



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Potato Stocks  
April 14, 2004**

### **APRIL 1 POTATO STOCKS**

#### **North Dakota**

Stocks of potatoes totaled 11.2 million hundredweight (cwt) on April 1, 2004 in North Dakota's growers, dealers and processors storage facilities, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Stocks are up 42 percent from last year and 8 percent from two years ago. This is the highest April 1 level since records began in 1973. Current stocks represent 41 percent of production, up from 34 percent last year. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping.

Disappearance, from the start of harvest in 2003 to April 1, totaled 16.2 million cwt, up from 15.6 million cwt last year and 16.0 million cwt two years ago. February disappearance totaled 1.80 million cwt, down from 2.1 million cwt last year and 1.9 million cwt two years ago.

#### **United States**

The 15 major potato States held 126 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2004, up less than 1 percent from last year and 5 percent above 2002. Potatoes in storage account for 31 percent of the 2003 fall storage States' production, unchanged from last year. Disappearance of 278 million cwt of potatoes is down 1 percent from last year but 4 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 25.0 million cwt so far this season, is up 4 percent from last year and 6 percent above the same date in 2002. Processors in the 9 major States used 137 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 4 percent from a year ago but 4 percent above two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 30.3 million cwt of the total processing, down 5 percent from last year.

#### **For More Information Contact:**

### FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND APRIL 1 STOCKS

State	Crop of 2002		Crop of 2003	
	Production	Stocks Apr 1, 2003	Production	Stocks Apr 1, 2004
	-- 1,000 Cwt --		-- 1,000 Cwt --	
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>	23,460	7,900	27,440	11,200
California	4,316	1,600	3,444	1,500
Colorado	27,885	9,900	23,652	7,000
Idaho	133,385	49,000	123,180	46,500
Maine	16,960	6,300	17,030	6,500
Michigan	13,878	2,900	15,015	3,100
Minnesota	18,810	6,100	22,330	7,600
Montana	3,224	1,900	3,339	2,100
Nebraska	8,611	<sup>1/</sup>	9,860	<sup>1/</sup>
New York	5,500	220	6,510	750
Ohio	902	<sup>1/</sup>	1,290	<sup>1/</sup>
Oregon	24,936	7,500	20,991	8,300
Pennsylvania	2,128	400	3,915	500
Washington	92,340	23,000	93,150	21,500
Wisconsin	30,750	7,100	32,800	7,300
Other States		2,050		2,560
<b>15 State Total</b>	<b>407,085</b>	<b>125,870</b>	<b>403,946</b>	<b>126,410</b>

*1/ Combined into Other States.*

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