

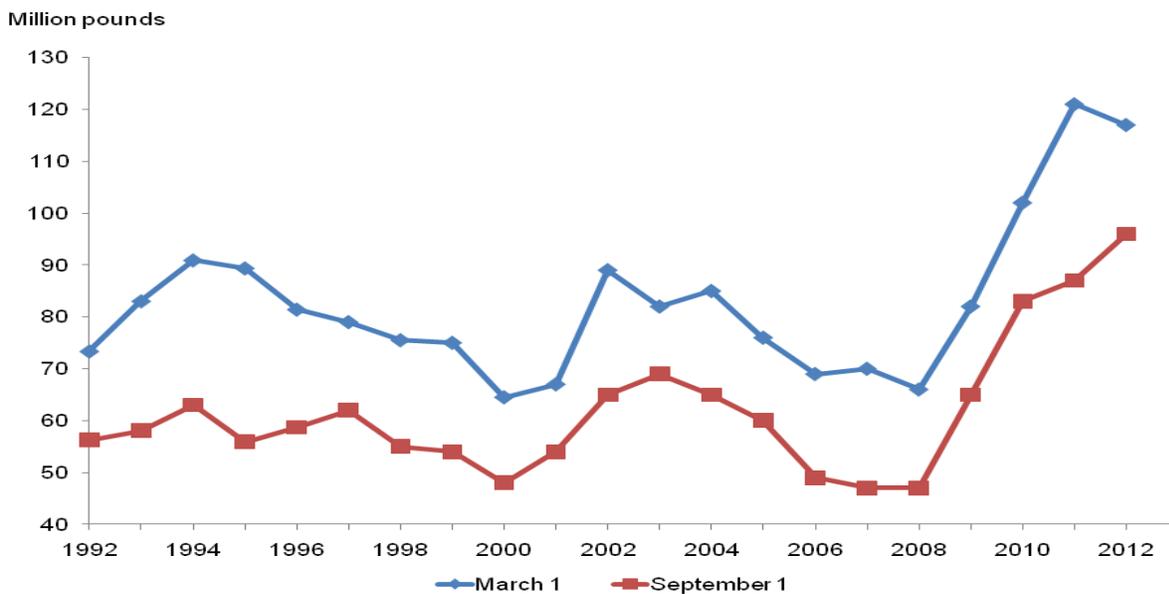
Released September 20, 2012, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## September 1 Hop Stocks Up 10 Percent from Last Year

The inventory of hops held by growers, dealers, and brewers on September 1, 2012, totaled 96 million pounds, 10 percent more than the September 1, 2011 estimate. This is the highest level for September 1 hop stocks. The previous record of 87 million pounds was set on September 1, 2011.

Stocks held by brewers, at 52.0 million pounds, were up 16 percent from the last two previous years. Stocks held by dealers and growers on September 1, 2012 totaled 44.0 million pounds, up 5 percent from the stocks on hand last year.

### Hop Stocks – United States



### Hops: Stocks Held by Growers, Dealers, and Brewers, United States, 2010-2012

Stocks <sup>1</sup>	March 1			September 1		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
	(1,000 pounds)					
Stocks held by:						
Dealers/growers	55,000	66,000	67,000	38,000	42,000	44,000
Brewers	47,000	55,000	53,000	45,000	45,000	52,000
Total stocks	102,000	121,000	120,000	83,000	87,000	96,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes equivalent pounds of dry hops held in form of extract or pellets.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey procedures:** Grower surveys are conducted in the three estimating States (Washington, Idaho, and Oregon) to collect stocks of hops held by growers. Additionally, contacts are made to collect stocks held by brewers and dealers. Telephone follow-up of mail survey non-respondents is used to ensure adequate coverage.

**Estimating procedures:** Information obtained from the hops stocks grower, dealer, and brewers surveys are used to establish estimates of hops stocks. These estimates are reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates.

**Revision policy:** Hop stocks are subject to revision the following estimating period following initial publication and again in the following March Hop Stocks report. Revisions can be made when late reports are received, errors are detected in reporting and calculations, and production estimates are revised. Estimates will also be reviewed following the 5-Year Census of Agriculture. No revisions to these years will be made after that date.

**Reliability:** Survey indications are subject to sampling variability because all operations storing hops are not included in the sample. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors cannot be measured directly, but are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch .....	(202) 720-2127
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Debbie Flippin – Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries.....	(202) 720-2157
Fred Granja – Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Plums, Prunes, Tobacco .....	(202) 720-4288
Chris Hawthorn – Citrus, Coffee, Grapes, Sugar Crops, Tropical Fruits.....	(202) 720-5412
Dave Losh – Hops.....	(360) 709-2400
Dan Norris – Austrian Winter Peas, Dry Edible Peas, Lentils, Mint, Mushrooms, Peaches, Pears, Wrinkled Seed Peas, Dry Beans .....	(202) 720-3250
Daphne Schauber – Berries, Cranberries, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes .....	(202) 720-4285
Erika White – Floriculture, Maple Syrup, Nursery, Tree Nuts .....	(202) 720-4215

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- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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**USDA Data Users' Meeting**  
**Monday October 22, 2012**

**Crowne Plaza Chicago-Metro**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60661**  
**312-829-5000**

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will be organizing an open forum for data users. The purpose will be to provide updates on pending changes in the various statistical and information programs and seek comments and input from data users. Other USDA agencies to be represented will include the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Economic Research Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and the World Agricultural Outlook Board. The Foreign Trade Division from the Census Bureau will also be included in the meeting.

For registration details or additional information for the Data Users' Meeting, see the NASS homepage at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/meeting/> or contact Vernita Murray (NASS) at 202-690-8141 or at [vernita\\_murray@nass.usda.gov](mailto:vernita_murray@nass.usda.gov).

This Data Users' Meeting precedes an Industry Outlook Meeting that will be held at the same location on Tuesday October 23, 2012. The Outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss the outlook situation. For registration details or additional information for the Industry Outlook Meeting, see the Livestock and Marketing Information Center (LMIC) homepage at <http://www.lmic.info/> or contact Erica Rosa 303-236-0461 at [rosa@lmic.info](mailto:rosa@lmic.info) or Laura Lahr 303-236-0464 at [lahr@lmic.info](mailto:lahr@lmic.info).