

ALASKA FARM REPORTER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension
Ag & Forestry Experiment Station



U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 799
Palmer, AK 99645

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03-10

ALASKA POTATO STOCKS

POTATO STOCKS IN ALASKA: The preliminary forecast of potato stocks on farms on October 1, 2003 was estimated at 147,000 cwt, 88 percent of the 2003 crop. Last year, 135,000 cwt of potatoes were in storage on October 1. Disappearance from harvest to October 1 was 21,000 cwt, compared with 19,000 cwt a year ago.

Frost damage to the potato crop was reported in both the Tanana and the Matanuska-Susitna Valleys. While the most severe damage was reported in the Delta Junction area, some producers in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley also had frost damage. As of the date of this report the total extent of the frost damage, and its effect on total production and stocks, was not fully determined. Revised figures will be published in the December Potato Stocks Release and the December Farm Reporter.

OCTOBER 1, 2003 POTATO STOCKS 1,000 CWT						
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
October 1 Stocks	134.5	170.5	123.8	215.0	135.0	147.0
Production	150.0	185.0	129.0	230.0	154.0	168.0
October 1 Stocks as % of Production	90%	92%	96%	93%	88%	88%

2002 ALASKA POTATO CROP UTILIZATION & VALUE

Alaska potato producers sold 107,000 cwt of potatoes from the 2002 crop, or 69% of total production. Sales from the 2001 crop were 125,000 cwt or 54% of production. Production for 2001, at 230,000 cwt, was a state record. Sales include table stock, seed, & livestock feed. Shrinkage and loss accounted for 21,000 cwt in 2002, while farm disposition accounted for 26,000 cwt.

ALASKA POTATO DISPOSITION 2000 - 2002

Items	2000	2001	2002
1000 CWT			
Total Production	129.0	230.0	154.0
Farm Disposition ^{1/}	19.0	27.0	26.0
Shrinkage & Loss	22.0	78.0	21.0
Sold	88.0	125.0	107.0
Dollars			
\$ Per CWT	20.70	20.30	20.00
Thousand Dollars			
Value of Production	2,670	4,669	3,080
Value of Sales	1,822	2,538	2,140

^{1/} Household use, livestock feed and seed used on farm where grown

**MILK PRODUCTION
ALASKA**

September milk production totaled 1.3 million pounds, 14 percent below last year and 10 percent below August 2003. Production per cow averaged 1,090 pounds compared with 1,170 pounds per cow in September 2002. Milk cows at 1,200 head were down 100 head from last year.

Production during the nine months of 2003 totaled 13.1 million pounds compared with 13.3 million pounds during the same period in 2002.

20 MAJOR STATES: Milk production in the 20 major States during September totaled 11.6 billion pounds, down 0.1 percent from September 2002. August revised production, at 12.1 billion pounds, was down 0.9 percent from August 2002. The August revision represented a decrease of 0.1 percent or 17 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,503 pounds for September, 6 pounds more from September 2002. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 38,000 head less than September 2002, and 7,000 head less than August 2003.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO
HAVE RESPONDED TO OUR
SURVEYS!!!!**

Dear Alaska Farmers,

Acreage & Production Surveys along with Price Questionnaires were mailed out October 2nd. Second request mailing were sent out October 21st. We will be calling those farmers who have not responded to either mailing beginning the first week in November. If you still haven't filled out your survey, please consider getting it completed and in to us before then. We rely heavily on each and every one of you to report data to us so that we can present a complete and accurate picture of agriculture in Alaska.

ALASKA FARM BUREAU'S AG
SYMPOSIUM

Friday & Saturday November 14-15, 2003
Millennium Hotel Anchorage, Alaska
For more information contact:
Jane Hamilton (907) 895-4407

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