



# IDAHO POTATOES

 IDAHO  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE  
P.O. Box 1699  
Boise, ID 83701  
1-208-334-1507  
FAX: (208) 334-1114

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## POTATO PRODUCTION REACHES RECORD LEVEL

Idaho's 2000 potato production is expected to total 152.32 million cwt., up 14 percent from last year's 133.33 million cwt. This represents a record production, surpassing the previous record of 142.80 million cwt. set in 1996. Planted acres of 415,000 and harvested acres of 413,000 are unchanged from previously set estimates. A statewide yield of 369 cwt. (field-run basis) is up 30 cwt. from a year ago and also a record. The previous record of 353 cwt. was set in 1997. Yield in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 490 cwt., is up 20 cwt. from 1999 and a record for the area. Total production in this area is estimated at 13.72 million cwt. from 28,000 harvested acres. In Idaho's "other counties," yield is estimated at a record 360 cwt., compared to 330 cwt. a year ago. Area production from 385,000 harvested acres is expected to total 138.60 million cwt., 14 percent above last year's 121.11 million cwt.

Idaho's 2000 crop got off to a quick start with planting running ahead of schedule. The early start enabled the crop to benefit from favorable conditions throughout the extended growing season. Damage from frost, disease and insect infestation was minimal in most areas. Crop conditions going into harvest were excellent and producers harvested a crop that sized well and showed good quality.

## UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Nationally: Production of fall potatoes for 2000 is forecast at a record high million 463 million cwt., up 7 percent from comparable estimates last year and 2 percent above the previous record in 1996. Area harvested, at 1.19 million acres, is up a comparable 2 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 388 cwt. per acre, a jump of 19 cwt. from last year.

The Five Eastern States produced 28.4 million cwt. of fall potatoes in 2000, down fractionally from last year and 4 percent below two years ago. Area for harvest totaled 101,300 acres, down 4 percent from last year. The average yield of 281 cwt. per acre was up 11 cwt. from last year and 10 cwt. above 1998.

The Eight Central States production is forecast at 111 million cwt. this year, a gain of 3 percent from last year and 1 percent above two years ago. Harvest was taken from 337,700 acres, up 1 percent from 1999, while the average yield of 328 cwt. per acre was up 7 cwt. from a year ago.

The Ten Western States produced 324 million cwt. of potatoes in 2000, up 10 percent from the last two years. Acreage harvested, at 755,400 acres, was up 3 percent, as the average yield jumped 24 cwt. Idaho potato farmers produced a record high 152 million cwt., up 14 percent from a year ago. Washington hit a record high 103 million cwt., a gain of 8 percent. Oregon's potato crop is down 3 percent from last year.

## FALL POTATOES - PRODUCTION FORECAST NOVEMBER 1, 2000

States	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		
WINTER <sup>1/</sup>	17.8	17.0	229	292	2,980	4,070	4,960
SPRING <sup>1/</sup>	84.5	80.1	300	281	21,121	25,327	22,486
SUMMER <sup>1/</sup>	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
<b>IDAHO, ALL</b>	<b>393.0</b>	<b>413.0</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>138,000</b>	<b>133,330</b>	<b>152,320</b>
- 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	270	682	740	675
Michigan	47.5	47.5	315	315	14,648	14,963	14,963
Minnesota	53.0	60.0	340	360	21,170	18,020	21,600
Montana	10.9	11.3	305	305	3,180	3,325	3,447
Nebraska <sup>2/</sup>	21.2	24.7	420	420	8,175	8,904	10,374
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	290	7,290	6,758	6,177
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	481	26,229	28,020	27,200
- Malheur, Co.	10.5	10.5	440	400	4,560	4,620	4,200
- Other Areas	45.0	46.0	520	500	21,669	23,400	23,000
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	175.0	560	590	93,225	95,200	103,250
Wisconsin	85.0	84.5	400	400	30,895	34,000	33,800
Wyoming <sup>3/</sup>	0.5		295		120	148	
TOTAL FALL	1,166.1	1,194.4	369	388	432,737	429,847	463,408
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>1,332.4</b>	<b>1,353.8</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>475,771</b>	<b>478,216</b>	<b>509,358</b>

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast. 2/ Summer estimates included with fall in 2000. 3/ Estimates discontinued in 2000.