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FIELD CROPS



FLORIDA
AGRICULTURE

POTATO ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND STOCKS

January 17, 2003

2003 WINTER POTATO PRODUCTION

FLORIDA: Mostly dry conditions during October kept planting progress on schedule in southern Peninsula areas. Wetter, cooler weather during November interrupted some activity and slowed some sprouting and plant growth. Heavy rains around mid-month delayed field work, especially around Immokalee. Cool temperatures over most of the southern Peninsula hindered plant growth during December except for Miami-Dade County where temperatures stayed mostly moderate. Planting remained active into the New Year with digging expected to start in late January or early to mid-February. Winter crop acreage for harvest in 2003 is placed at 6,500, down 200 acres from last winter. Yield is expected to average 265 hundredweight per acre, equal to the winter 2002 crop yield. Production calculates to 1,723,000 hundredweight, down 53,000 hundredweight or three percent from the 1,776,000 hundredweight dug a year ago.

UNITED STATES: Production for 2003 is forecast at 4.15 million cwt, down 1 percent from a year ago but 1 percent above 2001. Harvested acreage in the two winter potato States (California and Florida) is estimated at 15,500 acres, down 1 percent from 2002, while the average yield is forecast at 268 cwt per acre, the same as last year. Harvest is underway in California's Kern County and will move south as the season progresses.

U. S. SPRING POTATOES: Production in California jumped 27 percent from a year ago to 7.70 million cwt on the strength of increased acreage and higher average yield. North Carolina's crop of 3.57 million cwt gained 2 percent from 2001. Florida and Texas are each down 1 percent and Arizona's potato production is 5 percent below a year ago.

POTATOES

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield per acre		Production		
	Planted		Harvested		2002	Indicated 2003	2001	2002	Indicated 2003
	2002	Indicated 2003	2002	Indicated 2003					
	1,000 acres				Cwt		1,000 cwt		
Winter									
California	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	270	270	2,790	2,430	2,430
Florida	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.5	265	265	1,325	1,776	1,723
Total	15.8	15.6	15.7	15.5	268	268	4,115	4,206	4,153
Spring ^{1/}									
Arizona			7.8		270		2,214	2,106	
California	19.0		19.0		405		6,045	7,695	
Florida	27.0		26.3		300		7,970	7,883	
Hastings	19.5		19.0		315		5,940	5,985	
Other	7.5		7.3		260		2,030	1,898	
North Carolina	21.5		21.0		170		3,515	3,570	
Texas	12.5		12.0		170		2,070	2,040	
Total	87.8		86.1		271		21,814	23,294	

^{1/} 2002 Revised.

POTATO STOCKS, UP 3 PERCENT

The 15 major potato States held 232 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 2003, up 3 percent from last year but 16 percent below 2001. Storage accounts for 56 percent of the 2002 fall storage State's production, down 2 percentage points from last year. Stocks by type are 3 percent red, 10 percent round white, 3 percent long white (Shepody), and 84 percent russet. There are more reds and fewer russets than a year ago. December 1, 2002 stocks were revised up slightly, with changes in California and Pennsylvania.

Disappearance, at 179 million cwt, from the start of harvest to January 1, is up 10 percent from the same period last year but 3 percent below two years ago. December disappearance was 33.8 million cwt, down 1 percent from a year ago and 4 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 18.4 million cwt, is up 6 percent from last year and 14 percent below two years ago.

Processors used 92.8 million cwt of 2002 crop potatoes so far this season, up 15 percent from a year ago but 3 percent below two years ago. December usage of 15.2 million is 2 percent above last year but 10 percent below two years ago. Dehydrators used 19.7 million cwt to date.

Western States held 166 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, up 6 percent from last year but 17 percent below two years ago. Idaho's potato stocks are up 6 percent from last year and Colorado's are up 33 percent. Adjustment in California's data places January stocks 36 percent above last year but 29 percent below two years ago. Washington's potato stocks are up 1 percent from last January, while Oregon's storage is down 3 percent. Montana's stocks are up 8 percent.

Central States account for 51.8 million cwt of potato stocks this January 1, down 5 percent from last year and 14 percent below two years ago. North Dakota's stocks dropped 20 percent, Ohio is down 7 percent, and Minnesota slipped 3 percent from a year earlier levels. Potato stocks in Nebraska are up 16 percent from last year, Michigan is up 3 percent, and Wisconsin gained 2 percent from last year's level.

Eastern States stored 14.1 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, up 3 percent from last year but 11 percent below the 2000 crop. Maine's stocks are up 4 percent and New York's are up 20 percent from a year ago. Stocks in Pennsylvania dropped 21 percent from last year.

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, nine States, 2000-2002 ^{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	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	47,710	54,150	61,200	73,390
	2002	28,380	34,860						
Maine ^{2/}	2000	1,845	2,475	3,105	3,695	4,225	4,760	5,340	7,015
	2001	1,975	2,440	3,110	3,700	4,285	4,775	5,515	7,195
	2002	2,275	2,720						
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	2000	34,770	40,970	47,720	55,250	62,860	69,850	78,010	91,130
	2001	29,320	35,310	40,540	47,910	54,970	61,360	69,400	77,180
	2002	33,680	39,490						
Other States ^{3/}	2000	12,665	16,215	18,975	22,095	25,410	28,695	31,765	39,020
	2001	13,270	15,325	19,060	22,255	24,865	28,095	30,810	36,300
	2002	13,275	15,720						
Total	2000	78,570	95,380	113,270	131,620	151,405	170,065	190,385	230,625
	2001	65,505	80,405	96,330	114,725	131,830	148,380	166,925	194,065
	2002	77,610	92,790						
Dehydrated ^{4/}	^{5/} 2000								51,946
	^{5/} 2001								38,581
	2002	15,660	19,655						

^{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, CO, MI, and WI.

^{2/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

^{3/} MN, NV, ND, SD, and WI in 2000 and 2001. CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI in 2002.

^{4/} Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Included in above totals. Includes CO, ID, NV, ND, OR, WA, and WI.

^{5/} No monthly data available.

FALL POTATOES: Production and Stocks on January 1, 2002 and 2003 ^{1/}

State	Crop of 2001			Crop of 2002			January as percent of production
	Production	Stocks Jan 1, 2002	Percent of production	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2002	Stocks Jan 1, 2003	
	1,000 cwt		Percent	1,000 cwt		Percent	
California ^{2/}	1,424	1,100	77	4,450	2,000	1,500	34
Colorado	21,357	13,300	62	27,885	20,100	17,700	63
Idaho	120,200	78,000	65	133,385	92,000	82,500	62
Maine	16,430	10,800	66	16,960	12,600	11,200	66
Michigan	13,950	6,200	44	13,878	7,900	6,400	46
Minnesota	18,425	10,800	59	18,700	12,000	10,500	56
Montana	3,296	2,780	84	3,224	3,050	3,000	93
Nebraska	8,400	4,050	48	8,611	5,650	4,700	55
New York	5,942	1,500	25	5,500	2,500	1,800	33
North Dakota	26,400	16,900	64	23,460	16,000	13,600	58
Ohio	1,097	150	14	1,008	190	140	14
Oregon	20,730	15,500	75	24,936	18,000	15,000	60
Pennsylvania ^{2/}	3,173	1,400	44	2,590	1,400	1,100	42
Washington	94,400	46,000	49	95,200	53,000	46,500	49
Wisconsin	31,955	16,200	51	31,125	19,500	16,500	53
Total 15 States	387,179	224,680	58	410,912	265,890	232,140	56

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant the following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2002 totaled 29.3 million cwt.

^{2/} December 1, 2002 stocks revised.