

PRESS RELEASE
December 19, 2003

Oregon Russet & Shepody Potato Size and Grade Summary - 2003 Crop

These statistics are from the size and grade survey conducted as part of the annual Potato Objective Yield Survey. The Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service thanks all growers who gave permission to dig samples in their potato fields.

Thirty-four percent of Russet and Shepody potatoes were at least 10 ounces. Of the Russet and Shepody potatoes in the 2003 sample, over 77 percent met the 2.0 inch or 4 oz. minimum size and grade requirements for U.S. No. 1 potatoes. Processing grade, with a 1.5 inch minimum, accounted for almost 22 percent of the 2003 crop. Because the potato samples were dug by hand, the size and grade statistics in this report do not reflect harvesting or handling damage.

Procedures

The 2003 Potato Objective Yield Survey for Oregon consisted of 150 random field samples. The selection of sample fields was based on all known potato acreage planted in the State in 2003, with each acre having an equal chance of being chosen. As a result, growers with large acreages were more likely to be selected for the Potato Objective Yield Survey. Several sample fields with varieties other than Russet and Shepody were selected, but the results for those varieties were not published because the number of samples was insufficient. Within each sample field, two plots were systematically located using computer-generated random numbers. Each plot consisted of a 20-foot section of a row. The samples were dug immediately before harvest or when all vines had died. Three hills of potatoes from each 20-foot row section were carefully dug, counted, weighed, and then graded according to USDA standards. Potatoes less than 1.5 inches in diameter were excluded from this procedure.

Oregon Russet & Shepody Potatoes: Size and Grade - 2003 Crop

Area and grade	1 1/2" - 1 5/8"	1 5/8" - 1 7/8"	1 7/8" - 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 oz	7-8 oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
Percentages (%)														
Malheur County Russet & Shepody														
U.S. No. 1 1/2	--	--	--	18.9	6.4	6.7	5.0	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.4	1.9	6.2	59.0
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	2.3	6.4	4.1	3.7	2.6	1.6	2.2	1.9	2.0	2.5	1.6	2.0	6.6	39.5
Culls	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.2	--	0.2	--	--	--	0.2	--	--	1.5
Total	2.4	6.5	4.2	23.2	9.2	8.3	7.4	5.3	5.3	6.3	5.2	3.9	12.8	100.0
Other Oregon Counties Russet & Shepody														
U.S. No. 1 1/2	--	--	--	21.5	9.3	8.7	7.7	5.6	5.8	4.2	3.5	2.6	14.0	82.9
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.5	4.1	3.4	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	2.4	16.5
Culls	--	--	0.1	0.3	--	0.1	--	--	--	--	--	0.1	--	0.6
Total	1.5	4.1	3.5	22.9	10.0	9.5	8.1	6.0	6.4	4.6	3.8	3.2	16.4	100.0
All Oregon Russet & Shepody														
U.S. No. 1 1/2	--	--	--	20.9	8.6	8.2	7.1	5.1	5.2	4.1	3.4	2.4	12.2	77.2
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.7	4.6	3.5	1.7	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.8	3.4	21.8
Culls	--	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	--	--	--	--	0.1	--	1.0
Total	1.7	4.7	3.6	23.0	9.9	9.2	8.0	5.9	6.1	5.0	4.0	3.3	15.6	100.0
All Oregon Russets														
U.S. No. 1 1/2	--	--	--	20.7	8.7	8.1	6.8	5.1	4.7	4.2	3.2	2.4	12.0	75.9
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.8	4.8	3.6	1.7	1.4	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	3.7	23.1
Culls	--	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	--	--	--	--	0.1	--	1.0
Total	1.8	4.9	3.7	22.8	10.2	9.2	7.8	5.9	5.6	5.1	3.9	3.4	15.7	100.0
All Oregon Shepody														
U.S. No. 1 1/2	--	--	--	21.9	8.4	8.8	8.8	5.4	8.4	3.1	5.1	2.7	13.0	85.6
Processing Grade (1 1/2" min.)	1.3	3.6	3.2	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	--	0.6	1.5	13.7
Culls	--	--	0.1	0.2	0.2	--	0.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.7
Total	1.3	3.6	3.3	23.4	8.7	9.1	9.5	5.8	8.8	3.6	5.1	3.3	14.5	100.0

1/ 2-inch or 4-oz. minimum.

Selected States Long Potatoes (Russet & Shepody) - 2003 Crop

Area and size	1 1/2" - 1 5/8"	1 5/8" - 1 7/8"	1 7/8" - 2"	2" or 4-6 oz	6-7 oz	7-8 oz	8-9 oz	9-10 oz	10-11 oz	11-12 oz	12-13 oz	13-14 oz	14 oz and over	Total
	Percentages (%)													
Idaho ^{1/}	2.2	8.6	6.2	28.8	9.7	8.8	6.5	5.9	4.6	3.9	3.5	2.4	8.9	100.0
Minnesota	1.6	6.4	4.9	28.4	11.8	10.7	9.1	7.1	5.7	3.7	3.4	1.7	5.5	100.0
North Dakota	1.1	6.3	3.8	23.5	11.1	10.9	8.5	7.7	6.0	4.8	4.3	2.4	9.6	100.0
Oregon	1.7	4.7	3.6	22.9	9.9	9.2	8.0	5.9	6.1	5.0	4.1	3.3	15.6	100.0
Washington	1.0	3.9	3.8	21.7	8.5	8.5	8.4	7.7	5.8	5.6	4.6	3.7	16.8	100.0
Wisconsin	3.0	3.4	4.5	30.9	11.4	9.9	8.3	7.0	4.4	3.9	3.1	2.5	7.7	100.0

1/ Russet potatoes only.

Selected States Grading Categories - 2003 Crop ^{1/}

Area and grade by type	U.S. NO. 1 2 Inch Minimum	U.S. NO. 2 or processing usable 1 1/2 inch minimum	Culls	Total
	Percentages (%)			
LONG POTATOES				
Idaho ^{2/}	69.7	29.4	0.9	100.0
Maine ^{3/}	61.2	21.7	17.1	100.0
Minnesota	80.1	17.0	2.9	100.0
North Dakota	73.9	18.1	8.0	100.0
Oregon	77.3	21.8	0.9	100.0
Washington	79.1	19.2	1.7	100.0
Wisconsin	83.8	16.2	--	100.0

1/ Gross yield basis.

2/ Russet potatoes only.

3/ Percent of net yield - adjusted for field loss.

For further information, contact Kevin Young or Janice Goodwin at 503-326-2131 in the Portland local area, or call toll-free at 1-800-338-2157.

For additional information on Oregon Agricultural Statistics visit our Home page: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/or/>

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