

# CATTLE ON FEED



Released: February 13, 1979  
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Economics, Statistics, &  
Cooperatives Service

U.S. Department  
of Agriculture

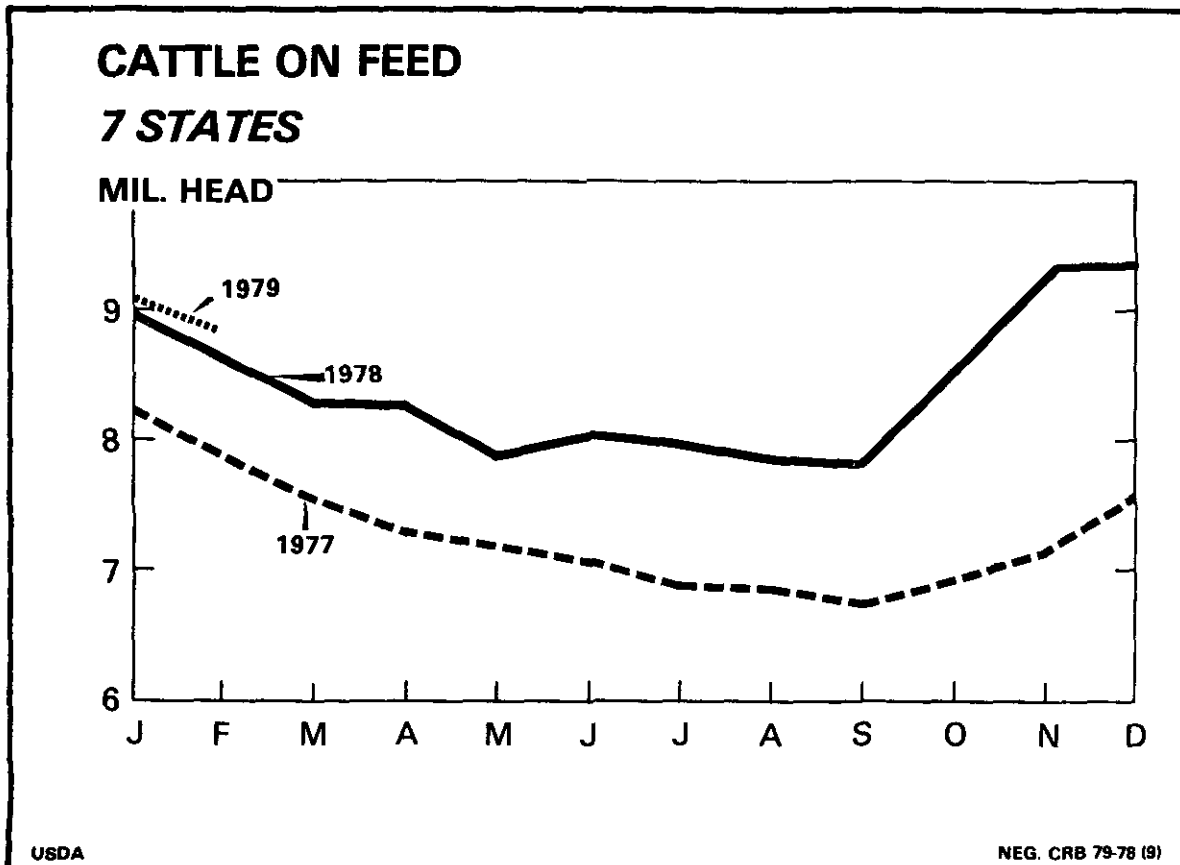
Washington, D.C.  
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## CATTLE ON FEED IN 7 STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed February 1 for slaughter market in the 7 States preparing monthly estimates totaled 8.73 million head, 1 percent more than a year ago and 11 percent more than February 1, 1977, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Marketings of fed cattle during January were a record high at 1.89 million, 8 percent greater than last year and 18 percent more than January 1, 1977.

Placements of cattle and calves on feed in the 7 States during January were 1.59 million, down 4 percent from last year but 16 percent larger than 2 years ago. Net placements of 1.39 million were down 3 percent from last year but up 10 percent from January 1977.

Other disappearance totaled 198 thousand compared with 212 thousand in January 1978 and 107 thousand in 1977.



**CATTLE AND CALVES: NUMBER ON FEED, PLACEMENTS, MARKETED, AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE,  
7 STATES, JAN 1 TO FEB 1**

| ITEM                              | 1977       |         |         | 1978       |         |         | 1979       |         |         | 1979 AS % OF: |     |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----|
|                                   | 1,000 HEAD | PERCENT | 1978-77 | 1,000 HEAD | PERCENT | 1978-77 | 1,000 HEAD | PERCENT | 1978-77 | 1978          |     |
| ON FEED JAN 1 1/                  | 8,213      |         |         | 8,927      |         |         | 9,226      |         |         | 112           | 103 |
| PLACED ON FEED DURING JAN         | 1,369      |         |         | 1,649      |         |         | 1,589      |         |         | 116           | 96  |
| FED CATTLE MARKETED DURING JAN    | 1,602      |         |         | 1,750      |         |         | 1,888      |         |         | 118           | 108 |
| OTHER DISAPPEARANCE DURING JAN 2/ | 107        |         |         | 212        |         |         | 198        |         |         | 185           | 93  |
| ON FEED FEB 1 1/                  | 7,873      |         |         | 8,614      |         |         | 8,729      |         |         | 111           | 101 |

1/ CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED ARE ANIMALS BEING FATTENED FOR SLAUGHTER MARKET ON GRAIN OR OTHER CONCENTRATES AND ARE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE A CARCASS THAT WILL GRADE GOOD OR BETTER. 2/ INCLUDES DEATH LOSSES, MOVEMENT FROM FEEDLOTS TO PASTURES AND SHIPMENTS TO OTHER FEEDLOTS FOR FURTHER FEEDING.

**CATTLE AND CALVES: NUMBER ON FEED, PLACEMENTS, MARKETED, AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE,  
BY STATES, NOV 1 TO FEB 1**

| STATE    | NUMBER ON FEED |         |         | PLACED     |         |         | MARKETED   |         |         | OTHER DISAPPEARANCE |         |         |
|----------|----------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|
|          | 1977           | 1978    | 1978-77 | 1977       | 1978    | 1978-77 | 1977       | 1978    | 1978-77 | 1977                | 1978    | 1978-77 |
|          | 1,000 HEAD     | PERCENT |         | 1,000 HEAD | PERCENT |         | 1,000 HEAD | PERCENT |         | 1,000 HEAD          | PERCENT |         |
|          | NOV 1          |         |         | DURING NOV |         |         | DURING NOV |         |         | DURING NOV          |         |         |
| ARIZ     | 366            | 504     | 138     | 92         | 59      | 64      | 50         | 51      | 102     | 8                   | 5       | 63      |
| CALIF    | 807            | 838     | 104     | 178        | 157     | 88      | 103        | 159     | 154     | 30                  | 33      | 110     |
| COLO     | 950            | 1,065   | 112     | 205        | 230     | 112     | 150        | 187     | 125     | 10                  | 13      | 130     |
| IOWA     | 1,260          | 1,340   | 106     | 500        | 475     | 95      | 230        | 260     | 113     | 10                  | 15      | 150     |
| KANS     | 1,297          | 1,475   | 114     | 298        | 239     | 80      | 300        | 275     | 92      | 15                  | 9       | 60      |
| NEBR     | 1,610          | 1,810   | 112     | 365        | 360     | 99      | 275        | 325     | 118     | 30                  | 25      | 83      |
| TEX      | 1,850          | 2,270   | 123     | 400        | 370     | 93      | 380        | 460     | 121     | 20                  | 60      | 300     |
| 7 STATES | 8,140          | 9,302   | 114     | 2,038      | 1,890   | 93      | 1,488      | 1,717   | 115     | 123                 | 160     | 130     |
|          | DEC 1          |         |         | DURING DEC |         |         | DURING DEC |         |         | DURING DEC          |         |         |
| ARIZ     | 400            | 507     | 127     | 72         | 63      | 88      | 43         | 59      | 137     | 7                   | 21      | 300     |
| CALIF    | 852            | 803     | 94      | 152        | 144     | 95      | 130        | 107     | 82      | 29                  | 44      | 152     |
| COLO     | 995            | 1,095   | 110     | 201        | 170     | 85      | 165        | 174     | 105     | 11                  | 11      | 100     |
| IOWA     | 1,520          | 1,540   | 101     | 482        | 390     | 81      | 297        | 280     | 94      | 15                  | 30      | 200     |
| KANS     | 1,280          | 1,430   | 112     | 390        | 280     | 72      | 260        | 250     | 96      | 10                  | 20      | 200     |
| NEBR     | 1,670          | 1,820   | 109     | 420        | 390     | 93      | 380        | 400     | 105     | 10                  | 10      | 100     |
| TEX      | 1,850          | 2,120   | 115     | 350        | 310     | 89      | 330        | 390     | 118     | 20                  | 40      | 200     |
| 7 STATES | 8,567          | 9,315   | 109     | 2,067      | 1,747   | 85      | 1,605      | 1,660   | 103     | 102                 | 176     | 173     |
|          | 1978           | 1979    | 1979-78 | 1978       | 1979    | 1979-78 | 1978       | 1979    | 1979-78 | 1978                | 1979    | 1979-78 |
|          | JAN 1          |         |         | DURING JAN |         |         | DURING JAN |         |         | DURING JAN          |         |         |
| ARIZ     | 422            | 490     | 116     | 39         | 53      | 136     | 54         | 56      | 104     | 11                  | 34      | 309     |
| CALIF    | 845            | 796     | 94      | 90         | 120     | 133     | 152        | 165     | 109     | 115                 | 50      | 43      |
| COLO     | 1,020          | 1,080   | 106     | 183        | 211     | 115     | 205        | 238     | 116     | 18                  | 18      | 100     |
| IOWA     | 1,690          | 1,620   | 96      | 252        | 245     | 97      | 272        | 260     | 96      | 20                  | 25      | 125     |
| KANS     | 1,400          | 1,440   | 103     | 280        | 250     | 89      | 285        | 319     | 112     | 15                  | 11      | 73      |
| NEBR     | 1,700          | 1,800   | 106     | 385        | 315     | 82      | 365        | 380     | 104     | 20                  | 35      | 175     |
| TEX      | 1,850          | 2,000   | 108     | 420        | 395     | 94      | 417        | 470     | 113     | 13                  | 25      | 192     |
| 7 STATES | 8,927          | 9,226   | 103     | 1,649      | 1,589   | 96      | 1,750      | 1,888   | 108     | 212                 | 198     | 93      |
|          | FEB 1          |         |         |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| ARIZ     | 396            | 453     | 114     |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| CALIF    | 668            | 701     | 105     |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| COLO     | 980            | 1,035   | 106     |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| IOWA     | 1,650          | 1,580   | 96      |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| KANS     | 1,380          | 1,360   | 99      |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| NEBR     | 1,700          | 1,700   | 100     |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| TEX      | 1,840          | 1,900   | 103     |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |
| 7 STATES | 8,614          | 8,729   | 101     |            |         |         |            |         |         |                     |         |         |

ESTIMATES IN THIS CATTLE ON FEED REPORT ARE BASED ON DATA PROVIDED VOLUNTARILY BY CATTLE FEEDERS. THE STATE STATISTICAL OFFICES MAINTAIN AN UP-TO-DATE LIST OF CATTLE FEEDERS STRATIFIED BY FEEDLOT CAPACITY. DATA ARE COLLECTED BY MAIL AND BY PERSONAL AND TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS ON OR ABOUT THE 1ST DAY OF EACH SURVEY PERIOD. SURVEY PROCEDURES ARE DESIGNED TO OBTAIN REPORTS FROM ALL FEEDERS IN THE LARGER SIZE STRATA, AND FEEDERS IN THE SMALL SIZE STRATA ARE SAMPLED. OF THE TOTAL INVENTORY OF CATTLE ON FEED FOR THIS REPORT 74 PERCENT WAS ACTUALLY REPORTED IN THE SURVEY.

# POTATO STOCKS



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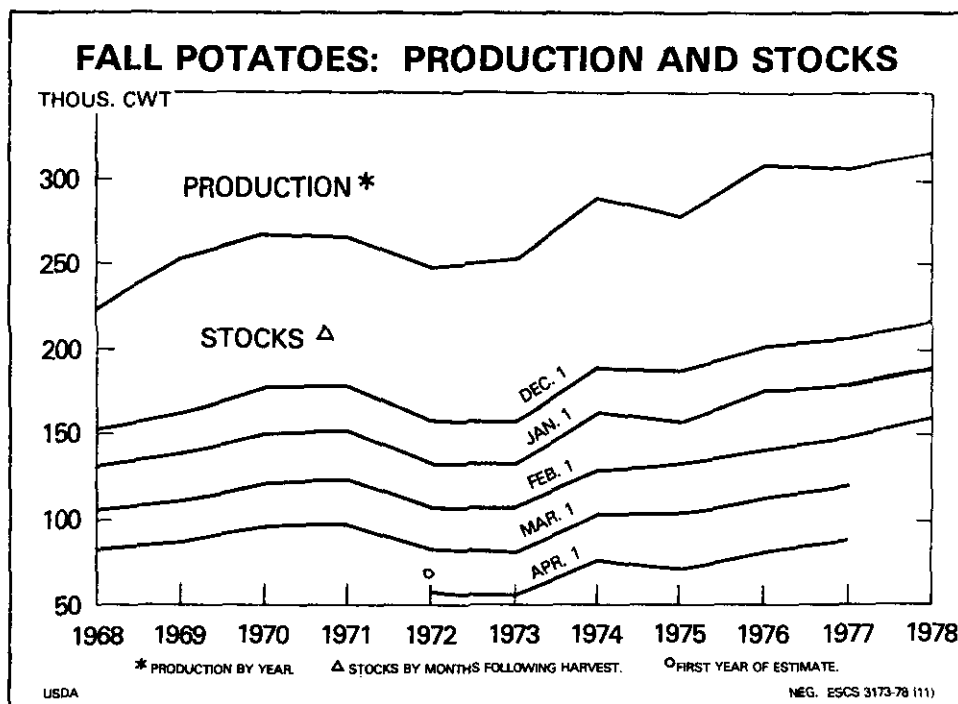
## SIX PERCENT MORE POTATO STOCKS ON FEBRUARY 1, 1979

An estimated 159 million cwt. of potatoes for all uses were in storage in the fall producing areas on February 1, 1979. This was 6 percent above a year earlier, and 11 percent more than 1977.

The regional breakdown is as follows: The seven Eastern States have 21.1 million cwt. in storage, down 10 percent from a year earlier but 1 percent above 1977. Stocks in Maine amounted to 14.9 million cwt., 14 percent less than last year. Stocks in the eight Central States totaled 32.8 million cwt., 10 percent above last year. The eight Western States had 105 million cwt. in storage, up 9 percent from 1978 due mostly to larger holdings in Idaho and Washington.

Disappearance of the 1978 fall crop to February 1, 1979 was 154 million cwt. (excluding Nevada) which includes potatoes diverted to February 1, 1979 under the USDA's potato diversion program. The total disappearance includes 22.6 million cwt. of potatoes that were dumped during grading, fed to livestock on potato farms, discarded without grading and lost due to shrinkage (moisture loss).

The quantity of potatoes processed to February 1, 1979 in the seven major States amounted to 56.0 million cwt., 4 percent less than last year.



Note: Stocks are defined as the quantity remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes generally account for about 90 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage and loss and home use account for the remaining 10 percent.

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION, DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, AND APRIL 1 TOTAL STOCKS, CROPS OF 1968-78 IN THE FALL STATES

| YEAR               | PRODUCTION | TOTAL STOCKS |                |         |         |        |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|---------|---------|--------|
|                    |            | DEC 1        | FOLLOWING YEAR |         |         |        |
|                    |            | JAN 1        | FEB 1          | MAR 1   | APR 1   |        |
| 1,000 CWT          |            |              |                |         |         |        |
| 1968               | 234,832    | 152,810      | 130,350        | 104,995 | 81,940  |        |
| 1969               | 252,561    | 162,800      | 138,140        | 111,510 | 87,620  |        |
| 1970               | 267,827    | 175,145      | 150,030        | 122,230 | 96,780  |        |
| 1971 <sup>1/</sup> | 266,707    | 176,390      | 151,435        | 124,375 | 98,485  |        |
| 1972 <sup>2/</sup> | 249,320    | 158,565      | 134,420        | 107,310 | 83,380  | 58,250 |
| 1973               | 254,379    | 157,837      | 133,665        | 106,615 | 81,165  | 55,870 |
| 1974               | 289,342    | 187,935      | 163,095        | 133,425 | 104,116 | 75,905 |
| 1975               | 278,391    | 185,965      | 159,140        | 131,685 | 104,050 | 71,640 |
| 1976               | 307,427    | 201,980      | 174,775        | 143,925 | 114,140 | 81,875 |
| 1977               | 307,064    | 206,690      | 178,205        | 149,690 | 120,970 | 89,215 |
| 1978               | 318,702    | 218,685      | 190,480        | 159,141 |         |        |

<sup>1/</sup> BEGINNING WITH 1971, LATE SUMMER PRODUCTION FOR N Y-L I, WIS AND WASH HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FALL.  
<sup>2/</sup> APR 1 STOCKS EFFECTIVE WITH 1972 CROP YEAR.

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING, <sup>1/</sup>, SEVEN STATES 1977 AND 1978 CROP

| STATE                            | STORAGE SEASON | TO DEC 1 | TO JAN 1 | TO FEB 1 | TO MAR 1 | TO APR 1 | ENTIRE SEASON |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| 1,000 CWT                        |                |          |          |          |          |          |               |
| IDAHO AND MAL-<br>HEUR CO, OREG: | 1977-78        | 16,761   | 22,217   | 27,360   | 32,913   | 39,070   | 61,261        |
|                                  | 1978-79        | 15,660   | 21,215   | 26,045   |          |          |               |
| MAINE <sup>2/</sup>              | 1977-78        | 2,500    | 3,290    | 4,185    | 4,980    | 5,960    | 8,040         |
|                                  | 1978-79        | 2,280    | 2,800    | 3,670    |          |          |               |
| WASH AND OTHER:<br>AREAS, OREG   | 1977-78        | 14,205   | 17,745   | 21,620   | 26,160   | 30,280   | 44,460        |
|                                  | 1978-79        | 14,758   | 18,060   | 21,910   |          |          |               |
| OTH STS <sup>3/</sup>            | 1977-78        | 3,380    | 4,255    | 5,405    | 6,230    | 7,385    | 9,855         |
|                                  | 1978-79        | 2,625    | 3,520    | 4,420    |          |          |               |
| TOTAL                            | 1977-78        | 36,846   | 47,507   | 58,570   | 70,283   | 82,695   | 123,616       |
|                                  | 1978-79        | 35,323   | 45,595   | 56,045   |          |          |               |

<sup>1/</sup> TOTAL QUANTITY RECEIVED AND USED FOR PROCESSING REGARDLESS OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE POTATOES WERE PRODUCED. DOES NOT INCLUDE QUANTITIES USED FOR POTATO CHIPS IN MAINE, MICH OR MINN.

<sup>2/</sup> INCLUDES MAINE GROWN POTATOES ONLY.

<sup>3/</sup> MICH, MINN AND N DAK.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES  
HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS, AND LOCAL DEALERS ON  
FEBRUARY 1, 1978 AND FEBRUARY 1, 1979

| STATE             | CROP OF 1977 |              |                    | CROP OF 1978 |              |                    |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|
|                   | PRODUCTION   | TOTAL STOCKS | FEB 1 STOCKS       | PRODUCTION   | TOTAL STOCKS | FEB 1 STOCKS       |
|                   | 1,000 CWT    | FEB 1, 1978  | AS % OF PRODUCTION | 1,000 CWT    | FEB 1, 1979  | AS % OF PRODUCTION |
| CALIF             | 5,950        | 2,400        | 40                 | 6,055        | 2,470        | 41                 |
| COLO              | 9,490        | 4,450        | 47                 | 9,750        | 4,150        | 43                 |
| CONN              | 466          | 100          |                    | 3/           | 3/           |                    |
| IDAHO             | 88,200       | 53,500       | 61                 | 96,980       | 59,500       | 61                 |
| IND               | 1,128        | 95           | 8                  | 936          | 130          | 14                 |
| MAINE             | 28,320       | 17,400       | 61                 | 26,180       | 14,900       | 57                 |
| MASS              | 888          | 160          | 18                 | 810          | 235          | 29                 |
| MICH              | 8,800        | 3,600        | 41                 | 8,670        | 3,800        | 44                 |
| MINN              | 12,960       | 7,400        | 57                 | 14,910       | 9,400        | 63                 |
| MONT              | 2,016        | 1,800        | 89                 | 2,088        | 1,830        | 88                 |
| NEBR              | 1,440        | 680          | 47                 | 1,680        | 950          | 57                 |
| N H 1/            | 71           | 30           | 42                 |              |              |                    |
| N Y - L I         | 7,182        | 1,400        | 19                 | 6,175        | 1,200        | 19                 |
| - UPSTATE         | 5,356        | 1,700        | 32                 | 6,500        | 1,800        | 28                 |
| N DAK             | 21,600       | 11,200       | 52                 | 22,400       | 12,200       | 54                 |
| OHIO              | 2,744        | 550          | 20                 | 2,215        | 470          | 21                 |
| OREG              | 25,550       | 12,500       | 49                 | 28,488       | 12,500       | 44                 |
| PA                | 6,375        | 2,550        | 40                 | 6,250        | 2,900        | 46                 |
| R I               | 943          | 2/           |                    | 3/           | 3/           |                    |
| S DAK             | 1,062        | 375          | 35                 | 1,190        | 350          | 29                 |
| UTAH              | 1,416        | 450          | 32                 | 1,127        | 520          | 46                 |
| VT                | 235          | 100          | 43                 | 3/           | 3/           |                    |
| WASH              | 50,600       | 20,800       | 41                 | 50,685       | 24,000       | 47                 |
| WIS               | 18,038       | 6,000        | 33                 | 17,325       | 5,500        | 32                 |
| WYO               | 1,474        | 450          | 31                 | 1,360        | 250          | 18                 |
| OTH STS 3/        |              |              |                    | 1,488        | 86           | 6                  |
| 23-STATE TOTAL 4/ | 302,304      | 149,690      | 50                 | 313,262      | 159,141      | 51                 |

1/ ESTIMATES DISCONTINUED AFTER 1977 CROP. 2/ R I INCLUDED IN CONN. 3/ CONN. R I, AND VT INCLUDED IN OTHER STATES. 4/ EXCLUDING NEV FOR WHICH NO STOCKS ESTIMATES ARE MADE. NEV 1977 PRODUCTION 4,760,000 CWT. AND 1978 PRODUCTION 5,440,000 CWT.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the February 1, 1979 potato stocks estimates, the "Root Mean Square Error", a statistical measure based on past performance, has been calculated. This is computed by expressing the deviations between the February 1 preliminary estimate and the final estimate as a percent of the final estimate and averaging the squared percentage deviations for the 1959-78 twenty-year period. The square root of this average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error". Probability statements can be made concerning expected errors in the current preliminary estimate relative to the final end of season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year's estimate are not different from those influencing recent years' preliminary estimates.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1, 1979 potato stocks estimate is 2.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 159 million hundredweight will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.9 percent or approximately 4.62 million hundredweight. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.0 percent or approximately 7.96 million hundredweight.

During the past 10 years, the difference between the February 1 preliminary and final estimate averaged 3.1 million hundredweight. The largest deviation was 6.3 and the smallest was .4 million hundredweight. The preliminary February 1 estimate was below the final estimate each year during the past 10 years.

**POTATO STOCKS QUALITY SURVEY  
MINNESOTA AND NORTH DAKOTA (RED RIVER VALLEY)**

The potato stocks quality information contained in this report is based on a survey conducted by the Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service in the Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota. Sample bags of potatoes selected on a random basis were placed in storage at harvest time. Reports are issued each month during the 1978-79 storage season showing the cumulative average grade and weight loss for potatoes at the time of removal from storage. At the request of the Red River Valley Potato Growers Association, samples were selected only for processing potatoes.

Samples recovered before February 1, 1979 indicate that the quality of the white varieties at harvest and after storage was higher than for the comparable date a year earlier. The decline in No. 1 grade (including B's) for white varieties while in storage was 9 percent (8 points) for samples removed from storage to date. This compares with an 11 percent decline (10 points) during the same period a year earlier.

The percent graded as culls at harvest and after storage for white varieties is below a year ago. Total weight loss while in storage for samples recovered to date is 5 percent.

This report does not include information for Russet potatoes as an insufficient number of samples were recovered by February 1, 1979.

The cooperation of the many potato growers and storage operators who assisted on this project is greatly appreciated.

**POTATO STOCKS QUALITY SURVEY, RED RIVER VALLEY, 1978-79  
AVERAGE GRADE OF POTATOES**

| CROP   | NO. 1<br>INCLUDING B'S |                  | NO. 2         |                  | CULLS         |                  | NO. 1<br>B'S 1/ |                  | WEIGHT<br>LOSS |
|--|------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
|  | AT<br>HARVEST          | AFTER<br>STORAGE | AT<br>HARVEST | AFTER<br>STORAGE | AT<br>HARVEST | AFTER<br>STORAGE | AT<br>HARVEST   | AFTER<br>STORAGE |                |
| PERCENT  |                        |                  |               |                  |               |                  |                 |                  |                |
| SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 1979 <u>2/</u>  |                        |                  |               |                  |               |                  |                 |                  |                |
| WHITE  | 89                     | 81               | 7             | 8                | 4             | 11               | 6               | 7                | 5              |
| RUSSET <u>3/</u>                                     |                        |                  |               |                  |               |                  |                 |                  |                |
| SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 1978 <u>2/</u>  |                        |                  |               |                  |               |                  |                 |                  |                |
| WHITE  | 87                     | 77               | 8             | 10               | 5             | 13               | 5               | 6                | 4              |
| RUSSET   | 87                     | 78               | 5             | 11               | 8             | 11               | 3               | 5                | 3              |
| ALL SAMPLES 1977-78 STORAGE SEASON - FINAL <u>2/</u> |                        |                  |               |                  |               |                  |                 |                  |                |
| WHITE  | 86                     | 72               | 7             | 11               | 7             | 17               | 6               | 7                | 6              |
| RUSSET   | 85                     | 69               | 7             | 16               | 8             | 15               | 4               | 5                | 6              |

1/ NO. 1 B'S ARE POTATOES THAT MEET THE U S NO. 1 GRADE BUT DO NOT MEET MINIMUM SIZE STANDARDS FOR THE AREA: RED AND WHITE VARIETIES - 1 1/2-2 1/4 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND RUSSET VARIETIES - UNDER 2 INCHES IN DIAMETER OR LESS THAN 4 OUNCES.

2/ MATCHED SAMPLES, QUALITY AT HARVEST COMPARED WITH QUALITY AFTER STORAGE.

3/ DATA NOT AVAILABLE. INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF SAMPLES REMOVED FROM STORAGE PRIOR TO THE REPORT.