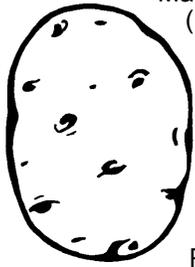


FALL POTATOES



Maine's farmers harvested 16.4 million cwt. (hundredweight) of fall potatoes in 2001, securing the State's rank as the eighth largest producer of fall potatoes in the Nation. Growers harvested 62,000 acres in 2001, compared with 64,000 acres harvested in 2000. The 2001 planting season was off to a good start due to dry weather conditions, with 90 percent planted by the end of May. Planting was ahead of the previous year and normal. Emergence was complete by the end of June, with heat, sunshine and occasional showers promoting rapid crop growth. Shower activity was extremely variable for the remainder of the growing season. Hot, dry conditions persisted through August and September and kept diseases under control, but insect levels were high. Very dry conditions allowed harvest to

progress at a fast pace, and farmers welcomed late September rains to reduce bruising. Harvest was complete by mid-October, on schedule with normal. Potato yields averaged 265 cwt. per acre, compared with 280 cwt. per acre a year earlier. With sales of \$117 million, Maine ranked seventh in the Nation based on the value of 2001 fall potato sales. The price received for Maine-grown potatoes averaged \$7.65 per cwt., up \$1.50 per cwt. from a year earlier, and above the National fall potato average of \$6.54 per cwt.

Potato farmers in Massachusetts and Rhode Island also battled drought conditions during the 2001 growing season. Massachusetts growers harvested 2,800 acres, with yields averaging 265 cwt. per acre. Rhode Island potato farmers harvested 500 acres, with average yields of 280 cwt. per acre.

FALL POTATOES: Acreage, Yield, Production, Disposition and Value, 1992 - 2001

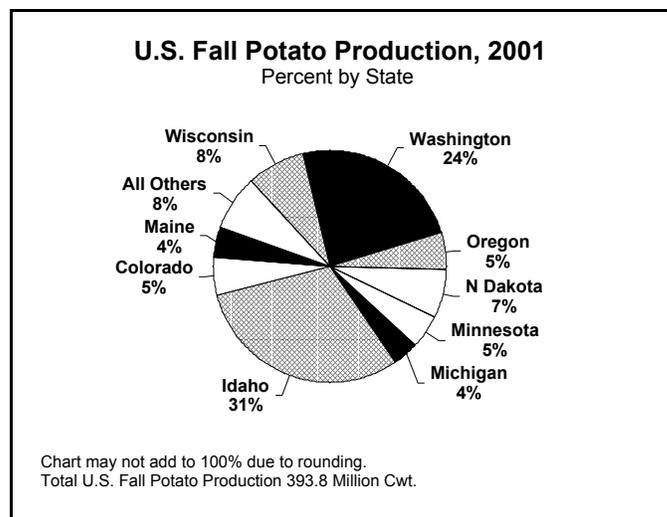
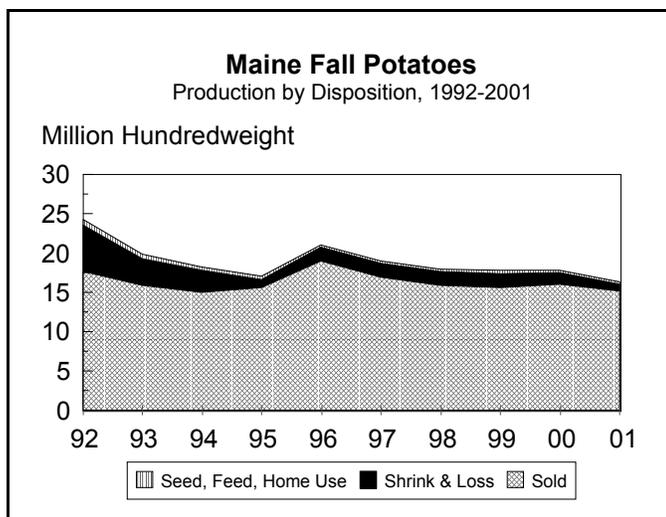
STATE and YEAR	Area		Yield per Acre	Production	Total Used for Seed	Disposition			Price per Cwt.	Value of	
	Planted	Harvested				On Farm Where Grown		Sold		Production	Sales
						Seed, Feed, Home Use	Shrink and Loss				
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		Dollars	1,000 Dollars		
Maine											
1992	82.0	81.0	300	24,300	1,760	710	5,940	17,650	5.10	123,930	90,015
1993	80.0	78.0	255	19,890	1,716	580	3,370	15,940	6.90	137,241	109,986
1994	78.0	75.0	245	18,375	1,716	525	2,850	15,000	6.10	112,088	91,500
1995	78.0	78.0	220	17,160	1,716	420	1,025	15,715	6.40	109,824	100,576
1996	78.0	77.0	275	21,175	1,584	395	1,800	18,980	4.60	97,405	87,308
1997	72.0	72.0	265	19,080	1,430	275	1,760	17,045	6.40	122,112	109,088
1998	65.5	64.5	280	18,060	1,430	360	1,740	15,960	6.45	116,487	102,942
1999	65.0	62.5	285	17,813	1,408	330	1,850	15,633	6.35	113,113	99,270
2000	64.0	64.0	280	17,920	1,302	315	1,490	16,115	6.15	110,208	99,107
2001	62.0	62.0	265	16,430	1,344	301	849	15,280	7.65	125,690	116,892
Massachusetts											
1992	3.0	3.0	275	825	62	6	41	778	5.90	4,868	4,590
1993	3.0	3.0	215	645	59	4	10	631	7.50	4,838	4,733
1994	3.1	3.1	240	744	62	2	65	677	7.30	5,431	4,942
1995	3.3	3.3	260	858	57	1	7	850	6.40	5,491	5,440
1996	2.7	2.6	260	676	59	--	18	658	5.65	3,819	3,718
1997	3.0	3.0	270	810	68	--	40	770	7.70	6,237	5,929
1998	2.9	2.9	235	682	60	--	30	652	6.25	4,263	4,075
1999	3.0	2.9	255	740	62	--	30	710	6.35	4,699	4,509
2000	2.8	2.5	255	638	59	1	72	565	5.40	3,445	3,051
2001	2.9	2.8	265	742	67	5	29	708	6.90	5,120	4,885

FALL POTATOES: Acreage, Yield, Production, Disposition and Value, 1992 - 2001

STATE and YEAR	Area		Yield per Acre	Production	Total Used for Seed	Disposition			Price per Cwt.	Value of	
	Planted	Harvested				On Farm Where Grown		Sold		Production	Sales
						Seed, Feed, Home Use	Shrink and Loss				
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		Dollars	1,000 Dollars		
Rhode Island											
1992	1.3	1.3	290	377	23	2	8	367	5.30	1,998	1,945
1993	1.1	1.1	205	226	22	--	4	222	6.45	1,458	1,432
1994	1.1	1.1	225	248	18	--	2	246	6.55	1,624	1,611
1995	0.9	0.9	270	243	17	--	2	241	7.35	1,786	1,771
1996	0.8	0.8	240	192	16	--	2	190	6.50	1,248	1,235
1997	0.8	0.8	270	216	16	--	3	213	7.60	1,642	1,619
1998	0.7	0.7	210	147	11	--	2	145	6.60	970	957
1999	0.6	0.6	225	135	9	--	2	133	7.25	979	964
2000	0.5	0.5	275	138	13	--	--	138	7.20	994	994
2001	0.5	0.5	280	140	12	--	3	137	6.70	938	918

New England^{1/}											
1992	86.3	85.3	299	25,502	1,845	718	5,989	18,795	5.14	130,796	96,550
1993	84.1	82.1	253	20,761	1,797	584	3,384	16,793	6.92	143,537	116,151
1994	82.2	79.2	245	19,367	1,796	527	2,917	15,923	6.16	119,143	98,053
1995	82.2	82.2	222	18,261	1,790	421	1,034	16,806	6.41	117,101	107,787
1996	81.5	80.4	274	22,043	1,659	395	1,820	19,828	4.65	102,472	92,261
1997	75.8	75.8	265	20,106	1,514	275	1,803	18,028	6.47	129,991	116,636
1998	69.1	68.1	277	18,889	1,501	360	1,772	16,757	6.44	121,720	107,974
1999	68.6	66.0	283	18,688	1,479	330	1,882	16,476	6.36	118,791	104,743
2000	67.3	67.0	279	18,696	1,374	316	1,562	16,818	6.13	114,647	103,152
2001	65.4	65.3	265	17,312	1,423	306	881	16,125	7.61	131,748	122,695

^{1/} New England includes: ME, MA, and RI.



MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Acres Planted by Variety, 1997 - 2001

VARIETY and TYPE	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
BY VARIETY:	Percent				
Atlantic	6	6	5	3	4
Frito-Lay, All	9	10	10	11	13
Goldrush	2	2	1/	1/	2
Katahdin	3	3	3	2	4
Kennebec	1/	1/	1/	2	1/
Mainestay	2	1/	1/	1/	1/
Norwis	4	3	2	3	2
Ontario	8	12	17	9	7
Russet Burbank	20	23	26	34	29
Russet Norkotah	4	3	1	4	3
Snowden	4	5	3	2	2
Shepody	12	14	15	11	11
Superior	14	9	8	6	9
Yukon Gold	--	--	2	2	2
All Red Varieties	4	4	4	4	5
Other Varieties	8	6	4	7	7
TOTAL VARIETIES	100	100	100	100	100
BY TYPE:					
White and Red Varieties	73	72	72	61	65
Russet Varieties	27	28	28	39	35

^{1/} Included with other varieties.

MAINE POTATOES: Number of Tubers per Hill and Hills per Acre, by Type, 1997 - 2001

YEAR	Round Whites		Long Whites		Russets		All Varieties ^{1/}	
	Tubers ^{2/} per Hill	Hills per Acre						
1997	6.3	14,122	6.0	12,521	10.6	9,289	7.7	12,449
1998	7.6	13,317	6.5	12,218	9.8	10,189	8.1	12,323
1999	6.8	13,425	5.8	12,767	9.4	9,112	7.4	12,168
2000	7.5	13,255	6.6	12,351	10.3	9,717	8.4	11,871
2001	6.2	13,509	6.4	12,722	9.4	9,304	7.5	11,862

^{1/} Includes Red varieties. ^{2/} Tubers 1½ inches and over.MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Net Yield by Weight within Grade ^{1/}, by Type, 1997 - 2001

GRADE	Round Whites					Long Whites					Russets				
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
U.S. No. 1	82	79	79	77	83	87	73	64	62	61	70	72	67	68	75
U.S. No. 2	10	13	11	12	10	8	18	18	20	20	19	17	16	18	15
Culls	8	8	10	11	7	5	9	18	18	19	11	11	17	14	10

^{1/} Reflects condition before harvest.

MAINE POTATOES: Potato Production and Stocks Held by Growers, Local Dealers and Processors, by Month, 1997 - 2001 Crop Years

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	
1,000 Cwt									
1997	19,170	15,600	14,100	12,100	10,300	7,400	4,500		1/
1998	18,060	14,100	12,500	10,500	8,450	6,000	3,800		1,900
1999	17,813	14,500	13,000	11,300	9,400	7,200	4,400		2,300
2000	17,920	14,100	12,500	10,900	8,700	6,600	4,000		1,900
2001	16,430	12,200	10,800	8,900	7,100	5,300	3,300		1,800

^{1/} June 1 stocks on hand unavailable prior to June 1, 1999.

MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 1997 - 2001 Crop Years

CROP YEAR	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for All Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average										
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	Market Year Average
Dollars Per Cwt											
1997	8.10	5.65	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.10	6.35	6.55	6.95	6.75	6.40
1998	6.25	5.40	5.70	5.85	5.90	6.15	6.45	6.90	7.45	7.05	6.45
1999	5.80	5.30	5.45	6.35	6.45	6.30	6.35	6.40	6.80	6.60	6.35
2000	5.80	5.45	5.50	5.55	5.60	5.50	5.90	6.20	6.80	7.30	6.15
2001	6.20	5.70	6.05	6.65	7.50	7.75	8.30	8.65	9.45	8.05	7.65

^{1/} Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed, and feed.