



# IDAHO POTATOES


**IDAHO  
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## PROCESSING

Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 20.9 million cwt of 2001 crop raw potatoes to Dec. 1, 29 percent less than a year ago. Idaho potatoes contributed 17.0 million cwt of the total potatoes processed, the remaining 3.91 million cwt were produced in other states. Processing of the 2001 crop potatoes totaled 64.9 million cwt to Dec. 1, down 17 percent from last year.

POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING,<sup>1/</sup> NINE STATES, 2000 AND 2001

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 JUN 1	ENTIRE SEASON
<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>											
Idaho & Malheur Co., Ore. All Potatoes	2000-01	12,730	22,080	29,290	35,720	43,470	50,580	58,910	66,760	75,270	93,460
	2001-02	8,050	14,350	20,940							
IDAHO Potatoes	2000-01	7,790	16,030	22,840	28,740	36,000	42,530	50,250	57,390	65,470	82,610
	2001-02	5,670	10,970	17,030							
Maine <sup>2/</sup>	2000-01			1,845	2,475	3,105	3,695	4,225	4,760	5,340	7,015
	2001-02			1,935							
Wash. & Other Area, Ore.	2000-01	19,460	27,510	34,770	40,970	47,720	55,250	62,860	69,850	78,010	91,130
	2001-02	15,380	22,090	29,270							
Other States <sup>3/</sup>	2000-01			12,665	16,215	18,975	22,095	25,410	28,695	31,765	39,020
	2001-02			12,715							
TOTAL (9 STATES)	2000-01			78,570	95,380	113,270	131,620	151,405	170,065	190,385	230,625
	2001-02			64,860							

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, and WI. 2/ Includes ME grown potatoes only. 3/ MN, NV, ND, SD, and WI.

## STOCKS

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers and processors in Idaho on December 1 totaled 95.0 million cwt, 16.0 million cwt less than on hand December 1, 2000. Disappearance, at 33.0 million cwt, is down from last year's 41.3 million cwt and below 1999's 37.3 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest Counties totaled 6.40 million cwt, below last year's 7.90 million cwt. The Other Counties' stocks, at 88.6 million cwt, was 14.5 million cwt below the amount stored on December 1, 2000.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the December 1, 2001 Idaho Potato Stocks estimate is 3.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 95.0 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.6 percent or 3.4 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence interval) that the difference will not exceed 6.2 percent or approximately 5.9 million cwt.

UNITED STATES POTATO STOCKS DOWN 14 PERCENT

The 15 major potato States held 267 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, 2001, down 14 percent from last year and 3 percent below 1999. Potatoes in storage accounted for 68 percent of the 2001 fall storage States' production, the same percentage as last year. Disappearance in the 15 States from the start of harvest to December 1 totaled 127 million cwt of potatoes, down 14 percent from the same period last year and 13 percent less than two years ago.

Eastern States stored 16.7 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, down 11 percent from last year and 16 percent below 1999. Maine's stocks were down 14 percent, and Pennsylvania's stocks declined 15 percent. New York's potato storage was above last year by 12 percent.

Central States accounted for 64.8 million cwt of potato stocks this December, down 8 percent from last year but 3 percent above two years ago. North Dakota's stocks are up 5 percent, but the other five Central States are down from last year. Nebraska and Ohio stocks are off 35 percent and 37 percent, respectively. Minnesota's storage is down 15 percent and Michigan is off 6 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin's potato stocks are down 5 percent from last year.

Western States held 185 million cwt of potatoes in storage on December 1, a drop of 16 percent from last year and 4 percent below two years ago. The 2001 water shortage helped reduce California's potato stocks 63 percent and Oregon's 30 percent below last year. Colorado farmers stored 23 percent fewer potatoes this year than last. Idaho dropped 14 percent, and Washington fell 10 percent from last year. Montana's seed storage decreased 12 percent.

**FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION & STOCKS 1996-2001 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								
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	111,000	101,000	87,500	76,500	61,500	47,000	26,500
2001	127,980	95,000						
15 STATES 1/								
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	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,240
2001	393,621	266,520						

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, 2000 AND DECEMBER 1, 2001 1/**

STATE	CROP OF 2000			CROP OF 2001		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2000	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2001	DECEMBER 1 STOCKS AS % OF PRODUCTION
	<u>1,000 Cwt.</u>		<u>Percent</u>			
California	3,741	2,700	72	1,113	1,000	90
Colorado	27,972	20,300	73	21,357	15,600	73
Idaho	152,320	111,000	73	127,980	95,000	74
Maine	17,920	14,100	79	16,120	12,100	75
Michigan	14,963	8,700	58	14,030	8,200	58
Minnesota	21,240	14,200	67	18,425	12,000	65
Montana	3,503	3,350	96	3,040	2,950	97
Nebraska	10,127	7,500	74	8,512	4,850	57
New York	5,964	2,600	44	5,942	2,900	49
N. Dakota	26,950	18,500	69	26,400	19,500	74
Ohio	1,134	350	31	984	220	22
Oregon	30,683	25,000	81	20,190	17,500	87
Pennsylvania	3,510	2,000	57	3,173	1,700	54
Washington	105,000	59,000	56	94,400	53,000	56
Wisconsin	33,800	21,000	62	31,955	20,000	63
15 STATES TOTAL	458,827	310,300	68	393,621	266,520	68

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage in 2001 totaled 27.4 million cwt.

IDAHO PRODUCTION UNCHANGED FROM NOVEMBER 1

Idaho's 2001 potato production of 128 million cwt, is unchanged from the November 1 estimate. Planted acres of 370,000 and harvested acres of 368,000 are also unchanged from earlier estimates. Statewide yield of 348 cwt (field-run basis) is 21 cwt below a year ago. Production for the State is the lowest since 1993 when 126 million cwt were produced.

Production in the 10 Southwestern Counties is estimated at 11.7 million cwt, below the 13.7 million cwt produced in 2000. Harvested acreage of 26,000 is down 2,000 acres from a year ago. Yield of 450 cwt (field run basis) is down 40 cwt from last year.

Other Counties' production of 116 million cwt is below 2000's production of 139 million cwt. Acres for harvest decreased 43,000 acres from 2000 to 342,000 acres. Field-run yield of 340 cwt per acre is 20 cwt below a year ago.

**FALL POTATOES - PRODUCTION FORECAST DECEMBER 1, 2001**

States	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	2000	2001	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
	<u>1,000 Acres</u>		<u>Cwt.</u>			<u>1,000 Cwt.</u>	
WINTER	17.0	14.0	292	294	4,070	4,960	4,115
SPRING	75.6	72.5	290	269	25,327	21,921	19,500
SUMMER	63.2	59.2	304	296	18,972	19,236	17,503
FALL							
California	8.7	2.5	430	445	4,005	3,741	1,113
Colorado	75.6	67.8	370	315	25,762	27,972	21,357
<b>  IDAHO, ALL</b>	413.0	368.0	369	348	133,330	152,320	127,980
- 10 SW Counties	28.0	26.0	490	450	12,220	13,720	11,700
- Other Areas	385.0	342.0	360	340	121,110	138,600	116,280
Indiana	2.8	2.9	280	320	1,323	784	928
Maine	64.0	62.0	280	260	17,813	17,920	16,120
Massachusetts	2.5	2.8	255	265	740	638	742
Michigan	47.5	46.0	315	305	14,963	14,963	14,030
Minnesota	59.0	55.0	360	335	18,020	21,240	18,425
Montana	11.3	9.5	310	320	3,325	3,503	3,040
Nebraska <sup>1/</sup>	24.7	22.4	410	380	8,904	10,127	8,512
Nevada	7.0	6.5	450	360	2,860	3,150	2,340
New Mexico	6.8	4.2	400	340	2,508	2,720	1,428
New York	21.3	23.3	280	255	6,758	5,964	5,942
North Dakota	110.0	110.0	245	240	26,400	26,950	26,400
Ohio	4.2	4.1	270	240	987	1,134	984
Oregon, ALL	56.5	44.5	543	454	28,020	30,683	20,190
- Malheur, Co	10.5	9.0	425	350	4,620	4,463	3,150
- Other Areas	46.0	35.5	570	480	23,400	26,220	17,040
Pennsylvania	13.0	13.5	270	235	3,080	3,510	3,173
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	275	270	135	138	135
South Dakota	2.8	2.7	290	240	986	812	648
Utah	1.5	1.3	290	265	580	435	345
Washington	175.0	160.0	600	590	95,200	105,000	94,400
Wisconsin	84.5	83.0	400	385	34,000	33,800	31,955
Wyoming <sup>2/</sup>					148		
<b>TOTAL FALL</b>	1,192.2	1,092.5	392	366	429,847	467,504	400,187
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	1,348.0	1,238.2	381	356	478,216	513,621	441,305

1/ Summer estimates included with Fall beginning in 2000. 2/ Estimates discontinued in 2000.

## FALL POTATO PRODUCTION DOWN 14 PERCENT

Production of fall potatoes for 2001 is forecast at 400 million cwt, down 14 percent from last year and the smallest fall crop since 1993. Area harvested, at 1.09 million acres, is down 8 percent from last season. The average yield is forecast at 366 cwt per acre, a drop of 26 cwt from last year.

After a record high production last year, the fall potato crop is smaller in 20 of the 22 fall producing States. Only Indiana and Massachusetts have larger crops this year. Shortages of irrigation water severely reduced acreage in the Klamath Basin of California and Oregon. Hot, dry weather stretched across the north central States and to the east coast during midsummer but abated as rains came the last of August. Most States reported reduced yields from the hot weather when compared with the record high yields a year ago. Disease problems were held to a minimum. Harvest was completed on time with little or no major problem.

Ten Western States produced 272 million cwt of potatoes in 2001, down 17 percent from last year. Acreage harvested, at 664,300 acres, is down 12 percent while the average yield, at 410 cwt per acre, fell 26 cwt from a year ago. The lack of irrigation water dropped California fall potato production by 70 percent and Oregon by 34 percent from last year. Fall potato production in New Mexico fell 47 percent, with a sharp drop in acreage and yield. Idaho's production is 16 percent below last year's record high crop. Washington's potato crop declined 10 percent. Fall production in Colorado fell 24 percent, while Nevada dropped 26 percent. Utah's production is down 21 percent from a year ago, and Montana's production is trimmed by 13 percent.

Eight Central States production is forecast at 102 million cwt this year, down 7 percent from last year. Harvested area is estimated at 326,100 acres, down 3 percent, while the average yield of 312 cwt per acre is off 15 cwt from a year ago. The Nebraska potato crop is down 16 percent from 2000 and South Dakota is off 20 percent. Production in Minnesota and Ohio are down 13 percent each while Michigan is down 6 percent from last year. North Dakota's production slipped 2 percent and Wisconsin dropped 5 percent, with lower yields reported. The only central State with better production than last year is Indiana, which is up 18 percent attributed to ideal growing conditions and a 4 percent increase in harvested acres.

Five Eastern States produced 26.1 million cwt of fall potatoes in 2001, down 7 percent from last year. Area for harvest totaled 102,100 acres, 1 percent above a year ago, but the average yield fell to 256 cwt per acre, 22 cwt below 2000. Production in Maine and Pennsylvania each dropped 10 percent from last year. New York declined less than 1 percent, and Rhode Island is off 2 percent. Massachusetts potato production is up 16 percent.

## RELIABILITY OF DECEMBER 1 PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ESTIMATES

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the December 1 stocks estimate is 2.5 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 267 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.5 percent or approximately 6.7 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.3 percent or approximately 11.5 million cwt.

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