



# IDAHO POTATOES



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**IDAHO:** Potato growers in the Gem State are expected to harvest 368,000 acres in 2001, 45,000 acres less than the acres harvested in 2000. Planted acres, of 370,000, are down 10.8 percent from a year ago. In the 10 Southwest counties, planted and harvested acres are estimated at 26,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from 2000. Acres for harvest in the State's other counties are expected to total 342,000 acres from 344,000 planted acres. This represents a 11.2 percent decrease from last year's 385,000 acres harvested from 387,000 planted acres.

Planting of Idaho's 2001 potato crop got off to a slow start but gained momentum with warming in mid-April. By late May planting was virtually complete. Recent warming conditions have aided development and by July 1 the crop was making good progress. Control of diseases continue to be a concern and the crop is being closely monitored with preventative actions being taken.

**United States:** Potato farmers across the United States have planted an estimated 1.26 million acres of potatoes in all four seasons in 2001, down 9 percent from last year. Area for harvest, forecast at 1.23 million acres, is also down 9 percent from a year ago. By season, winter planted acreage is down 2 percent from the previous year, spring planted potatoes are off 4 percent, summer potatoes dropped 6 percent, and fall plummeted 10 percent from a year ago. In earlier forecasts, winter production fell 20 percent from last year, while spring potato output fell 11 percent. The summer forecast places production down 3 percent from a year ago.

**Fall Potatoes:** Area planted to fall potatoes this year is estimated at 1.11 million acres, down 10 percent from last year. Harvested area is expected to total 1.09 million acres down 9 percent from a year ago.

Eastern States planted an estimated 102,800 acres this year. Maine's planted acreage is estimated at 62,000 acres, down 3 percent from last year. New York's planted acreage is up 7 percent and Pennsylvania gained 4 percent from a year ago. Acreage in Massachusetts and Rhode Island remained the same as last year. Dry spring weather in New England and New York allowed a rapid planting pace, well ahead of

normal. Maine potatoes were 90 percent planted by June 1, 2001 compared with 65 percent normally. Planting progressed at a rapid pace in New York and crop development was early. Harvest on Long Island was underway for roadside stand sales by July 1. Pennsylvania's planting season was cooler than normal but warmed up during mid-spring. Crop progress is now about normal.

Central States planted an estimated 331,200 acres of fall potatoes this year, down 8 percent from last year. Seven of eight States in the country's mid section had lower acreage than last year. South Dakota dropped 20 percent from last year's acreage, Nebraska is off 17 percent, Minnesota fell 14 percent, and North Dakota lost 11 percent from last year's planted acreage. Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin trimmed 3, 2, and 1 percent, respectively, from last year's planted acreage. Only Indiana planted more acres than last year, up 3 percent. A wet spring delayed planting in several Midwest States. Growers were still trying to plant potatoes in late June in Minnesota's Red River Valley where there was just too much moisture during most of the spring. Michigan planting progress was delayed by wet soils and the fear of blight development. Warm June weather improved crop conditions in North Dakota after numerous spring planting delays. Wisconsin's potatoes are late but in good condition.

Western States planted acreage is estimated at 673,000 acres, down 12 percent from last year. Each of the western States planted fewer acres than a year ago. Water shortage cut California's planted acreage by 71 percent and Oregon's by 18 percent. Idaho's growers planted 11 percent fewer potato acres than last year. Washington growers trimmed their potato acreage by 8 percent. Colorado's fall potato farmers planted 10 percent fewer acres than a year ago. New Mexico chopped their planted potato acreage by 41 percent. Nevada potato acreage was cut by 14 percent and Utah dropped 13 percent. Montana's seed acreage was reduced by 17 percent. The Pacific Northwest has turned drier than normal this year. Power and water buy back programs also encouraged some potato acreage reduction along with the memory of low prices from last year's record high production.

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**Fall Potatoes: Acres Planted and Acres Harvested, by States**

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2000	2001	2000	Indicated 2001
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			
California	8.7	2.5	8.7	2.5
Colorado	75.8	68.1	75.6	67.9
<b>IDAHO</b>	<b>415.0</b>	<b>370.0</b>	<b>413.0</b>	<b>368.0</b>
<b>SW (10 Counties)</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>26.0</b>
<b>Other Counties</b>	<b>387.0</b>	<b>344.0</b>	<b>385.0</b>	<b>342.0</b>
Indiana	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.9
Maine	64.0	62.0	64.0	62.0
Massachusetts	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.8
Michigan	49.0	47.5	47.5	45.5
Minnesota	66.0	57.0	59.0	51.0
Montana	11.5	9.6	11.3	9.5
Nebraska	26.0	21.5	24.7	21.1
Nevada	7.0	6.0	7.0	6.0
New Mexico	6.8	4.0	6.8	4.0
New York	22.0	23.5	21.3	23.0
North Dakota	124.0	110.0	110.0	106.0
Ohio	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.1
Oregon	57.0	46.5	56.5	46.0
Malheur Co.	10.5	9.0	10.5	9.0
Other Areas	46.5	37.5	46.0	37.0
Pennsylvania	13.5	14.0	13.0	13.5
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
South Dakota	3.5	2.8	2.8	2.6
Utah	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.3
Washington	180.0	165.0	180.0	165.0
Wisconsin	86.0	85.0	84.5	84.0
<b>Total Fall <sup>1/</sup></b>	<b>1,228.0</b>	<b>1,107.0</b>	<b>1,197.2</b>	<b>1,089.2</b>

1/ The forecast of fall production will be released November 9, 2001.

**Fall Potatoes: Acres Planted for Certified Seed Potatoes, by States <sup>1/</sup>**

State	2000 Crop			2001	State	2000 Crop			2001
	Entered for Certification	Certified	Percent Certified	Entered for Certification		Entered for Certification	Certified	Percent Certified	Entered for Certification
	Acres		Percent	Acres		Acres		Percent	Acres
Alaska	100	158	158	150	New York	1,100	1,102	100	1,000
California	1,000	1,314	131	800	North Dakota	20,963	19,935	95	22,221
Colorado	16,831	15,932	95	16,813	Oregon	2,100	2,386	114	2,200
<b>IDAHO</b>	<b>50,500</b>	<b>49,202</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>38,581</b>	Pennsylvania	245	273	111	256
Maine	14,636	15,813	108	14,000	South Dakota	958	738	77	648
Michigan	2,311	2,279	99	2,344	Utah	62	62	100	50
Minnesota	11,000	9,324	85	8,000	Washington	2,300	2,412	105	2,250
Montana	11,777	10,670	91	9,306	Wisconsin	10,500	10,609	101	10,450
Nebraska	5,000	5,047	101	7,000	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151,383</b>	<b>147,256</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>136,069</b>

1/ Data supplied by State seed certification officials.