



# News Release

## December Potato Stocks

Michigan's 2015 potato crop is forecast to be 17.550 million hundredweight (cwt), up 11.6 percent from 2014, according to the USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region. Planted acres, at 46,000, increased 3,000 acres from 2014. Harvested acres, at 45,000, were up 2,500 acres from a year ago. The average yield is forecast at 390 cwt per acre, up 20 cwt from last year. This yield is an all-time high yield.

Potato Stocks in Michigan on December 1, 2015, were estimated at 10.9 million hundredweight (cwt), up 16 percent from last year's 9.4 million cwt. December's stocks represent 62 percent of the total production. Stocks include potatoes stored by both processors and growers. Stocks by type as percent of total stocks were 85 percent round whites, 14 percent russets, and 1 percent yellows.

The 13 major potato States held 264.6 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2015, down slightly from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 66 percent of the 2015 fall storage States' production, one percentage point below December 1, 2014. Potato disappearance, at 138 million cwt, was 5 percent above December 1, 2014. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 12.9 million cwt, was down 9 percent from the same date in 2014. Processors in the 9 major States have used 75.1 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 1 percent from the same period last year.

### Fall potatoes: Production and stocks, 2013-2015 crop years

Item	Michigan			13 Major States		
	2013 <sup>1</sup>	2014	2015	2013 <sup>1</sup>	2014	2015
	1,000 cwt	1,000 cwt	1,000 cwt	1,000 cwt	1,000 cwt	1,000 cwt
Production	15,840	15,725	17,550	395,275	403,703	408,627
Stocks						
Dec 1	(NA)	9,400	10,900	(NA)	265,700	264,600
Feb 1	(NA)	5,000		(NA)	200,800	
Apr 1	2,100	2,200		119,050	128,700	

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup> April 1, 2013, December 1, 2013, and February 1, 2014 not available