Maine Potatoes 2009 Crop Acreage, Yield, Size and Grade

January 14, 2010

NEW ENGLAND Agricultural Statistics
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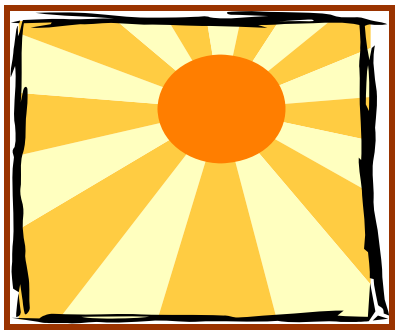
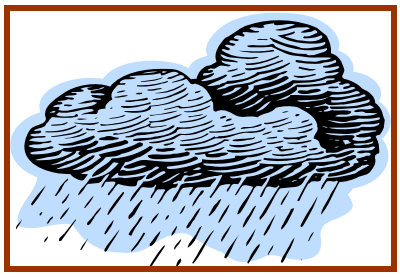
A special "THANK YOU" goes to Maine growers who have helped us by participating in the Potato Objective Yield Survey. The study estimates yield, size and grade from randomly selected hills that are dug just before harvest.





This report is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Maine Department of Agriculture as a service to growers and others in the industry.
It is published annually and is available on the Internet in mid-January.

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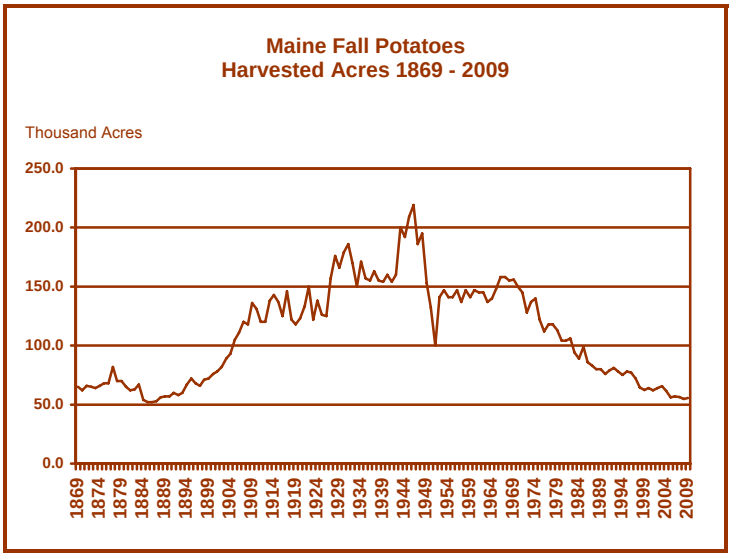
Maine Potatoes
Acreage, Yield, Size, and Grade, 2009 Crop

FORWARD:

We are pleased to present the Maine Acreage, Yield, Size, and Grade Report for the 2009 potato crop. Data contained in this report are based on the results of the Potato Objective Yield Survey, a project conducted annually since 1968. The National Potato Objective Yield Survey encompasses seven of the major fall potato producing states (Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin) that grew 83 percent of the United States fall potato crop in 2009.

The 2009 Potato Objective Yield Survey in Maine consisted of 210 "samples" chosen by systematic random sampling. Each sample consisted of two independently located units. Within each unit, hill counts were made along a 20-foot length of the row, width of the row was measured, and three hills were harvested. Thus, tubers were harvested from six hills of potatoes for each sample. These potatoes were graded, sized, and weighed using strict laboratory procedures. After harvest, enumerators returned to one-fourth of the sample fields to obtain an objective indication of harvest loss. Tubers were collected from two units, each unit covering a three foot by six foot area, and sent to the lab for weighing.

The success of this project must be credited to the cooperation of many potato growers across the State of Maine. We sincerely appreciate their time and efforts in supplying crop information, and granting permission for field entry and sample diggings. The 2009 Maine Potato Objective Yield Survey was under the leadership of Statistician Dianne Johnson. Data collection was supervised by NASDA field supervisors Marcia Gartley and Julie Kosch. NASDA field enumerators included Keith Boulier, Christopher Cashman, Brittany Hickey, Al Hobbs, Shannon Lion, Valerie Dubato and Dot Curtis. Lab supervision was under the direction of Deane Ames. Robin Helrich was responsible for setting the estimates of acreage, yield, production, prices, and stocks. We would also like to recognize Lynne Arsenault, Deirdre Davis, and A. I. Slosman for their assistance in preparing this publication.



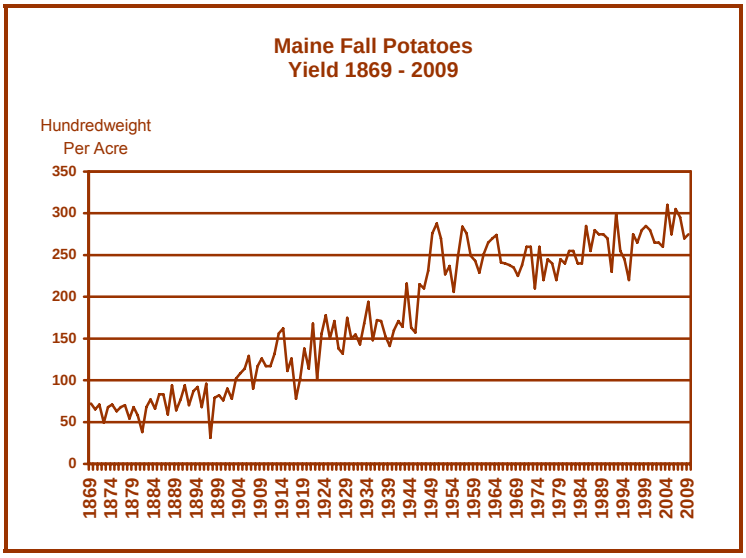


Table 1: MAINE POTATOES: Acres, Yield and Production, 2004 – 2009

Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Production
	Planted	Harvested		
	Acres		Cwt	1,000 Cwt
2004	63,500	61,500	310	19,065
2005	57,500	56,200	275	15,455
2006	58,500	57,000	305	17,385
2007	57,100	56,500	295	16,668
2008	56,000	54,700	270	14,769
2009	56,000	55,500	275	15,263

SOURCE: ***Crop Production – Annual,*** 8:30 a.m., January 12, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 2: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Acres Planted by Variety and Type, 2004 – 2009

Variety and Type	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
By Variety			Percent			
Russet Burbank	36.7	42.5	42.5	39.1	42.6	41.5
Frito-Lay, All	11.5	17.1	17.1	18.9	13.8	11.1
Russet Norkotah	3.0	1.6	2.1	2.6	4.2	5.1
Superior	3.0	3.4	4.5	5.0	3.5	4.9
Yukon Gold	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.7	4.3
Shepody	9.3	7.2	5.2	4.6	4.6	3.9
Norland	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6	4.0	3.6
Atlantic	3.0	3.5	1.5	2.0	1.4	3.0
Goldrush	1.9	2.7	1.0	2.8	3.7	2.7
Katahdin	2.5	2.4	3.1	2.8	2.4	2.7
Monona	1.7	1.0	1.9	1.9	*	2.1
Reba(NY87)	1.7	1.4	2.1	1.5	2.2	2.0
Ontario	5.5	2.8	2.9	2.0	2.6	1.5
Snowden	2.3	2.2	2.1	3.8	*	1.4
Norwis	2.2	2.4	2.3	1.8	3.6	1.2
Chieftain	1.3	*	*	*	*	*
Centennial Russet	1.2	*	*	*	*	*
Mainstay	1.0	*	*	*	*	*
Andover	*	*	1.0	*	*	*
Red La Soda [1]	—	—	—	—	1.0	*
Other Varieties	6.4	4.7	5.3	5.3	6.7	9.0
Total Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
By Type:						
Russets	43.5	47.0	46.0	45.0	52.0	51.0
Whites(Long and Round)	51.0	49.5	51.0	46.0	35.0	35.0
Yellows [2]	—	—	—	5.0	8.0	8.0
Reds	5.5	3.5	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0
Total Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[1] Not available prior to September 2008.
[2] Not available prior to 2007.
* Included with other varieties.
SOURCE: ***Crop Production,*** December 10, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

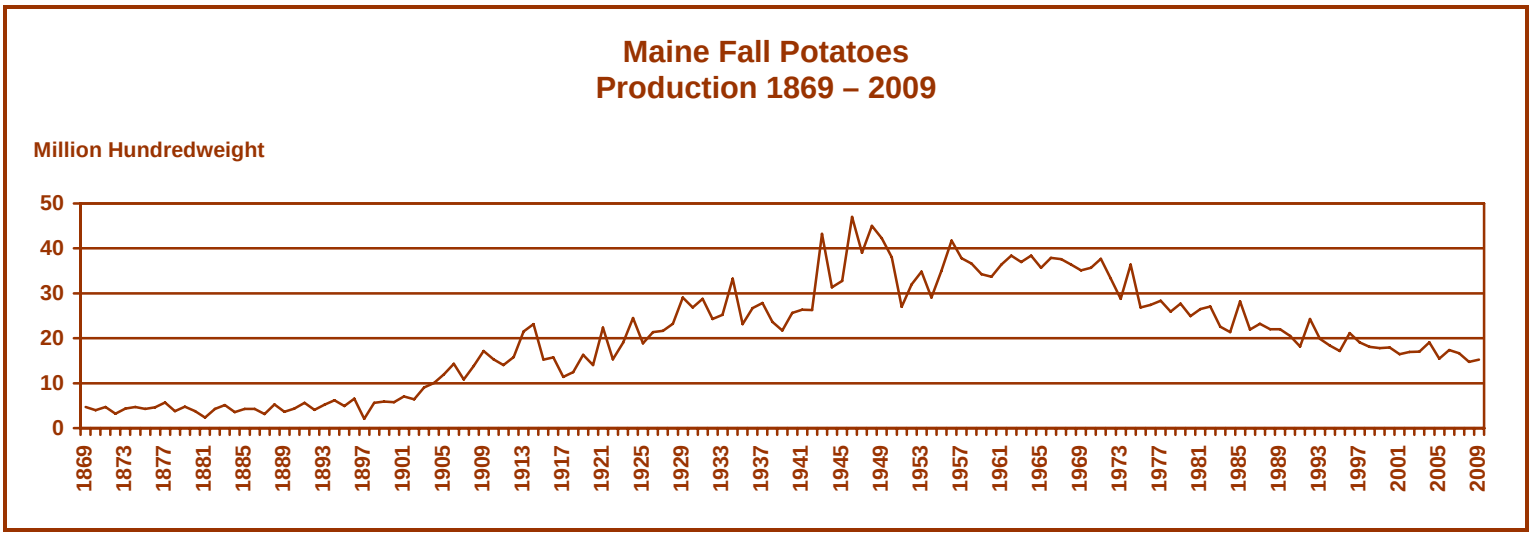


Table 3A: MAINE POTATOES: Number of Tubers per Hill and Hills per Acre, by Type, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Year	Round Whites		Long Whites [2]		All Whites	
	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre
	Number					
2004	8.5	13,609	6.8	13,024	8.1	13,495
2005	7.3	12,494	6.7	10,402	7.2	12,240
2006	8.0	12,604	6.0	13,149	7.7	12,689
2007	7.1	13,290	7.5	11,943	7.2	13,098
2008	6.7	12,796	5.0	11,784	6.5	12,655
2009	7.7	14,061	—	—	7.6	13,807

[1] Tubers 1½ inches and over.
[2] Unavailable after 2008; too few reports to allow publication.

Table 3B: MAINE POTATOES: Number of Tubers per Hill and Hills per Acre, by Type, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Year	Reds [2]		All Whites		Yellows [2]		Russets		All Varieties	
	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre
	Number									
2004	—	12,598	8.1	13,495	—	—	10.7	10,012	9.3	11,969
2005	—	13,005	7.2	12,240	—	—	9.8	9,007	8.6	10,595
2006	—	14,532	7.7	12,689	—	—	10.9	10,208	9.1	11,613
2007	8.1	12,874	7.2	13,098	6.6	13,418	11.0	9,629	8.9	11,519
2008	7.2	13,785	6.5	12,655	9.0	13,228	10.2	9,603	8.6	11,210
2009	7.6	14,873	7.6	13,807	6.1	15,617	10.7	9,638	9.1	11,810

[1] Tubers 1½ inches and over.
[2] Unavailable prior to 2007.

Table 4A: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Net Yield by Size Groups Reds, Round Whites, and Yellows, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Size	Reds [2]			Round Whites						Yellows [2]		
	2007	2008	2009	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
	Percent											
1 ½" - under 1 ⅞ "	6	1	3	2	2	*	1	*	4	1	1	*
1 ⅞" - under 2"	7	2	2	3	3	2	1	4	5	3	2	2
2" - under 2 ¼"	16	16	23	10	9	11	10	12	13	8	10	13
2 ¼" - under 2 ½"	28	27	25	16	15	18	21	20	20	13	15	14
2 ½" - under 3 ½"	43	54	46	63	61	64	61	60	54	65	69	70
3 ½" - under 4"	*	*	1	6	9	4	5	3	3	10	2	1
4" and over	—	—	*	*	1	1	1	1	1	*	1	*
	Number											
Number of Samples	6	8	6	62	58	59	54	43	36	11	9	9

[1] Adjusted for harvest loss.
[2] Unavailable prior to 2007.
* Less than one percent.

Table 4B: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Net Yield by Weight within Size Groups Long Whites and Russets, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Size	Long Whites *(Shepody)* [2]						Russets					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	Percent											
1 ½" - under 1 ⅞"	1	5	1	2	2	—	3	4	6	7	6	7
1 ⅞" - under 2"	2	1	3	1	6	—	4	4	7	6	7	7
2" and over:												
4 oz - under 6 oz [3]	15	27	22	37	19	—	29	32	35	33	35	41
6 oz - under 8 oz	21	18	19	25	19	—	21	18	19	20	20	20
8 oz - under 10 oz	18	19	19	20	15	—	15	15	12	14	12	11
10 oz and over												
10 oz - under 12 oz	17	13	9	5	17	—	9	10	8	8	7	5
12 oz - under 14 oz	8	9	12	9	13	—	6	6	4	5	5	4
14 oz and over	18	8	15	1	9	—	13	11	9	7	8	5
	Number											
Number of Samples	15	8	11	9	7	4	62	79	64	68	69	61

[1] Adjusted for harvest loss.
[2] Unavailable after 2008; too few reports to allow publication.
[3] Includes potatoes two inches or greater weighing less than four ounces.

Table 5A: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Net Yield by Grade, by Type, Reds, Round Whites, and Yellows, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Grade	Reds [2]			Round Whites						Yellows [2]		
	2007	2008	2009	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
	Percent											
No. 1 (2 Inch Minimum) [3]	80	87	82	85	83	78	89	76	73	82	82	82
No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ Inch Minimum) [4]	17	9	9	8	8	10	9	12	16	12	10	10
Cull [5]	3	4	9	7	9	12	2	12	11	6	8	8

[1] Percent of net yield – adjusted for field loss. Reflects condition before harvest or handling damage.
[2] Unavailable prior to 2007.
[3] Potatoes which meet the requirements for US #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.
[4] Potatoes which meet the requirements for US #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.
[5] Potatoes not meeting the requirements for US #1 or US #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.

Table 5B: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Net Yield by Grade, by Type, Long Whites and Russets, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Grade	Long Whites *(Shepody)* [2]						Russets					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	Percent											
No. 1 (2 Inch Minimum) [3]	69	81	60	59	64	—	70	74	63	70	66	72
No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ Inch Minimum) [4]	11	11	17	24	21	—	13	16	21	18	20	19
Cull [5]	20	8	23	17	15	—	17	10	16	12	14	9

[1] Percent of net yield – adjusted for field loss. Reflects condition before harvest or handling damage.
[2] Unavailable after 2008; too few reports to allow publication.
[3] Potatoes which meet the requirements for US #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.
[4] Potatoes which meet the requirements for US #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.
[5] Potatoes not meeting the requirements for US #1 or US #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.

Table 6A: MAINE POTATOES: Harvest Loss by Size Group, Round Whites, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Size	Round Whites					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	Cwt per Acre					
1 ½" – under 1 ⅞"	3	1	7	4	6	7
1 ⅞" – under 2"	2	1	3	3	2	2
2" – under 2 ¼"	3	4	5	2	4	6
2 ¼" – under 2 ½"	3	3	3	1	3	3
2 ½" – under 3 ½"	3	6	4	3	7	5
3 ½" – under 4"	1	0	0	0	1	*
4" and over	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**15**	**15**	**22**	**13**	**23**	**23**

[1] Includes United States No. 1, United States No. 2 and Culls.

Table 6B: MAINE POTATOES: Harvest Loss by Weight Within Size Groups, Long Whites and Russets, 2004 – 2009 [1]

Size	Long Whites *(Shepody)* [2]				Russets					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	Cwt per Acre									
1 ½" - under 1 ⅞"	—	—	—	—	8	3	6	5	10	11
1 ⅞"- under 2"	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	2	2	3
2" and over:										
4 oz - under 6 oz [3]	—	—	—	—	9	6	9	2	5	5
6 oz - under 8 oz	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	2	1	1
8 oz - under 10 oz	—	—	—	—	1	1	*	2	2	1
10 oz and over	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	*	0	2
Total	**37**	**17**	**12**	**34**	**30**	**15**	**23**	**13**	**20**	**23**

[1] Includes United States No. 1, United States No. 2, and Culls.
[2] Long White totals by size unavailable after 2007; too few reports to allow publication.
[3] Includes potatoes two inches or greater weighing less than four ounces.
* Less than 0.5 cwt per acre.

Table 7: MAINE POTATOES: Planting Progress, 2004 – 2009

Week Ending	Percent of Acres Planted Weekly						Accumulated Percent of Acres					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	Percent											
Before May 1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	2
May 8	4	0	15	5	1	5	4	0	17	5	1	7
May 15	40	5	40	25	16	33	44	5	57	30	17	40
May 22	37	5	5	20	39	45	81	10	62	50	56	85
May 29	14	15	25	30	30	14	95	25	87	80	86	99
June 5	3	50	10	15	13	1	98	75	97	95	99	100
After June 5	2	25	3	5	1	0	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 8: MAINE POTATOES: Production and Stocks by Month, 2003 – 2008 Crop Years [1]

Crop Year	Production	Stocks Held by Growers, Local Dealers, and Processors						
		Year	Following Year					
		December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
	1,000 cwt							
2003	17,030	13,500	12,100	10,500	8,900	6,500	4,100	2,300
2004	19,065	15,000	12,800	11,100	9,400	7,500	5,000	2,900
2005	15,455	12,500	11,200	9,700	8,400	6,500	4,300	2,500
2006	17,385	14,400	12,500	10,900	9,600	7,600	5,300	3,000
2007	16,668	12,900	11,400	9,700	8,000	6,400	4,300	2,500
2008	14,769	11,300	10,000	8,500	7,100	5,600	3,700	2,200

[1] This data is derived from the monthly Potato Stocks/Price Survey also conducted by New England Agricultural Statistics.
SOURCE: ***Potatoes,*** 3:00 p.m., September 24, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 9: MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received by Farmers for Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average, 2003 – 2008 Crop Years [1 2]

Crop Year	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Market Year Average
	Dollars per Cwt												
2003	6.00	5.25	5.45	5.85	5.70	5.80	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.75	7.05	7.05	6.05
2004	5.90	5.15	5.65	6.15	6.35	5.90	6.55	6.60	6.95	7.30	7.40	7.70	6.50
2005	*	5.85	6.30	7.85	8.20	8.20	8.40	8.75	9.45	9.30	8.50	8.10	8.25
2006	*	6.25	6.50	8.15	8.25	8.35	7.90	7.60	8.15	8.20	8.05	7.65	7.80
2007	*	6.20	6.40	7.25	7.55	7.60	8.00	8.55	8.65	9.15	8.75	8.55	7.90
2008	*	7.80	8.65	10.20	9.95	9.95	10.40	11.20	10.60	9.70	9.15	8.80	9.75

[1] This data is derived from the monthly Potato Stocks/Price Survey also conducted by New England Agricultural Statistics.
[2] Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed.
* Missing data indicates too few potatoes being marketed to set price.
SOURCE: ***Potatoes***, 3:00 p.m., September 24, 2009, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 10: FALL POTATOES: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2008 – 2009 [1]

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Acres				Cwt		1,000 Cwt	
California	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	470	495	3,948	4,158
Colorado	57.0	56.0	56.9	55.2	385	400	21,907	22,080
Idaho	305.0	320.0	304.0	319.0	383	411	116,475	131,000
Maine	**56.0**	**56.0**	**54.7**	**55.5**	**270**	**275**	**14,769**	**15,263**
Massachusetts	2.8	3.5	2.7	3.5	260	260	702	910
Michigan	43.0	45.0	42.5	43.5	350	360	14,875	15,660
Minnesota	50.0	47.0	48.0	45.0	425	470	20,400	21,150
Montana	10.9	11.0	10.5	9.5	330	345	3,465	3,278
Nebraska	19.5	20.0	19.4	19.8	425	440	8,245	8,712
Nevada	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.1	410	465	2,378	2,372
New Mexico	5.9	6.5	5.9	6.4	390	420	2,301	2,688
New York	18.0	17.1	17.8	16.5	320	300	5,696	4,950
North Dakota	82.0	83.0	81.0	75.0	280	255	22,680	19,125
Ohio	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.1	325	335	683	704
Oregon	35.3	37.0	35.3	37.0	529	580	18,676	21,460
Pennsylvania	10.0	10.0	9.5	9.5	265	310	2,518	2,945
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	280	210	140	84
Washington	155.0	145.0	155.0	145.0	600	610	93,000	88,450
Wisconsin	63.5	63.5	62.0	63.0	415	460	25,730	28,980
United States Fall Crop	931.1	936.9	922.0	919.4	411	429	378,588	393,969

[1] Data in this table are not derived solely from the Potato Objective Yield Survey; data are derived from other end of year surveys conducted by New England Agricultural Statistics.
SOURCE: ***Crop Production – Annual,*** 8:30 a.m., January 12, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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