

## Potatoes

Our state's potato farmers produced 25.7 million hundredweight (cwt.) of potatoes on 62,000 acres in 2008. What happened to all of those potatoes? Ninety-four percent of the crop was sold as either fresh market, processing, or seed potatoes. The other 6 percent was either used on the farm where it was grown or lost after it reached storage.

The value of the state's 2008 potato crop was \$291 million, with an average price of \$11.30 per cwt. The average price per hundredweight showed a jump of \$3.50 per cwt. The average price for fresh market potatoes increased \$6.20 to \$14.90 and the average price for processed potatoes increased \$1.05 to \$7.95.

The U.S. average price for potatoes was \$8.42 per cwt., up 91 cents per cwt from the previous year. A \$3.60 per cwt. rise in the price for fresh potatoes was the main contributing factor to the increase in prices.

The first production forecast for the 2009 crop will be released November 10, 2009.

### Potatoes - 2008 Fall Crop

State	Production	Total used for seed	Farm disposition			Price per cwt.	Value of	
			Used on farms where grown		Sold		Production	Sales
			For seed, feed, & household use	Shrinkage and loss				
			1,000 cwt.			Dollars	1,000 dollars	
WI	25,730	1,461	250	1,375	24,105	11.30	290,749	272,290
ID	116,475	7,520	908	7,150	108,417	7.15	832,796	773,271
ME	14,769	1,154	214	525	14,030	9.75	143,998	137,051
MN	20,400	931	139	1,600	18,661	8.25	168,300	154,396
ND	22,680	1,600	190	2,280	20,210	8.30	188,244	168,170
OR	18,676	875	100	1,150	17,426	8.80	164,349	153,496
WA	93,000	3,625	210	5,500	87,290	7.45	692,850	650,604
Total Fall	378,588	21,711	4,055	24,952	349,580	8.49	3,220,645	2,967,871
US 1/	415,055	24,533	4,138	26,438	384,478	8.42	3,770,462	3,494,193

1/Includes winter, spring, summer, and fall potatoes. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO