



FIELD CROPS

Potato Acreage, Production, and Stocks

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2009 SPRING PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

WEATHER: Cooler conditions during January damaged the potato crop in the 'Other' areas part of the State but digging was not scheduled to begin until April in the Hastings area. St. Johns County extension agent reported planted acreage about the same as last year. Hendry, Lee, and Collier counties extension agent reported frozen vines and lower yields for the southern Florida area.

SPRING: Producers planted 29,300 acres, up 800 acres from the 28,500 winter and spring acres planted in 2008. Acreage for harvest was set at 28,600 acres, up 700 acres from the combined winter and spring acres harvested a year ago. Yield is expected to average 271 cwt per acre, down 14 cwt from the previous year. The combined winter and spring production is anticipated to total 7,759,000 cwt, down two percent or 193,000 cwt from the 2008 combined production. Growers in the Hastings area planted 17,800 acres and hope to dig 17,400 acres compared with 17,400 acres planted and 17,000 acres dug in 2008. The Hastings area yield is expected to average 285 cwt per acre, unchanged from 2008. The Hastings production is set at 4,959,000 cwt or 2 percent more than the 4,845,000 cwt dug last year. The combined winter and spring production from other areas is expected to total 2,800,000 cwt, down 307,000 cwt or 10 percent from the 3,107,000 cwt dug a year ago.

UNITED STATES

WINTER POTATOES: Production for 2009 is estimated at 2.16 million cwt, 15 percent below last year. Area harvested in California was 9,000 acres, down 15 percent from a year ago. The average yield of 240 cwt per acre is up 10 cwt from 2008.

SPRING: Production for 2009 is forecast at 20.8 million cwt, up 3 percent from 2008 and 5 percent above 2007. Area for harvest is forecast at 72,200 acres, 5 percent more than 2008 and up 3 percent from 2007. The average yield of 288 cwt per acre is down 5 cwt from 2008 but 6 cwt higher than 2007. California spring potato production is forecast at 6.97 million cwt, up 1 percent from last year. Although average yield is forecast to decrease 35 cwt from last year, the increase in planted acres was enough to increase total production. Production in Texas is forecast to increase 16 percent from 2008 due to increases in both harvested area and average yield. Growers in North Carolina are expected to produce 19 percent more spring potatoes than the previous year and production in Arizona is forecast to increase 9 percent from last year.

SUMMER POTATOES, 2008 REVISIONS: The final estimate of 2008 summer potato crop production is 13.7 million cwt, up 1 percent from the preliminary estimate in the January *Crop Production 2008 Summary* but down 14 percent from the 2007 crop. Harvested area covered 44,800 acres, up 2 percent from the 2008 preliminary estimate but down 7 percent from 2007. The average yield of 306 cwt per acre is down 3 cwt from the 2008 preliminary estimate and 25 cwt below the 2007 crop.

POTATO STOCKS DOWN 9 PERCENT FROM APRIL 2008

The 13 major potato States held 115 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2009, down 9 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below April 1, 2007. Potatoes in storage accounted for 31 percent of the 2008 fall storage States' production, slightly below April 1, 2008. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 1.45 million cwt on April 1, 2009, up 26 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 253 million cwt, was 7 percent below April 1, 2008 and down 6 percent from 2007. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 20.6 million cwt, was down 7 percent from the same date in 2008 and 8 percent below 2007. Processors in the 9 major States have used 134 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 7 percent from the same period last year and down 8 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 24.9 million cwt of the total processing, down 15 percent from last year and 23 percent below the same period in 2007.

POTATOES

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield per acre		Production		
	Planted		Harvested		2008	Indicated 2009	2007	2008	Indicated 2009
	2008	Indicated 2009	2008	Indicated 2009					
	1,000 acres				Cwt		1,000 cwt		
Winter									
California	11.0	9.0	11.0	9.0	230	240	2,258	2,530	2,160
Spring									
Arizona	3.5	4.1	3.5	4.1	300	280	1,120	1,050	1,148
California	15.4	16.2	15.4	16.2	450	430	6,123	6,930	6,966
Florida	28.5	29.3	27.9	28.6	285	271	7,807	7,952	7,759
Hastings	17.4	17.8	17.0	17.4	285	285	4,617	4,845	4,959
Other	11.1	11.5	10.9	11.2	285	250	3,190	3,107	2,800
North Carolina	14.5	16.0	14.0	15.0	180	200	2,700	2,520	3,000
Texas	8.4	8.8	8.0	8.3	210	235	2,070	1,680	1,951
Total	70.3	74.4	68.8	72.2	293	288	19,820	20,132	20,824

^{1/} 2008 revised.

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, nine States, 2006-2008 ^{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
		<i>1,000 cwt</i>							
Idaho & Malheur County, Oregon	2006	27,090	34,070	41,350	48,940	56,650	63,680	71,220	85,630
	2007	26,230	33,250	40,310	48,660	55,460	63,000	70,700	88,030
	2008	22,360	28,980	35,430	42,150	49,030			
Maine ^{2/}	2006	1,785	2,390	2,940	3,490	4,215	4,840	5,500	7,675
	2007	1,700	2,170	2,815	3,440	3,990	4,670	5,240	7,550
	2008	1,635	2,240	2,890	3,505	4,000			
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	2006	30,980	37,060	42,190	49,930	56,690	63,170	70,410	77,355
	2007	30,595	36,940	42,350	50,165	57,160	67,690	72,380	82,770
	2008	32,570	37,750	42,490	49,795	56,350			
Other States ^{3/}	2006	14,355	17,800	21,415	24,690	28,205	31,560	35,040	43,565
	2007	15,040	17,535	20,755	23,900	26,650	29,710	32,600	39,430
	2008	12,535	15,190	18,250	21,150	24,140			
Total	2006	74,210	91,320	107,895	127,050	145,760	163,250	182,170	214,225
	2007	73,565	89,895	106,230	126,165	143,260	165,070	180,920	217,780
	2008	69,100	84,160	99,060	116,600	133,520			
Dehydrated ^{4/}	2006	14,590	19,250	23,635	27,885	32,210	36,480	40,915	49,375
	2007	12,815	16,785	21,040	25,350	29,500	33,650	37,975	46,660
	2008	10,745	14,570	18,405	21,535	24,945			

^{1/} Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced.

^{2/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. Amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips.

^{3/} CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI. Monthly amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips in WI.

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

FALL POTATOES: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States, 1999 through 2008

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1
		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>						
1999 ^{1/}	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000 ^{1/}	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,270
2001 ^{1/}	387,033	258,750	224,680	192,090	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002 ^{1/}	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003 ^{1/}	403,566	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004 ^{1/}	404,017	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005	375,118	253,800	220,500	189,100	155,500	115,700	75,900	41,560
2006	389,527	258,900	225,800	192,200	159,500	120,900	79,050	44,460
2007	397,753	265,500	232,300	199,300	163,400	125,500	83,960	50,420
2008 ^{2/}	367,715	243,300	212,800	183,500	151,400	114,550		

^{1/} 15 major States.

^{2/} March 1, 2009 stocks revised.