

Potato Summary, 2009

By Tyler D. Heep

For more detailed data, see the Census of Agriculture found at www.agcensus.usda.gov

Pennsylvania's acreage of fall potatoes harvested in 2009 totaled 9,500 acres, the same as in 2008. Yield per acre averaged 310 cwt, up 45 cwt. from 2008. Production of fall potatoes for 2009 totaled 2,945,000 cwt, up 17 percent from the 2008 production of 2,518,000 cwt. The value of production was 37,402,000 dollars, up 12 percent from the 33,489,000 dollars posted in 2008.

Potato sales totaled 2,693,000 cwt, 91 percent of the 2009 crop. In 2008, 2,437,000 cwt, or 97 percent of the total production, was sold. The average price received in 2009 was \$12.70 per cwt, down from \$13.30 in 2008, a decrease of 5 percent. Of the total production, 7,000 cwt were used for seed, feed, or home use on the farms, while 245,000 cwt went to shrinkage and other losses. This is compared to 2008, when farm use accounted for 16,000 cwt and shrinkage and other losses were 65,000 cwt.

Pennsylvania: Potatoes - Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 1970-2009

Year	Planted (1,000 acres)	Harvested (1,000 acres)	Yield per acre (cwt.)	Production (1,000 cwt.)	Price per cwt. (dollars)	Value of	
						Production ¹ (1,000 dols.)	Sales (1,000 dols.)
1970	35.0	34.5	240	8,280	2.65	21,942	19,528
1980	23.0	22.0	190	4,180	7.90	33,022	29,807
1990	23.0	22.5	240	5,400	7.55	40,770	38,082
2000	13.5	13.0	270	3,510	7.75	27,203	25,583
2005	11.5	11.0	250	2,750	11.40	31,350	28,386
2006	11.0	10.5	260	2,730	10.40	28,392	26,676
2007	10.5	10.0	220	2,200	10.10	22,220	21,142
2008	10.0	9.5	265	2,518	13.30	33,489	32,341
2009	10.0	9.5	310	2,945	12.70	37,402	34,149

¹ Value of production based on final State marketing year average price.

Pennsylvania: Potato Production and Farm Disposition, 1970-2009

Year	Production (1,000 cwt.)	Total used for seed (1,000 cwt.)	Farm disposition		
			Where grown		Sold (1,000 cwt.)
			Seed, feed, home (1,000 cwt.)	Shrink and loss (1,000 cwt.)	
1970	8,280	621	249	662	7,369
1980	4,180	396	135	272	3,773
1990	5,400	399	76	280	5,044
2000	3,510	252	44	165	3,301
2005	2,750	249	10	250	2,490
2006	2,730	280	5	160	2,565
2007	2,200	226	18	92	2,090
2008	2,518	220	16	65	2,437
2009	2,945	160	7	245	2,693

