155.0	165.0	580	620	89,900	102,300
Wisconsin	66.0	64.0	445	440	29,370	28,160
TOTAL FALL	983.0	997.6	406	410	398,921	409,221
UNITED STATES	1,121.9	1,129.8	393	397	441,348	448,866

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 13 Storage States



Production by crop year. Stocks by months following harvest.

*15 Storage States.

Fall Potato Production up Less than 1 Percent from November

Production of fall potatoes for 2007 is forecast at 409 million cwt, up less than 1 percent from last month and 3 percent above last year. Area harvested, at 997,600 acres, is virtually unchanged from November but up 1 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 410 cwt per acre, up 1 cwt from last month and 4 cwt above the record high set last year.

Western States production is forecast at 288 million cwt, up 6 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 642,000 acres, increased 4 percent from last year, and the average yield of 449 cwt per acre is up 6 cwt from 2006. Idaho's yield is forecast at 377 cwt per acre. If realized this would be the second highest yield on record, 9 cwt below the record yield set in 2006. Hot weather during the summer reduced the quality of the crop. Incidences of the Potato Virus Y were more frequent than normal which adversely affected yields. In Washington, harvest progressed normally this year. The quality of the crop is acceptable but not as good as in previous years. In Colorado, a severe wind storm followed by a late freeze in mid-June damaged plants that were already emerged. The earlier planted crop was slow to recover from the damage, leading to increased yield variability. Oregon's crop progressed at a normal pace with no major problems reported. In California, favorable weather conditions resulted in excellent crop quality and yields.

Central States production is forecast at 96.0 million cwt, down 3 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 267,000 acres, is down 4 percent, while the average yield, at 359 cwt per acre, is up 2 cwt from a year ago. Overall, the Wisconsin crop progressed ahead of normal. Growers reported a good quality crop with harvest completed on time or early. In North Dakota, crop condition was rated fair to good throughout the growing season. Michigan and Minnesota's yields are forecast at 350 and 440 cwt per acre, respectively. If realized, these would be record high yields.

Eastern States production is forecast at 24.9 million cwt, down 9 percent from last year. Area for harvest totaled 88,600 acres, 3 percent below last year, while the average yield, at 281 cwt per acre, is down 18 cwt from last season. In Maine, excellent growing and harvesting conditions resulted in a high yielding, high quality crop. In Massachusetts and Rhode Island, above average temperatures and below average precipitation forced growers in many locations to irrigate. New York planted acreage is at the lowest level since estimates began in 1929.

