



FIELD CROPS



POTATO ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND STOCKS

January 2000

2000 WINTER POTATO PRODUCTION

FLORIDA: Winter potato production is estimated at 1.6 million cwt, down 14 percent from 1999. Acreage for harvest at 8,000 acres is down 1,300 acres from last year. The yield per acre is expected to average 200 cwt. The planting season has been a good one. Planting will be complete in mid-January. Potatoes are currently in good condition with robust development and growth.

average yield is projected at 256 cwt per acre, 27 cwt above last year. The growing season for California's winter crop was relatively good with minimal damage from weather or disease.

UNITED STATES: Production of winter potatoes in 2000 is forecast at 4.60 million cwt. This is up 13 percent from 1999 and 54 percent above 1998. Area for harvest is estimated at 18,000 acres, up 1 percent from a year ago and 20 percent above two years ago. The

U.S. SPRING POTATOES: Revisions of spring potatoes place production at 25.3 million cwt in 1999, up 20 percent from a year earlier and 14 percent above 1997. Final data was up 9 percent from the May 1 forecast. Harvested area totaled 84,500 acres, down 7 percent from 1998, while the average yield of 300 cwt per acre gained 67 cwt from last year.

POTATOES

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield per acre		Production		
	Planted		Harvested		1999	Indicated 2000	1998	1999	Indicated 2000
	1999	Indicated 2000	1999	Indicated 2000					
	1,000 acres				Cwt		1,000 cwt		
Winter									
California	8.5	10.0	8.5	10.0	260	300	1,540	2,210	3,000
Florida	9.6	8.2	9.3	8.0	200	200	1,440	1,860	1,600
Total	18.1	18.2	17.8	18.0	229	256	2,980	4,070	4,600
Spring ^{1/}									
Alabama	1.7		1.6		175		221	280	
Arizona	10.0		9.6		315		2,268	3,024	
California	19.0		19.0		400		6,198	7,600	
Florida	28.8		28.0		315		7,358	8,820	
Hastings	21.5		21.0		330		5,758	6,930	
Other	7.3		7.0		270		1,600	1,890	
North Carolina	17.0		16.5		200		3,325	3,300	
Texas	10.3		9.8		235		1,751	2,303	
Total	86.8		84.5		300		21,121	25,327	

^{1/} 1999 Revised.

POTATO STOCKS DOWN 3 PERCENT

The 15 major potato States held 238 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 2000, down 3 percent from the last two years. Storage accounted for 57 percent of 1999 fall production, one percentage point below last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 11 percent round white, 4 percent long white (Shepody) and 83 percent russet; with more russets, and fewer whites than a year ago.

years ago. December usage was 15.7 million cwt, down 1 percent from last year's record high, but 3 percent above 1997.

Disappearance in the 15 States from the start of harvest to January 1, 2000 was a record high 182 million cwt, up 3 percent from the same period last year and slightly above the previous record high in 1996. December's disappearance set a new record 36.2 million cwt, 4 percent more than a year ago. Shrink and loss jumped to 21.1 million cwt this season, down 3 percent from 1998, but 22 percent above two years ago. December losses, at 3.89 million cwt, reflect heavy clean-up in the north-central States.

Eastern States stored 16.8 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 2000, up 3 percent from last year but 7 percent below 1998. Maine's stocks were up 4 percent, New York's storage gained 13 percent, but Pennsylvania's stocks declined 20 percent.

Central States accounted for 50.9 million cwt of potato stocks this January, down 12 percent from last year and 6 percent lower than two years ago. Minnesota's stocks dropped 29 percent and North Dakota fell 26 percent from last year. Michigan was off 5 percent and Ohio slipped 20 percent. Wisconsin gained 5 percent and Nebraska stored 11 percent more potatoes than last year.

Processors used 90.3 million cwt of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season, up fractionally from a year ago and 8 percent above two

Western States held 170 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, 2000, down 1 percent from a year ago and 2 percent below two years ago. Colorado and Montana were up 5 percent each and Oregon stored 17 percent more potatoes this year than last. Idaho's stocks were off 3 percent and Washington's were down 6 percent.

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, eight States, 1996-99 ^{1/}

State	Crop year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1 ^{2/}	Entire season
1,000 cwt									
Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon	1996	31,060	38,210	45,420	54,640	62,570	70,720		96,970
	1997	26,880	33,950	41,050	49,470	57,620	65,750		91,450
	1998	27,510	34,700	42,670	51,210	60,040	68,550	76,410	92,860
	1999	27,970	34,490						
Maine ^{3/}	1996	1,790	2,115	2,820	3,280	3,820	4,420		6,495
	1997	1,250	1,720	2,265	2,735	3,355	3,900		5,870
	1998	1,430	1,935	2,530	2,985	3,595	4,180	4,705	5,945
	1999	1,375	1,670						
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	1996	31,670	36,660	41,700	48,740	55,570	62,320		80,970
	1997	28,580	33,990	38,690	46,400	53,720	59,780		76,930
	1998	33,630	38,890	45,650	53,290	60,930	67,180	74,190	83,730
	1999	33,440	39,620						
Other States ^{4/}	1996	13,720	17,000	20,645	24,085	27,650	30,830		43,100
	1997	11,645	13,960	17,115	19,905	23,515	26,365		37,842
	1998	11,615	14,550	18,150	20,900	24,710	27,855	31,635	37,662
	1999	11,785	14,495						
Total	1996	78,240	93,985	110,585	130,745	149,610	168,290		227,535
	1997	68,355	83,620	99,120	118,510	138,210	155,795		212,092
	1998	74,185	90,075	109,000	128,385	149,275	167,765	186,940	220,197
	1999	74,570	90,275						

^{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, MI, MN, ND, and WI. ^{2/} Data not available prior to 1998. ^{3/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. ^{4/} MI, MN, ND, and WI.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on January 1, 1999-2000

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999			January as percent of production
	Production	Stocks Jan 1, 1999	Percent of production	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 1999	Stocks Jan 1, 2000	
	1,000 cwt		Percent	1,000 cwt		Percent	
California	3,708	2,400	65	4,005	3,200	2,500	62
Colorado	25,360	16,500	65	25,762	19,500	17,300	67
Idaho	138,000	89,000	64	133,330	96,000	86,000	65
Maine	18,060	12,500	69	17,813	14,500	13,000	73
Michigan	14,648	7,500	51	14,963	8,800	7,100	47
Minnesota	21,170	12,000	57	18,020	10,000	8,500	47
Montana	3,180	2,980	94	3,325	3,220	3,120	94
Nebraska	8,175	3,900	48	8,904	5,300	4,320	49
New York	7,290	2,300	32	6,758	3,700	2,600	38
North Dakota	28,670	17,500	61	26,400	16,500	13,000	49
Ohio	1,200	150	13	987	250	120	12
Oregon	26,229	17,500	67	28,020	22,800	20,500	73
Pennsylvania	3,360	1,500	45	3,080	1,600	1,200	39
Washington	93,225	43,500	47	95,200	48,000	41,000	43
Wisconsin	30,895	17,000	55	34,000	21,000	17,900	53
Total 15 States	423,170	246,230	58	420,567	274,370	238,160	57