



IDAHO POTATOES


**IDAHO
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STATISTICS
SERVICE**
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PROCESSING

Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 29,290,000 cwt. of 2000 crop raw potatoes to December 1, 5 percent more than a year ago. Idaho potatoes contributed 22,840,000 cwt. of the total potatoes processed, the remaining 6,450,000 cwt. were produced in other states. Processing in Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin totaled 78,455,000 cwt. of raw potatoes to December 1, 5 percent more than the comparable period last year.

POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING,^{1/} EIGHT STATES, 1999 AND 2000

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 JUNE 1	ENTIRE SEASON
<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>											
Idaho & Malheur Co., Ore. All Potatoes	1999-00	11,620	20,310	27,970	34,490	40,790	49,220	57,820	66,080	74,110	88,210
	2000-01	12,730	22,080	29,290							
IDAHO Potatoes	1999-00	7,210	14,500	21,820	27,900	33,640	41,590	49,850	57,450	64,990	78,390
	2000-01	7,790	16,030	22,840							
Maine ^{2/}	1999-00			1,270	1,700	2,385	3,070	3,765	4,560	5,150	6,670
	2000-01			1,845							
Wash. & Other Area, Ore.	1999-00	19,040	26,820	33,320	39,620	45,500	53,350	61,080	67,230	74,840	83,210
	2000-01	19,460	27,510	34,670							
Other States ^{3/}	1999-00			12,455	15,035	17,950	20,855	24,305	27,220	30,410	36,435
	2000-01			12,650							
TOTAL (8 STATES)	1999-00			75,015	90,845	106,625	126,495	146,970	165,090	184,510	214,525
	2000-01			78,455							

1/ Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the state in which the potatoes were produced. Does not include quantities used for potato chips in Maine, Mich., Minn., N. Dak. or Wis. 2/ Includes Maine grown potatoes only. 3/ Mich., Minn., N. Dak. and Wis.

STOCKS

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers and processors in Idaho on December 1 totaled 110,500,000 cwt., 14,500,000 cwt. more than on hand December 1, 1999. Disappearance, at 41,820,000 cwt., is up from last year's 37,330,000 cwt. and above 1998's 38,500,000 cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest Counties totaled 7,900,000 cwt., above last year's 7,300,000 cwt. The Other Counties' stocks, at 102,600,000 cwt., was 13,900,000 cwt. above the amount stored on December 1, 1999.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the December 1, 2000 Idaho Potato Stocks estimate is 4.4 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 110.5 million cwt. will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 4.4 percent or 4.9 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence interval) that the difference will not exceed 7.5 percent or approximately 8.3 million cwt.

UNITED STATES POTATO STOCKS AT RECORD HIGH

The 15 major potato States held a record high 310 million cwt. of potatoes on December 1, 2000, up 13 percent from last year and 10 percent above 1998. Potatoes in storage accounted for 67 percent of the 2000 fall storage States production, 2 percentage points above last year. Disappearance in the 15 States from the start of harvest to December 1, at 152 million cwt. of potatoes, was up 5 percent from the same period last year and 7 percent more than two years ago.

The Three Eastern States stored 18.5 million cwt. of potatoes on December 1, down 7 percent from last year and 5 percent below 1998. Maine's stocks were down 3 percent, New York's storage was off 23 percent, and Pennsylvania's stocks declined 15 percent.

The Six Central States accounted for 68.2 million cwt. of potato stocks this December, up 8 percent from last year and slightly above two years ago. Minnesota's stocks jumped 34 percent and Nebraska rose 22 percent from a year ago. North Dakota stocks gained 9 percent and Ohio increased 7 percent. Michigan was off 1 percent and Wisconsin was down 5 percent.

The Six Western States held 223 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on December 1, a jump of 16 percent above last year and 15 percent above two years ago. Washington's storage increased 27 percent from last year, Idaho rose 15 percent, and Oregon was up 14 percent. Colorado gained 3 percent and Montana increased 5 percent. California's stocks were down 16 percent.

FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION & STOCKS 1995-00 IDAHO & 15 FALL STATES

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS						
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR					
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1	JUN 1 2/
<u>1,000 Cwt.</u>								
IDAHO								
1995	132,657	96,000	85,000	73,500	62,500	49,500	36,000	
1996	142,800	102,000	92,000	82,000	70,000	56,000	41,000	
1997	140,314	102,000	91,500	81,000	69,500	56,000	41,500	
1998	138,000	99,500	89,000	77,500	66,000	52,000	37,000	23,000
1999	133,330	96,000	86,000	76,500	65,000	50,000	36,000	21,000
2000	152,320	110,500						
15 STATES 1/								
1995	394,785	256,710	223,550	189,360	156,020	115,855	75,870	
1996	443,704	295,100	261,320	226,080	189,210	147,635	103,210	
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840	
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000	461,827	309,520						

1/ See table below for listing of 15 states. 2/ Stocks not available prior to 1998.

PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS AND LOCAL DEALERS ON DECEMBER 1, 1999 AND DECEMBER 1, 2000 1/

STATE	CROP OF 1999			CROP OF 2000		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 1999	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2000	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION
	<u>1,000 Cwt.</u>		<u>Percent</u>			
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
N. 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
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.

IDAHO PRODUCTION UNCHANGED FROM NOVEMBER 1

Idaho's 2000 potato production of a record breaking 152.320 million cwt., is unchanged from the November 1 estimate. Planted acres of 415,000 and harvested acres of 413,000 are also unchanged from earlier estimates. Statewide yield of 369 cwt. (field-run basis) is 30 cwt. above a year ago and a record level for Idaho.

Production in the 10 Southwestern Counties is estimated at 13.72 million cwt., above the 12.22 million cwt. produced in 1999. Harvested acreage of 28,000 is up 2,000 acres from a year ago. Yield of 490 cwt. (field run basis) is up 20 cwt. from last year.

Other Counties' production of 138.60 million cwt. is well above 1999's production of 121.11 million cwt. Acres for harvest increased 18,000 acres from 1999 to 385,000 acres. Field-run yield of 360 cwt. per acre is 30 cwt. above a year ago.

FALL POTATOES - PRODUCTION FORECAST DECEMBER 1, 2000

States	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000
	<u>1,000 Acres</u>		<u>Cwt.</u>			<u>1,000 Cwt.</u>	
WINTER ^{1/}	17.8	17.0	229	292	2,980	4,070	4,960
SPRING ^{1/}	84.5	80.1	300	281	21,121	25,327	22,486
SUMMER ^{1/}	64.0	62.3	296	297	18,933	18,972	18,504
FALL							
California	9.0	8.7	445	430	3,708	4,005	3,741
Colorado	76.9	75.6	335	370	25,360	25,762	27,972
IDAHO, ALL	393.0	413.0	339	369	138,000	133,330	152,320
- 10 SW Counties	26.0	28.0	470	490	12,600	12,220	13,720
- Other Areas	367.0	385.0	330	360	125,400	121,110	138,600
Indiana	4.9	4.0	270	280	1,600	1,323	1,120
Maine	62.5	64.0	285	280	18,060	17,813	17,920
Massachusetts	2.9	2.5	255	255	682	740	638
Michigan	47.5	47.5	315	315	14,648	14,963	14,963
Minnesota	53.0	59.0	340	360	21,170	18,020	21,240
Montana	10.9	11.3	305	310	3,180	3,325	3,503
Nebraska ^{1/}	21.2	24.7	420	410	8,175	8,904	10,127
Nevada	6.5	7.0	440	450	2,800	2,860	3,150
New Mexico	6.6	6.8	380	400	2,242	2,508	2,720
New York	25.5	21.3	265	280	7,290	6,758	5,964
North Dakota	110.0	110.0	240	245	28,670	26,400	26,950
Ohio	4.7	4.2	210	270	1,200	987	1,134
Oregon, ALL	55.5	56.5	505	543	26,229	28,020	30,683
- Malheur, Co	10.5	10.5	440	425	4,560	4,620	4,463
- Other Areas	45.0	46.0	520	570	21,669	23,400	26,220
Pennsylvania	14.0	13.0	220	270	3,360	3,080	3,510
Rhode Island	0.6	0.5	225	275	147	135	138
South Dakota	3.4	2.8	290	290	1,248	986	812
Utah	2.0	1.5	290	290	728	580	435
Washington	170.0	180.0	560	600	93,225	95,200	108,000
Wisconsin	85.0	84.5	400	400	30,895	34,000	33,800
Wyoming ^{2/}	0.5		295		120	148	
TOTAL FALL	1,166.1	1,198.4	369	393	432,737	429,847	470,840
UNITED STATES	1,332.4	1,357.8	359	381	475,771	478,216	516,790

1/ Summer estimates included with Fall in 2000.

2/ Estimates discontinued in 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.

The 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.

The 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.

The 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 a 10 percent from last year.

RELIABILITY OF DECEMBER 1 PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ESTIMATES

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the December 1 stocks estimate is 2.6 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 310 million cwt. will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.6 percent or approximately 8.0 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.5 percent or approximately 13.9 million cwt.

Don Gerhardt
State Statistician

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Statistician