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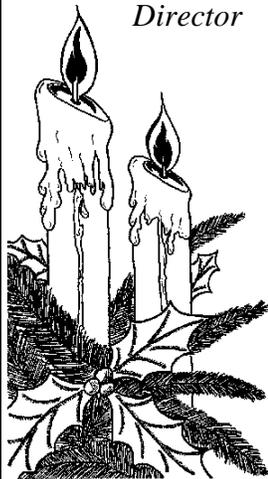
Season's Greetings

The staff at the National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office wants to thank all of the farmers, ranchers, agri-businesses and county agents who have taken time to supply the information needed for our many surveys in 2009. You help make agriculture count in North Dakota.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Darin D. Jantzi

*Darin Jantzi
Director*



DRY EDIBLE BEAN PRODUCTION

North Dakota Dry edible bean production in North Dakota is forecast at 8.36 million hundredweight (cwt) for 2009, up 1 percent from the October 1 forecast but down 17 percent from last year. The record high production was set in 2007 when 10.8 million cwt was produced. The decrease in production from 2008 is due to both decreased acreage and lower yields.

Total planted area, at 610,000 acres, remains the same as October but is down from 2008's 660,000 acres. Harvested area, at 565,000, is up from 550,000 in October but below last year's 640,000 acres harvested. The record high harvested acreage was set in 1998 with 710,000 acres harvested from 750,000 acres planted. The statewide average yield for 2009 is set at 1,480 pounds per harvested acre, down 20 pounds from the October forecast and 90 pounds below last year. Pintos account for 71.2 percent of the total production; at 5.95 million cwt, they are down from 6.66 million cwt in 2008. Navies account for 15.0 percent of total production, blacks 7.3, chickpeas 2.3, pinks 1.8, and great northern 1.4. All other dry edible bean classes represent 1.0 percent of the state's total production.

United States Dry edible bean production is forecast at 25.2 million cwt for 2009, virtually unchanged from the October 1 forecast but 1 percent below 2008. Planted area is forecast at 1.53 million acres, up slightly from the October forecast and 3 percent above 2008. Harvested area is forecast at 1.45 million acres, 1 percent above the October forecast but virtually unchanged from the previous year's acreage. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,737 pounds per acre, a decrease of 17 pounds from October's forecast and 31 pounds below the 2008 yield.

**Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production
North Dakota and United States, 2008-2009**

Class	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2008 1,000 Acres	2009 1,000 Acres	2008 1,000 Acres	2009 1,000 Acres	2008 Pounds	2009 Pounds	2008 1,000 Cwt	2009 1,000 Cwt
North Dakota								
Navy	123.0	86.0	118.0	81.0	1,770	1,550	2,087	1,255
Great Northern	6.7	8.0	6.5	7.2	1,690	1,570	110	113
Pinto	446.0	439.0	433.0	405.0	1,540	1,470	6,660	5,950
Dark Red Kidney	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.2	1,540	1,580	20	19
Pink	12.5	11.0	12.4	10.9	1,700	1,380	211	150
Small Red	6.0	2.5	5.9	2.3	1,440	1,520	85	35
Black	53.5	46.0	53.0	43.0	1,380	1,420	731	610
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo)	9.3	13.2	8.4	11.8	1,420	1,640	119	194
Small	4.0	9.0	3.3	8.3	1,330	1,600	44	133
Large	5.3	4.2	5.1	3.5	1,470	1,740	75	61
Other	1.6	2.8	1.5	2.6	1,670	1,380	25	36
Total	660.0	610.0	640.0	565.0	1,570	1,480	10,048	8,362
United States								
Navy	250.6	195.2	242.1	185.8	1,876	1,777	4,542	3,302
Great Northern	76.1	53.9	71.1	47.7	2,248	2,048	1,598	977
Pinto	629.3	689.3	606.9	643.1	1,690	1,695	10,257	10,898
Dark Red Kidney	50.8	50.1	49.3	46.9	2,012	1,887	992	885
Pink	30.6	27.6	30.2	27.0	1,844	1,837	557	496
Small Red	42.3	35.1	41.4	34.3	1,971	2,044	816	701
Black	171.9	187.3	168.9	179.2	1,731	1,673	2,923	2,998
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo)	83.5	96.0	82.1	93.9	1,362	1,435	1,118	1,347
Small	11.7	22.5	10.9	21.7	1,183	1,378	129	299
Large	71.8	73.5	71.2	72.2	1,389	1,452	989	1,048
Other	159.9	200.1	153.2	191.7	1,798	1,863	2,755	3,572
Total	1,495.0	1,534.6	1,445.2	1,449.6	1,768	1,737	25,558	25,176

CATTLE TRADE

Beef Trade

The United States, although the largest producer of beef in the world, is a net beef importer. Most beef produced and exported from the United States is grain-finished, high-value cuts. Most beef that the United States imports is lower value, grass-fed beef destined for processing, primarily as ground beef.

U.S. beef production hit its cyclical low in 2004, when sharply reduced cow slaughter reduced domestic supplies of processing beef and total beef imports topped 3.6 billion pounds. U.S. beef production began growing in 2005 as herd rebuilding started. Herd rebuilding was interrupted in 2006 and has continued to stall through 2008 due to widespread drought conditions and sharply higher feed costs, which resulted in increased cow slaughter. This raised domestic processing beef supplies and crowded out some imports of lean beef. Imports continued to decline through 2007 and 2008.

U.S. beef exports had grown steadily since the early 1980s, reaching 2.5 billion pounds in carcass weight equivalent in 2003. This total represented about 9 percent of U.S. beef production. However, in December 2003, the discovery of BSE in a dairy cow which had been imported from Canada led many importing countries to either ban or restrict beef and cattle imports from the United States. Since then, the United States has reported two more cases of BSE, in cows found in Texas (initially tested in November 2004, then confirmed in June 2005) and Alabama (detected and confirmed in March 2006).

Prior to the discovery of BSE in the United States, the largest export market for U.S. beef was Japan, followed by Mexico and the fast-growing South Korean market. Canada, in fourth place, had been gradually declining in importance for several years. These four countries accounted for over 90 percent of U.S. beef exports.

Beef export patterns in 2004 were altered dramatically by the BSE situation. Japan and South Korea (and various other countries) ceased all imports of U.S. beef, while other countries reopened their borders within a matter of months. Beef exports to Mexico rebounded during the year, making it the leading destination for U.S. beef beginning in 2004. Smaller amounts of beef went to Canada, which itself had large supplies of beef following its own trade disruptions related to BSE. Exports to Japan resumed in the second half of 2006, but growth has been slow due to the restriction that U.S. beef to Japan can only come from animals 20 months of age or younger. Exports to South Korea are limited to beef from animals 30 months of age or younger.

In recent years, the significant suppliers of U.S. beef imports have been Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. Most of the beef from Australia and New Zealand goes into processed products such as ground beef. The United States also imports a significant portion of its cooked beef from Argentina and Brazil. (U.S. imports from these countries are restricted to cooked products due to disease restrictions.) Their combined share of the U.S. beef market is less than half that of the three largest exporters. In 2004 and 2005, imports from Uruguay jumped significantly, as that country joined the competition for the U.S. manufacturing beef market. U.S. imports from Uruguay have been below 2005 levels, as Uruguay began selling to other countries formerly supplied by Brazil and Argentina, whose beef exports were somewhat reduced due to disease-related problems and internal political and economic issues.

Canada reported the discovery of a case of BSE in May 2003 and since has reported several additional cases. Cattle and beef products from Canada were barred from entry into the United States after the announcement. In August 2003, beef imports from Canada resumed but were restricted to boneless products from cattle under 30 months of age. In November 2007, imports of beef from cattle over 30 months of age resumed with the restriction that imports must be from animals born after Canada's March 1997 feed ban. (BSE is believed to be transmitted by feeding products derived from infected animals, such as meat and bone meal, and the current feed ban prohibits such parts from ruminant feeds.) APHIS provides news and documents on BSE developments.

Cattle Trade

The United States imports significantly more cattle than it exports. The countries from which the United States imports cattle are the same ones to which it exports cattle: Canada and Mexico. The geographical proximity of these countries and the complementarity of their cattle and beef sectors explain why they are the United States' only significant cattle trading partners.

U.S. cattle exports to Canada and Mexico vary from year to year in both the total volume of exports and the relative percentage exported to each country. Historically, the United States has primarily exported slaughter cattle to both countries. However, changes in Canada's policies and market situation have led to increased exports of U.S. feeder cattle. U.S. cattle exports declined in 2003 and have remained low through 2006 in response to strong domestic cattle prices and trade barriers related to BSE and other diseases. Weaker cattle prices and larger cattle supplies in Canada due to its BSE situation also reduced Canadian demand for U.S. cattle.

Cattle imports from Mexico tend to be lighter cattle for stocker operations and eventual finishing in U.S. feedlots. In past years, cattle imports from Canada tended to be animals for immediate slaughter, of which roughly two-thirds were fed steers and heifers and one-third were cows.

Imports of Canadian cattle into the United States were banned following Canada's May 2003 BSE case. In July 2005, U.S. imports of Canadian cattle resumed for animals less than 30 months of age for immediate slaughter or for finishing in a U.S. feedlot.

In July 2006, Canadian officials announced the discovery of BSE in a 50-month-old dairy cow from Alberta. The animal's birth occurred in the spring of 2002, and thus it was exposed to BSE well after Canada's feed ban was initiated in 1997. USDA temporarily withdrew a proposal to allow the importation of Canadian cattle over 30 months of age pending the results of the investigation into the July 2006 Canadian case. However, in November 2007, USDA published a final rule in the *Federal Register* to allow imports of some live animals over 30 months of age and their meat products from countries recognized as presenting a minimal risk of introducing BSE into the United States. Currently, Canada is the only minimal-risk country designated by the United States. All animals born after Canada's 1997 feed ban are eligible to be imported into the United States.

Source: USDA-ERS, *Cattle Trade*, October 8, 2009

POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS

North Dakota

Potato production in North Dakota is estimated at 19.1 million hundredweight (cwt) for 2009, up 2 percent from last month, but down 16 percent from last year. Production, if realized, would be the lowest since 1990 when 16.7 million cwt were produced. Total planted area is 83,000 acres, up 1 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 75,000 acres, is down 7 percent from last year. The average yield is expected to be 255 cwt per harvested acre, up 5 cwt from last month, but down from both last year's record high of 280 cwt per acre, and 260 cwt per acre in 2007.

Russet potatoes account for 32,500 acres or 43 percent of the total harvested acres, down from last year's 40,500 acres. Whites increased to 24,700 acres harvested, 33 percent of the total harvested acres. Reds, at 16,900 acres harvested, is 23 percent of the total harvested acres. Last year whites totaled 22,300 harvested acres and reds were

17,300 harvested acres. Yellows account for 900 acres, or 1 percent of the total harvested acres, the same as last year.

Of the total production, russet potatoes account for 61 percent, whites 23 percent, reds 15 percent and yellows 1 percent. Last year russets accounted for 65 percent of the total production, while whites accounted for 19 percent, reds 15 percent, and yellows 1 percent.

United States

Production of fall potatoes for 2009 is forecast at 394 million cwt, up 1 percent from the November forecast and 4 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 919,400 acres, is slightly below the November forecast and 2008 estimate. The average yield, forecast at 429 cwt per acre, is up 3 cwt per acre from November's forecast and up 18 cwt per acre from last year. If realized, it will be the highest yield on record.

**Fall Potatoes: Acreage, Production and Stocks By Type
North Dakota, 2008-2009**

Item	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production	Dec 1 Stocks
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
2008					
Reds	17,500	17,300	197	3,415	2,220
Whites	22,500	22,300	194	4,325	2,220
Yellows	1,000	900	178	160	150
Russets	41,000	40,500	365	14,780	10,210
Total	82,000	81,000	280	22,680	14,800
2009					
Reds	20,000	16,900	173	2,930	1,820
Whites	27,000	24,700	178	4,405	1,950
Yellows	1,000	900	160	144	130
Russets	35,000	32,500	358	11,646	9,100
Total	83,000	75,000	255	19,125	13,000

**Fall Potatoes: Acreage, Production and Stocks
13 Major States and United States, December 1, 2008-2009**

State	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		Total Stocks	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
North Dakota	82.0	83.0	81.0	75.0	280	255	22,680	19,125	14,800	13,000
California	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	470	495	3,948	4,158	1,900	2,100
Colorado	57.0	56.0	56.9	55.2	385	400	21,907	22,080	16,600	15,800
Idaho	305.0	320.0	304.0	319.0	383	411	116,475	131,000	85,000	96,500
Maine	56.0	56.0	54.7	55.5	270	275	14,769	15,263	11,300	12,000
Michigan	43.0	45.0	42.5	43.5	350	360	14,875	15,660	8,300	8,700
Minnesota	50.0	47.0	48.0	45.0	425	470	20,400	21,150	13,200	13,000
Montana	10.9	11.0	10.5	9.5	330	345	3,465	3,278	3,400	3,200
Nebraska	19.5	20.0	19.4	19.8	425	440	8,245	8,712	5,600	5,800
New York	18.0	17.1	17.8	16.5	320	300	5,696	4,950	2,600	2,500
Oregon	35.3	37.0	35.3	37.0	529	580	18,676	21,460	16,100	17,400
Washington	155.0	145.0	155.0	145.0	600	610	93,000	88,450	49,500	54,500
Wisconsin	63.5	63.5	62.0	63.0	415	460	25,730	28,980	15,400	20,000
13 State Total							369,866	384,266	243,700	264,500
United States	931.1	936.9	922.0	919.4	411	429	378,588	393,969		

POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (Continued)

North Dakota
 Growers, dealers and processors held 13.0 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2009, down 12 percent from a year ago, and 10 percent from 2007. Current stocks are the lowest December 1 stocks since 1990 when 12.8 million cwt were on hand. Current stocks represent 68 percent of the production, up from 65 percent in 2008 and 61 percent in 2007. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping. North Dakota stocks by type were 14 percent reds, 9 percent round whites, 6 percent long whites, 1 percent yellows and 70 percent russets.

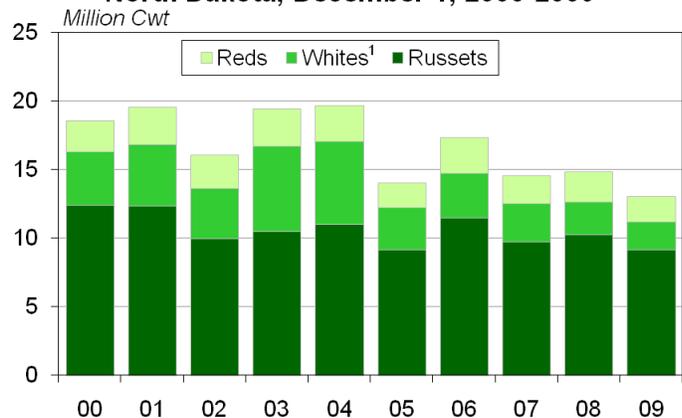
United States
 The 13 major potato States held 265 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2009, up 9 percent from a year ago but slightly below December 1, 2007. Potatoes in storage accounted for 69 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production. Stocks by type were 4 percent reds, 10 percent round whites, 1 percent long whites, 2 percent yellows and 83 percent russets.



**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks
 10 Selected States, December 1, 2008-2009**

State	Potato Types									
	Reds		Round Whites		Long Whites		Yellows		Russets	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
North Dakota	Pct 15	Pct 14	Pct 7	Pct 9	Pct 8	Pct 6	Pct 1	Pct 1	Pct 69	Pct 70
Colorado	3	3	1	2			11	11	85	84
Idaho	2	2	1	2	1		1	1	95	95
Maine	2	4	43	45			3	6	52	45
Michigan	1	1	83	89			1		15	10
Minnesota	9	13	3	3			2	1	86	83
New York	5	4	89	91			6	5		
Oregon	1	1	7	8	1		1	1	90	90
Washington	3	3	5	4	11	5	1	1	80	87
Wisconsin	5	4	12	14				1	83	81
10 State Avg	4	4	9	10	3	1	2	2	82	83

**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type
 North Dakota, December 1, 2000-2009**



¹Includes yellow potatoes.

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