



**NASS**

22 Bridge St. Third Floor  
PO Box 1444  
Concord, NH 03302

# New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service  
United States Department of Agriculture

Aubrey R. Davis, Director  
[www.usda.gov/nass](http://www.usda.gov/nass)

603-224-9639  
Fax: 603-225-1434  
[nass-nh@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-nh@nass.usda.gov)



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## USDA MEASURES POTATO STOCKS MONTHLY

Now that the 2004 fall potato crop is ready to harvest, growers are finalizing their plans to market the crop. To ensure that the information relating to the disappearance of the 2004 crop is available to all involved in the potato industry on a timely basis, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will once again provide estimates of the amount of potatoes held in storage monthly from December 2004 through June 2005. Average prices received for fall potato sales in Maine and the other major potato producing States will be available monthly from August through the following June. This study is administered by the New England field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Every year, the Potato Stocks and Prices Received survey generates the official USDA statistics of monthly potato stocks and prices nationwide.** Approximately 140 potato growers in Maine will be asked for their help for this important project. The survey begins in late August and is conducted monthly until early June 2005. Stocks Reports will be available close to the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month from December 2004 through June 2005. Monthly Price Reports will continue to be published close to the last day of each month from September 2004 through June 2005. As with all our survey work, individual operator information is kept strictly confidential and is exempted from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. The individual reports are only used in combination with other reports to establish State and National estimates.

Potato stocks, processing, and disappearance information for the 15 fall potato States will be available in the **Potato Stocks Report** from Washington, D.C. on December 15, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. Potato prices will be available in the **Agricultural Prices Report** from Washington, D.C. on September 29, 2004. All reports are available on the Internet within minutes of the scheduled release time and the statistics are reprinted in our December issue of the **Ag Review**. The monthly **Ag Review** is available on the Internet. Complimentary copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request.

[The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Located in Concord, New Hampshire, it is responsible for agricultural statistics in all six States in the region. The office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through e-mail at [nass-nh@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-nh@nass.usda.gov). All national statistics and state level publications are available free from e-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at [http://www.usda.gov/nass/.](http://www.usda.gov/nass/)]

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**For More Information Contact: Robin R. Helrich at 1-800-642-9571 (ext 118).**