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POTATO ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND STOCKS

The Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service provides potato acreage, production, and stocks by two potato areas in Minnesota as requested by the potato industry. Area 1 includes fourteen Minnesota counties primarily located in the Red River Valley. Area 2 includes all remaining counties in Minnesota.

2004 Fall Potato Production: Minnesota's fall potato production is estimated at 18.9 million hundredweight, down 15% from last year's crop. Planted acreage at 47,000 was 13,000 acres below the 2003 level. Harvested acreage of 44,000 was down 14,000 acres from 2003. Minnesota's yield is forecast at new record of 430 hundredweight, up 45 hundredweight from last year's record yield of 385. Area 1 yield averaged 290 hundredweight per acre and the Area 2 yield averaged 495 hundredweight per acre.

December 1, 2004 Stocks: Minnesota's fall potatoes in storage totaled 13.0 million hundredweight, down 7% from the December 1, 2003 level. The breakdown of stocks by type indicates 9% red, 5% white, and 86% russet.

Stocks in Area 1 totaled 3.6 million hundredweight, down 10% from 2003. Potato stocks by type in Area 1 break out as 30% red, 15% white, and 55% russet. Stocks in Area 2 totaled 9.4 million hundredweight, down 6% from 2003. Potato stocks by type in Area 2 break out as 1% red, 2% white, and 97% russet.

15 Major States Potato Stocks: The 15 major potato States held 272 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2004, up 1 percent from last year and 3 percent above 2002. Potatoes in storage account for 67 percent of the 2004 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point above last year. Disappearance of 132 million cwt of potatoes is down 3 percent from last year and 8 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 16.8 million cwt so far this season, is up 12 percent from last year and 8 percent above the same date in 2002. Processors in the 9 major States used 70.7 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 2 percent from a year ago and 8 percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 13.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 6 percent from last year and 15 percent below the same date in 2002.

FALL POTATOES: ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

| Type | Region 1/ | 2003 Crop | | | | 2004 Crop | | | |
|--------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|
| | | Planted Acres | Harvested Acres | Yield Cwt. | Production (000) Cwt. | Planted Acres | Harvested Acres | Yield Cwt. | Production (000) Cwt. |
| Red | Minnesota | 16,500 | 15,500 | 220 | 3,410 | 10,700 | 9,400 | 275 | 2,585 |
| White | | 6,500 | 6,300 | 275 | 1,732 | 5,300 | 4,100 | 260 | 1,066 |
| Russet | | 37,000 | 36,200 | 475 | 17,188 | 31,000 | 30,500 | 501 | 15,269 |
| Total | | 60,000 | 58,000 | 385 | 22,330 | 47,000 | 44,000 | 430 | 18,920 |
| Red | MN Area 1 | 11,000 | 10,500 | 195 | 2,048 | 8,000 | 7,400 | 225 | 1,665 |
| White | | 3,300 | 3,200 | 170 | 544 | 3,400 | 3,100 | 245 | 760 |
| Russet | | 6,000 | 5,700 | 446 | 2,598 | 3,600 | 3,500 | 467 | 1,635 |
| Total | | 20,300 | 19,400 | 268 | 5,190 | 15,000 | 14,000 | 290 | 4,060 |
| Red | MN Area 2 | 5,500 | 5,000 | 272 | 1,362 | 2,700 | 2,000 | 460 | 920 |
| White | | 3,200 | 3,100 | 383 | 1,188 | 1,900 | 1,000 | 306 | 306 |
| Russet | | 31,000 | 30,500 | 478 | 14,590 | 27,400 | 27,000 | 505 | 13,634 |
| Total | | 39,700 | 38,600 | 444 | 17,140 | 32,000 | 30,000 | 495 | 14,860 |

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

(over)

FALL POTATO: STOCKS

| Type | Region 1/ | Dec. 1, 2003 | | Dec. 1, 2004 | |
|--------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Stocks 2003 Crop (000) Cwt | Percent of Total Stocks | Stocks 2004 Crop (000) Cwt | Percent of Total Stocks |
| Red | Minnesota | 1,950 | 14 | 1,170 | 9 |
| White | | 700 | 5 | 700 | 5 |
| Russet | | 11,350 | 81 | 11,130 | 86 |
| Total | | 14,000 | 100 | 13,000 | 100 |
| Red | MN Area 1 | 1,450 | 36 | 1,080 | 30 |
| White | | 250 | 6 | 540 | 15 |
| Russet | | 2,300 | 58 | 1,980 | 55 |
| Total | | 4,000 | 100 | 3,600 | 100 |
| Red | MN Area 2 | 500 | 5 | 90 | 1 |
| White | | 450 | 4 | 160 | 2 |
| Russet | | 9,050 | 91 | 9,150 | 97 |
| Total | | 10,000 | 100 | 9,400 | 100 |

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Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, December 1, 2003-2004 ¹

| State | Crop of 2003 | | | Crop of 2004 | | |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | Prod | Stocks Dec 1, 2003 | % of Prod | Prod | Stocks Dec 1, 2004 | % 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>Percent</i> |
| CA | 3,528 | 2,700 | 77 | 3,876 | 3,200 | 83 |
| CO | 23,652 | 17,500 | 74 | 23,148 | 17,200 | 74 |
| ID | 123,180 | 86,000 | 70 | 131,970 | 93,500 | 71 |
| ME | 17,030 | 13,500 | 79 | 19,220 | 15,000 | 78 |
| MI | 15,015 | 9,200 | 61 | 13,650 | 8,600 | 63 |
| MN | 22,330 | 14,000 | 63 | 18,920 | 13,000 | 69 |
| MT | 3,339 | 3,100 | 93 | 3,551 | 3,400 | 96 |
| NE | 9,744 | 6,500 | 67 | 8,938 | 5,800 | 65 |
| NY | 6,510 | 2,700 | 41 | 5,184 | 2,900 | 56 |
| ND | 27,440 | 19,400 | 71 | 26,765 | 19,600 | 73 |
| OH | 1,097 | 300 | 27 | 1,080 | 200 | 19 |
| OR | 20,991 | 18,000 | 86 | 19,775 | 17,000 | 86 |
| PA | 3,375 | 1,900 | 56 | 2,530 | 1,200 | 47 |
| WA | 93,150 | 51,000 | 55 | 93,810 | 50,000 | 53 |
| WI | 32,800 | 22,100 | 67 | 30,710 | 21,000 | 68 |
| 15 States | 403,181 | 267,900 | 66 | 403,127 | 271,600 | 67 |

¹ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2004 totaled 26.4 million cwt.