



NEWS RELEASE

Potato Stocks
May 16, 2005

May 1 Potato Stocks

North Dakota

Stocks of potatoes totaled 7.20 million hundredweight (cwt) on May 1, 2005, in North Dakota's growers, dealers and processors storage facilities, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Stocks are down 13 percent from last year, but up 31 percent from the May 1, 2003. Current stocks represent 27 percent of the production, down from 30 percent last year, but up from 23 percent two years ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest totaled 19.6 million cwt, up 2 percent from last year and 9 percent from two years ago. Disappearance during April totaled 3.10 million cwt, above last April's disappearance of 2.90 million cwt and 2.40 million cwt two years ago. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping.

United States

The 15 major potato States held 87.0 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2005, up 2 percent from last year and 5 percent above May 1, 2003. Potatoes in storage account for 22 percent of the 2004 fall storage states' production, 1 percent above last year. Disappearance of 316 million cwt of potatoes is down 1 percent from last year and 2 percent below two years ago. Processors in the 9 major states have used 154 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 1 percent from a year ago and 4 percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 31.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 9 percent from last year.

Fall Potatoes: Production and May 1 Stocks

State	Crop of 2003		Crop of 2004	
	Production	Stocks May 1, 2004	Production	Stocks May 1, 2005
	-- 1,000 Cwt --		-- 1,000 Cwt --	
North Dakota	27,440	8,300	26,765	7,200
California	3,528	700	3,876	500
Colorado	23,652	4,300	23,148	4,600
Idaho	123,180	33,000	131,970	38,500
Maine	17,030	4,100	19,220	5,100
Michigan	15,015	1,500	13,650	1,100
Minnesota	22,330	5,500	18,920	5,100
Montana	3,339	1,000	3,551	400
Nebraska	9,744	1/	9,288	1/
New York	6,510	1/	5,184	1/
Ohio	1,097	1/	1,080	1/
Oregon	20,991	5,500	19,775	3,400
Pennsylvania	3,375	1/	2,640	1/
Washington	93,150	15,000	93,810	15,500
Wisconsin	32,800	4,200	30,450	3,900
Other States		1,900		1,690
15 State Total	403,181	85,000	403,327	86,990

1/ Combined into Other States.

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