

POTATO STOCKS

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MINNESOTA POTATO STOCKS 18% ABOVE 2003 LEVEL

January 1 Stocks: Minnesota's fall potatoes in storage totaled 12.4 million hundredweight, 18% above the January 1, 2003 level, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. The breakdown of January 1, 2004 stocks by type indicate 12% red, 5% white and 83% russet.

Stocks in Area 1 totaled 3.3 million hundredweight, up 6% from 2003 and stocks in Area 2 totaled 9.1 million hundredweight, up 23% from 2003.

MINNESOTA FALL POTATO STOCKS

Type	Jan. 1, 2003		Jan. 1, 2004	
	Stocks 2002 Crop (000) Cwt	Percent of Total Stocks	Stocks 2003 Crop (000) Cwt	Percent of Total Stocks
Red	1,150	11	1,500	12
White	650	6	600	5
Russet	8,700	83	10,300	83
Total	10,500	100	12,400	100

MINNESOTA FALL POTATO STOCKS BY REGION

Region 1/	Jan. 1, 2003		Jan. 1, 2004	
	Stocks 2002 Crop (000) Cwt	Percent of Total Stocks	Stocks 2003 Crop (000) Cwt	Percent of Total Stocks
MN Area 1	3,100	30	3,300	27
MN Area 2	7,400	70	9,100	73
State Total	10,500	100	12,400	100

1/ Minnesota Area 1 includes the following counties: Kittson, Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Beltrami, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Mahnomon, Norman, Clearwater, Clay, Becker and Wilkin counties. Minnesota Area 2 includes all remaining counties in the State.

(over)

Potato Stocks Up 1%

The 15 major potato States held 234 million cwt of potatoes in storage January 1, 2004, up 1% from last year and 4% above 2002. Potatoes in storage account for 58% of the 2003 fall storage States' production, up 1 percentage point from last year. Stocks by type show more round whites and fewer russets than a year ago.

Disappearance of 170 million cwt of potatoes is down 3% from last year but 5% above 2001 movement. Shrink and loss, at 17.4 million cwt so far this season, is down 4% from last year but 1% above the same date in 2001.

Processors in the 9 major States used 86.8 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 6% from a year ago but 8% above two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 18.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 6% from last year. December 1, 2003, stocks were revised up slightly, with changes in Colorado, Nebraska, and New York.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on January 1, 2003-2004¹

State	Crop of 2002			Crop of 2003			
	Prod	Stocks Jan 1, 2003	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Dec 1, 2003	Stocks Jan 1, 2004	Jan % of Prod
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	4,264	2,900	68	3,444	2,700	2,300	67
CO ²	27,885	18,100	65	23,652	17,700	15,500	66
ID	133,385	82,500	62	123,180	86,000	76,500	62
ME	16,960	11,200	66	17,030	13,500	12,100	71
MI	13,878	6,500	47	15,015	8,400	6,500	43
MN	18,700	10,500	56	22,330	14,000	12,400	56
MT	3,224	3,000	93	3,339	3,200	3,100	93
NE ²	8,611	4,550	53	9,860	7,000	5,800	59
NY ²	5,500	1,800	33	6,510	3,500	2,800	43
ND	23,460	14,000	60	27,440	19,400	17,300	63
OH	903	40	4	1,290	260	180	14
OR	24,936	15,000	60	20,991	18,000	15,800	75
PA	2,590	1,100	42	3,915	2,200	1,600	41
WA	92,400	43,500	47	93,150	51,000	44,000	47
WI	31,125	17,000	55	32,800	21,000	18,000	55
15 States ²	407,821	231,690	57	403,946	267,860	233,880	58

¹ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant the following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2003 totaled 28.3 million cwt.

² December 1, 2003 stocks revised.