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FIELD CROPS

POTATO STOCKS



FLORIDA
AGRICULTURE

December 18, 2000

Fall Potato Production Record High

Production of fall potatoes for 2000 is a record high 471 million cwt, up 9 percent from comparable estimates last year, and 4 percent above the previous record in 1996. Area harvested, at 1.20 million acres, is up a comparable 2 percent from last year. The average yield is a record high 393 cwt per acre, a jump of 24 cwt from the previous record high last year and 36 cwt above two years ago for comparable States. Comparability is achieved by combining Nebraska's previous summer and fall crops and dropping Wyoming's estimates.

Record large crops were produced in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Yields were record high in 12 States. Hot weather during the summer growing months pushed size profiles and yields to high levels in many of the western States. The north central States lost several thousand acres to flood damage in late June with some blight and frost losses late in the season. Eastern areas were slow to plant because of a wet, cool spring. However, the growing season generally went well and harvest finished on a timely manner.

Five **Eastern States** produced 28.2 million cwt of fall potatoes in 2000, down 1 percent from last year and 5 percent below two years ago. Area harvested totaled 101,300 acres, down 4 percent from last year. The average yield of 278 cwt per acre was up 8 cwt from last year and 7 cwt above 1998. Production in Maine gained 1 percent and Rhode Island rose 2 percent from last year. Pennsylvania's production was up 14 percent, but New York and

Massachusetts output fell by 12 and 14 percent, respectively.

Eight **Central States** production is estimated at 110 million cwt this year, a gain of 3 percent from last year and 1 percent from two years ago. Harvest was taken from 336,700 acres, up 1 percent, while the average yield of 327 cwt per acre was up 6 cwt from a year ago. Production in Minnesota was up 18 percent from last year with an increase in harvested acreage and higher yield. North Dakota's production increased 2 percent despite acreage losses from flooding in June. Wisconsin's production was down 1 percent and Nebraska was off 4 percent because of lower acreage. Michigan's crop was equal to last year. Production in Indiana was down 15 percent and South Dakota's dropped 18 percent with frost damage encountered at the end of the season.

Ten **Western States** produced 333 million cwt of potatoes in 2000, up 12 percent from the last year and 13 percent above two years ago. Acreage harvested, at 760,400 acres, was up 4 percent, as the average yield jumped 32 cwt. Idaho potato farmers produced a record high 152 million cwt, up 14 percent from a year ago. Washington hit a record high 108 million cwt, with a gain of 13 percent from last year. Oregon's potato crop topped off at a record 30.7 million cwt, up 10 percent from last year. Montana's production was also record high. Production in Colorado rose 9 percent from last year, Nevada was up 10 percent, and New Mexico gained 8 percent. California's output is off 7 percent and Utah dropped 25 percent.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on December 1, 1999-2000 ^{1/}

State	Crop of 1999			Crop of 2000		
	Production 1,000 cwt	Stocks Dec 1, 1999	Percent of Production	Production 1,000 cwt	Stocks Dec 1, 2000	Percent of Production
California	4,005	3,200	80	3,741	2,700	72
Colorado	25,762	19,700	76	27,972	20,300	73
Idaho	133,330	96,000	72	152,320	110,500	73
Maine	17,813	14,500	81	17,920	14,100	79
Michigan	14,963	8,800	59	14,963	8,700	58
Minnesota	18,020	10,600	59	21,240	14,200	67
Montana	3,325	3,200	96	3,503	3,350	96
Nebraska ^{2/}	8,904	5,300	60	10,127	6,450	64
New York	6,758	3,500	52	5,964	2,700	45
North Dakota	26,400	17,000	64	26,950	18,500	69
Ohio	987	300	30	1,134	320	28
Oregon	28,020	22,000	79	30,683	25,000	81
Pennsylvania	3,080	2,000	65	3,510	1,700	48
Washington	95,200	48,000	50	108,000	61,000	56
Wisconsin	34,000	21,000	62	33,800	20,000	59
Total 15 States	420,567	275,100	65	461,827	309,520	67

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage in 2000 totaled 29.7 million cwt. ^{2/} Summer estimates included with fall in 2000.

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, eight States, 1997-2000 ^{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 & Malheur County, Oregon	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	40,790	49,220	57,820	66,080	74,110	88,210
	2000	29,290							
Maine ^{3/}	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	1,270	1,700	2,385	3,070	3,765	4,560	5,150	6,670
	2000	1,845							
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	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	33,320	39,620	45,500	53,350	61,080	67,230	74,840	83,210
	2000	34,670							
Other States ^{4/}	1997	11,645	13,960	17,115	19,905	23,515	26,365		37,842
	1998	11,570	14,465	18,030	20,850	24,850	28,190	31,635	39,865
	1999	12,455	15,035	17,950	20,855	24,305	27,220	30,410	36,435
	2000	12,650							
Total	1997	68,355	83,620	99,120	118,510	138,210	155,795		212,092
	1998	74,140	89,990	108,880	128,335	149,415	168,100	186,670	222,400
	1999	75,015	90,845	106,625	126,495	146,970	165,090	184,510	214,525
	2000	78,455							

^{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 in 2000. MI, MN, ND, and WI IN 1997-1999.