



## NEWS RELEASE

**Potato Stocks**  
**March 15, 2005**

### March 1 Potato Stocks

#### North Dakota

Stocks of potatoes in North Dakota's growers, dealers and processors storage facilities on March 1, 2005 was estimated at 13.1 million hundredweight (cwt), up 1 percent from last year and 31 percent from two years ago, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is the highest March 1 level since records began in 1949. Current stocks represent 49 percent of production, up from 47 percent last year. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping.

Disappearance, from the start of harvest in 2004 to March 1, totaled 13.7 million cwt, down from 14.4 million cwt last year, but up from 13.5 million cwt two years ago. February disappearance totaled 2.20 million cwt, up from the 2.00 million cwt disappearance last year and 1.60 million cwt disappearance two years ago.

#### United States

The 15 major potato states held 168 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2005, up 1 percent from last year and 2 percent above 2003. Potatoes in storage account for 42 percent of the 2004 fall storage states' production, 1 percentage point above last year.

Disappearance of 235 million cwt of potatoes is down 1 percent from last year and 3 percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 23.7 million cwt of the total processing, down 9 percent from last year and 15 percent below the same date in 2003.

**Fall Potatoes: Production and March 1 Stocks**

State	Crop of 2003		Crop of 2004	
	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2004	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2005
	-- 1,000 Cwt --		-- 1,000 Cwt --	
<b>North Dakota</b>	27,440	13,000	26,765	13,100
California	3,528	1,300	3,876	1,300
Colorado	23,652	10,700	23,148	11,100
Idaho	123,180	58,000	131,970	64,000
Maine	17,030	8,900	19,220	9,400
Michigan	15,015	5,100	13,650	3,900
Minnesota	22,330	9,600	18,920	8,800
Montana	3,339	2,800	3,551	3,200
Nebraska	9,744	<sup>1/</sup>	9,288	<sup>1/</sup>
New York	6,510	700	5,184	700
Ohio	1,097	<sup>1/</sup>	1,080	<sup>1/</sup>
Oregon	20,991	11,000	19,775	9,000
Pennsylvania	3,375	700	2,640	700
Washington	93,150	29,500	93,810	29,000
Wisconsin	32,800	11,200	30,450	11,000
Other States		3,780		3,220
<b>15 State Total</b>	<b>403,181</b>	<b>166,280</b>	<b>403,327</b>	<b>168,420</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Combined into Other States.

#### For More Information Contact:

David Knopf, Director, North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service ■ NDSU, IACC 448 ■ Fargo, ND  
701-239-5306 ■ E-mail: [nass-nd@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-nd@nass.usda.gov) ■ Internet: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd/>