



FIELD CROPS

POTATO STOCKS

March 15, 2002

POTATO STOCKS DOWN 15 PERCENT

March 1, 2002 potato stocks totaled 168 million cwt, down 15 percent from 2001 and 1 percent below two years ago. Potatoes in storage account for 43 percent of the fall storage States' production, the same percentage as a year ago. This is the lowest March potato stocks since the 1995 crop.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to March 1, at 226 million cwt, is down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 10 percent below two years ago. This is the lowest disappearance since 1993. February disappearance of 33.9 million cwt is down 7 percent from a year ago and 10 percent below 2000. Shrink and loss to this point in the season is 21.2 million cwt, down 27 percent from last year and 18 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 2001 crop potatoes totaled 114 million cwt to March 1, down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 10 percent below two years ago. In February, processors used 18.3 million cwt of potatoes, slightly below a year ago and 8 percent below two years ago.

Western States held 122 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, 2002, down 18 percent from last year and 3 percent

below 2000. Idaho's potato stocks are down 14 percent from a year ago, while Washington is down 13 percent and Oregon is off 32 percent. Colorado's stocks are down 28 percent and Montana's dipped 9 percent from a year ago. California's potato holdings are down 85 percent from a year ago.

Central States accounted for 37.4 million cwt of potato stocks this March 1, down 4 percent from 2001 but 16 percent above 2000. North Dakota's stocks are up 7 percent and Wisconsin's holdings are up 10 percent from this date last year. Michigan's potato stocks are 6 percent lower than last year and Minnesota's are off 22 percent from a year ago. Combined Nebraska and Ohio stocks are 29 percent below a year ago.

Eastern States stored 8.3 million cwt of potatoes on March 1, 2002, down 21 percent from a year ago and 27 percent below two years ago. Both Maine and Pennsylvania holdings are down 20 percent from last year. New York's potato storage is down 35 percent from a year ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on March 1, 2001 and 2002 ^{1/}

State	Crop of 2000			Crop of 2001		
	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2001	Percent of production	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2002	March as percent of production
	1,000 cwt		Percent	1,000 cwt		Percent
California	3,741	1,300	35	1,113	200	18
Colorado	27,972	13,000	46	21,357	9,400	44
Idaho	152,320	76,500	50	127,980	66,000	52
Maine	17,920	8,700	49	16,120	7,000	43
Michigan	14,963	3,400	23	14,030	3,200	23
Minnesota	21,240	10,100	48	18,425	7,900	43
Montana	3,503	2,800	80	3,040	2,550	84
Nebraska ^{2/}	10,127			8,512		
New York	5,964	1,000	17	5,942	650	11
North Dakota	26,950	11,500	43	26,400	12,300	47
Ohio ^{2/}	1,134			984		
Oregon	30,683	17,000	55	20,730	11,500	55
Pennsylvania	3,510	830	24	3,173	660	21
Washington	105,000	37,500	36	94,400	32,500	34
Wisconsin	33,800	10,500	31	31,955	11,500	36
Other States		3,540			2,510	
Total 15 States	458,827	197,670	43	394,161	167,870	43

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2002 crop. Seed usage in 2001 totaled 27.4 million cwt. ^{2/} Combined into "Other States".

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, nine States, 1998-2001 ^{1/}

State	Crop year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1	Entire season
1,000 cwt									
Idaho & Malheur County, Oregon	1998	27,510	34,700	42,670	51,210	60,040	68,550	76,410	92,860
	1999	27,970	34,490	40,790	49,220	57,820	66,080	74,110	88,210
	2000	29,290	35,720	43,470	50,580	58,910	66,760	75,270	93,460
	2001	20,940	27,330	33,620	40,860				
Maine ^{2/}	1998	1,430	1,935	2,530	2,985	3,595	4,180	4,705	5,945
	1999	1,270	1,700	2,385	3,070	3,765	4,560	5,150	6,670
	2000	1,845	2,475	3,105	3,695	4,225	4,760	5,340	7,015
	2001	1,935	2,420	3,080	3,665				
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	1998	33,630	38,890	45,650	53,290	60,930	67,180	74,190	83,730
	1999	33,320	39,620	45,500	53,350	61,080	67,230	74,840	83,210
	2000	34,770	40,970	47,720	55,250	62,860	69,850	78,010	91,130
	2001	29,270	35,310	40,540	47,910				
Other States ^{3/ 4/}	1998	11,570	14,465	18,030	20,850	24,850	28,190	31,365	39,865
	1999	12,455	15,035	17,950	20,855	24,305	27,220	30,410	35,940
	2000	12,665	16,215	18,975	22,095	25,410	28,695	31,765	39,020
	2001	12,715	15,905	18,765	21,915				
Total ^{4/}	1998	74,140	89,990	108,880	128,335	149,415	168,100	186,670	222,400
	1999	75,015	90,845	106,625	126,495	146,970	165,090	184,510	214,030
	2000	78,570	95,380	113,270	131,620	151,405	170,065	190,385	230,625
	2001	64,860	80,965	96,005	114,350				

^{1/} 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, and WI. ^{2/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. ^{3/} MN, NV, ND, SD, and WI in 2000 and 2001. MI, MN, ND, and WI IN 1998 and 1999. ^{4/} February 1 data corrected for the 2001 crop.

FALL POTATOES: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1992 through 2001

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 ^{1/}
1,000 Cwt								
1992	368,516	246,820	215,990	184,560	152,795	115,785	75,040	
1993	376,954	249,410	217,300	185,490	153,435	115,170	72,860	
1994	410,839	273,290	238,560	202,470	169,570	129,825	87,600	
1995	394,785	256,710	223,550	189,360	156,020	115,855	75,870	
1996	443,704	295,100	261,320	226,080	189,210	147,635	103,210	
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840	
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,240
2001	394,161	266,520	233,420	201,750	167,870			

^{1/} Data not available prior to 1998.