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# FIELD CROPS

## POTATO STOCKS



**FLORIDA**  
**AGRICULTURE**

December 16, 1999

### Potato Stocks Down 2 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 275 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, 1999, down 2 percent from last year and 1 percent below 1997. Storage accounted for 65 percent of 1999 fall production, 1 percentage point below last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 12 percent round white, 5 percent long white (Shepody) and 81 percent russet; with fewer russets, and more round whites than a year ago.

Disappearance in the 15 States from the start of harvest to December 1, at 146 million cwt of potatoes, was up 2 percent from the same period last year and 8 percent more than two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 17.2 million cwt so far this year, was down 13 percent from losses in 1998, but up 12 percent from two years ago.

Processors used 74.6 million cwt of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season, up 1 percent from a year ago and 9 percent above two years ago.

Eastern States stored 19.8 million cwt of potatoes on December 1, up 2 percent from last year but 7 percent below 1997. Maine's stocks were up 3 percent, New York's storage gained 9 percent, but Pennsylvania's stocks declined 20 percent.

Central States accounted for 62.4 million cwt of potato stocks this December, down 8 percent from last year and 1 percent lower than two years ago. Minnesota's stocks dropped 26 percent and North Dakota fell 20 percent from last year. Michigan was off 3 percent and Ohio slipped 4 percent. Wisconsin gained 8 percent while Nebraska stored 13 percent more potatoes than last year.

Western States held 193 million cwt of potatoes in storage on December 1, fractionally below a year ago and 1 percent below two years ago. California and Oregon stored 14 percent more potatoes this year than last. Colorado gained 3 percent and Montana increased 6 percent. Idaho's stocks fell 4 percent and Washington's were off 2 percent.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on December 1, 1998-99 <sup>1/</sup>

| State           | Crop of 1998 |                          |                             | Crop of 1999 |                          |                             |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                 | Production   | Stocks<br>Dec 1,<br>1998 | Percent<br>of<br>Production | Production   | Stocks<br>Dec 1,<br>1999 | Percent<br>of<br>Production |
|                 | 1,000 cwt    |                          | Percent                     | 1,000 cwt    |                          | Percent                     |
| California      | 3,708        | 2,800                    | 76                          | 4,005        | 3,200                    | 80                          |
| Colorado        | 25,360       | 19,000                   | 75                          | 25,762       | 19,500                   | 76                          |
| Idaho           | 138,000      | 99,500                   | 72                          | 133,330      | 96,000                   | 72                          |
| Maine           | 18,060       | 14,100                   | 78                          | 17,813       | 14,500                   | 81                          |
| Michigan        | 14,648       | 9,100                    | 62                          | 14,963       | 8,800                    | 59                          |
| Minnesota       | 21,170       | 13,500                   | 64                          | 18,020       | 10,000                   | 55                          |
| Montana         | 3,180        | 3,050                    | 96                          | 3,325        | 3,220                    | 97                          |
| Nebraska        | 8,175        | 4,700                    | 57                          | 8,904        | 5,300                    | 60                          |
| New York        | 7,290        | 3,400                    | 47                          | 6,758        | 3,700                    | 55                          |
| North Dakota    | 28,670       | 20,500                   | 72                          | 26,400       | 16,500                   | 63                          |
| Ohio            | 1,200        | 260                      | 22                          | 987          | 250                      | 25                          |
| Oregon          | 26,229       | 20,000                   | 76                          | 28,020       | 22,800                   | 81                          |
| Pennsylvania    | 3,360        | 2,000                    | 60                          | 3,080        | 1,600                    | 52                          |
| Washington      | 93,225       | 49,000                   | 53                          | 95,200       | 48,000                   | 50                          |
| Wisconsin       | 30,895       | 20,000                   | 65                          | 34,000       | 21,500                   | 63                          |
| Total 15 States | 423,170      | 280,910                  | 66                          | 420,567      | 274,870                  | 65                          |

<sup>1/</sup> Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage in 1999 totaled 29.5 million cwt.

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, eight States, 1996-99 <sup>1/</sup>

| State                              | Crop year | To Dec 1 | To Jan 1 | To Feb 1 | To Mar 1 | To Apr 1 | To May 1 | To Jun 1 <sup>2/</sup> | Entire season |
|------------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------|---------------|
| 1,000 cwt                          |           |          |          |          |          |          |          |                        |               |
| Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon   | 1996      | 31,060   | 38,210   | 45,420   | 54,640   | 62,570   | 70,720   |                        | 96,970        |
|                                    | 1997      | 26,880   | 33,950   | 41,050   | 49,470   | 57,620   | 65,750   |                        | 91,450        |
|                                    | 1998      | 27,510   | 34,700   | 42,670   | 51,210   | 60,040   | 68,550   | 76,410                 | 92,860        |
|                                    | 1999      | 27,970   |          |          |          |          |          |                        |               |
| Maine <sup>3/</sup>                | 1996      | 1,790    | 2,115    | 2,820    | 3,280    | 3,820    | 4,420    |                        | 6,495         |
|                                    | 1997      | 1,250    | 1,720    | 2,265    | 2,735    | 3,355    | 3,900    |                        | 5,870         |
|                                    | 1998      | 1,430    | 1,935    | 2,530    | 2,985    | 3,595    | 4,180    | 4,705                  | 5,945         |
|                                    | 1999      | 1,375    |          |          |          |          |          |                        |               |
| Washington and Other areas, Oregon | 1996      | 31,670   | 36,660   | 41,700   | 48,740   | 55,570   | 62,320   |                        | 80,970        |
|                                    | 1997      | 28,580   | 33,990   | 38,690   | 46,400   | 53,720   | 59,780   |                        | 76,930        |
|                                    | 1998      | 33,630   | 38,890   | 45,650   | 53,290   | 60,930   | 67,180   | 74,190                 | 83,730        |
|                                    | 1999      | 33,440   |          |          |          |          |          |                        |               |
| Other States <sup>4/</sup>         | 1996      | 13,720   | 17,000   | 20,645   | 24,085   | 27,650   | 30,830   |                        | 43,100        |
|                                    | 1997      | 11,645   | 13,960   | 17,115   | 19,905   | 23,515   | 26,365   |                        | 37,842        |
|                                    | 1998      | 11,615   | 14,550   | 18,150   | 20,900   | 24,710   | 27,855   | 31,635                 | 37,662        |
|                                    | 1999      | 11,785   |          |          |          |          |          |                        |               |
| Total                              | 1996      | 78,240   | 93,985   | 110,585  | 130,745  | 149,610  | 168,290  |                        | 227,535       |
|                                    | 1997      | 68,355   | 83,620   | 99,120   | 118,510  | 138,210  | 155,795  |                        | 212,092       |
|                                    | 1998      | 74,185   | 90,075   | 109,000  | 128,385  | 149,275  | 167,765  | 186,940                | 220,197       |
|                                    | 1999      | 74,570   |          |          |          |          |          |                        |               |

<sup>1/</sup> Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, MI, MN, ND, and WI. <sup>2/</sup> Data not available prior to 1998. <sup>3/</sup> Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

<sup>4/</sup> MI, MN, ND, and WI.