



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov



Released: July 11, 2012

Media Contact: Vince Matthews

Idaho Potato Acreage Up 8 Percent from 2011

Potato growers in Idaho have planted an estimated 345,000 acres in 2012, an 8 percent increase from the 320,000 acres planted in 2011, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. This is the highest level since 2007. Harvested acres, at 344,000, are also up 8 percent from a year ago. In the 10 Southwest Counties, planted and harvested acres are estimated at 20,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from 2011. Acres for harvest in the State's Other Counties are expected to total 324,000 acres from 325,000 planted acres. This is an 8 percent increase from last year's 301,000 acres planted in Other Counties.

Potatoes planted in Idaho are estimated to be 3 percent red, 4 percent white, 2 percent yellow, and 91 percent Russet.

Nationally, potato growers across the United States planted an estimated 1.15 million acres of potatoes in all four seasons of the 2012 crop year, up 5 percent from the previous year. Area for harvest, forecasted at 1.13 million acres, is also up 5 percent from 2011. Area planted to fall potatoes in 2012 is estimated at 1.00 million acres, up 5 percent from the 2011 crop year. Harvested area is forecast at 990,800 acres, up 6 percent from 2011. In Washington, planted acreage is the highest since 2000. In the eastern United States, a warm, dry spring allowed planting to progress ahead of schedule. Maine growers reported optimal growing conditions due to warm weather and timely rainfall. In North Dakota, potato emergence was ahead of average in May and June, and topsoil moisture was reported to be adequate to surplus in the major growing areas.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer