

POTATO STOCKS

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POTATO STOCKS DOWN 11 PERCENT

Stocks of potatoes for all uses held in storage by growers, local dealers and processors in the fall production areas totaled 67.3 million cwt on April 1, 1976, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This is 8.6 million cwt (11 percent) less than the 75.9 million on hand April 1, 1975, but 20 percent above the April 1, 1974 stocks.

Stocks in the eight eastern States on April 1, 1976, totaled 8.7 million cwt, down 42 percent from the 15.0 million cwt on hand a year earlier. Maine stocks total 7.4 million cwt compare with 13.0 million cwt on hand a year earlier.

For the eight central States, stocks totaled 6.7 million cwt, a decline of 4.7 million cwt (42 percent) from the 11.4 million on hand April 1, 1975.

In the eight western States, April 1, 1976 stocks totaled 51.9 million cwt, 5 percent above the 49.5 million cwt on hand a year earlier. Idaho stocks at 33.0 million cwt compare with 32.0 million on hand April 1, 1975.

Cumulative disappearance from the 1975 fall crop to April 1, 1976, totaled 200.6 million cwt (excluding Nevada), down 4 percent from the 209.6 million cwt moved during the comparable period a year earlier.

The accumulated quantity of potatoes processed in the seven major States to April 1, 1976, from the 1975 crop totaled 71.4 million cwt, a decline of 9 percent from the 78.6 million cwt processed during the comparable period of last season.

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. The remaining 10 percent is lost primarily through shrinkage and waste.

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION, DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, AND APRIL 1 TOTAL STOCKS, CRCPS OF 1965-75 IN THE FALL STATES

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS				
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR			
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1
1,000 CWT						
1965	216,749	147,780	124,170	98,670	74,905	
1966	228,442	153,550	128,050	103,630	79,632	
1967	231,656	161,500	139,170	112,640	86,405	
1968	221,906	152,810	130,350	104,995	81,940	
1969	239,460	162,800	138,140	111,510	87,620	
1970	253,525	175,145	150,030	122,830	96,780	
1971 <u>1/</u>	266,686	176,340	151,400	124,370	98,480	
1972	248,841	158,440	134,320	107,165	83,305	<u>2/</u> 58,185
1973	253,866	157,802	133,585	106,600	81,150	55,865
1974 <u>3/</u>	288,674	187,715	162,900	133,245	104,051	75,865
1975	271,942	180,930	152,920	125,360	99,105	67,250

1/ BEGINNING WITH 1971 LATE SUMMER PRODUCTION FOR NEW YORK-LONG ISLAND, WISCONSIN AND WASHINGTON HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FALL.

2/ APRIL 1 STOCKS EFFECTIVE WITH 1972 CROP YEAR.

3/ REVISED AUGUST 1975 POT 6(75).

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING, 1/ SEVEN STATES, 1974 AND 1975 CROPS 2/

STATE	STORAGE SEASON	TO DEC 1	TO JAN 1	TO FEB 1	TO MAR 1	TO APR 1	ENTIRE SEASON
(000) CWT							
IDAHO AND MALHEUR CO, OREG	1974-75	19,742	23,803	28,063	32,820	38,344	58,168
	1975-76	15,030	19,890	24,965	30,265	36,125	
MAINE	1974-75	2,830	3,757	5,126	6,109	7,116	9,304
	1975-76	1,735	2,350	2,945	3,635	4,420	
WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG	1974-75	15,269	16,815	19,181	21,712	24,472	32,295
	1975-76	11,796	14,780	18,060	21,190	25,610	
OTHER STATES <u>3/</u>	1974-75	3,833	4,990	6,355	7,539	8,687	11,322
	1975-76	2,504	3,100	3,710	4,365	5,240	
TOTAL	1974-75	41,674	49,365	58,725	68,180	78,619	111,089
	1975-76	31,065	40,120	49,680	59,455	71,395	

1/ 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 OR MICHIGAN.

2/ 1974-75 REVISED. 3/ MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, AND NORTH DAKOTA.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS, AND LOCAL DEALERS ON APRIL 1, 1975 AND APRIL 1, 1976

STATE	CROP OF 1974		CROP OF 1975	
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS : APR 1 1975	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS : APR 1 1976
	1,000 CWT			
CALIF	6,417	1,300	6,164	1,300
COLO	8,840	2,350	8,613	1,800
CONN	598	<u>1/</u>	552	<u>1/</u>
IDAHO	81,195	32,000	75,090	33,000
IND	1,166	<u>1/</u>	1,500	60
MAINE	36,400	13,000	26,840	7,400
MASS	800	<u>1/</u>	718	<u>1/</u>
MICH	8,330	1,200	6,670	800
MINN	15,300	3,200	9,690	1,900
MONT	1,750	1,200	1,748	1,250
NEBR	1,152	225	1,127	240
N H	144	<u>1/</u>	92	<u>1/</u>
N Y - L I	6,750	200	6,058	230
- UPSTATE	6,968	900	5,760	510
N DAK	22,950	4,750	17,600	2,500
OHIO	2,090	120	1,914	80
OREG	17,482	3,375	22,779	4,150
PA	7,360	767	6,815	550
R I	1,034	<u>1/</u>	987	<u>1/</u>
S DAK	371	<u>1/</u>	598	70
UTAH	1,481	100	1,508	140
VT	220	<u>1/</u>	212	<u>1/</u>
WASH	41,160	8,900	48,300	10,000
WIS	14,000	1,700	14,850	1,000
WYO	1,528	290	1,632	220
OTH STS		288		50
24 STATE TOTAL	285,486	75,865	267,817	67,250
NEV	3,188	<u>2/</u>	4,125	<u>2/</u>
TOTAL 25 FALL STATES	288,674	75,865	271,942	67,250

1/ STOCKS INCLUDED IN "OTHER STATES".

2/ NOT INCLUDED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE.

Potato Stocks Quality Survey
Minnesota and North Dakota (Red River Valley)

Information contained in this report is based on a potato stocks quality survey conducted by the Statistical Reporting Service in the Red River Valley. There were 211 samples selected on a random basis and placed in storage at the time of harvest.

Samples for all varieties removed from storage before April 1, 1976, continue to average a greater proportion of U.S. No.1 potatoes than a year ago. The percent of Red, White and Russet varieties grading U.S. No.1 (including B's) was 80, 78 and 67 percent respectively and compares with 75, 68 and 49 percent for the same period a year ago. Red varieties taken from bins before April 1 contained 7 percent fewer No. 1's after storage than when they were harvested. This compares to a decline of 14 percentage points during the comparable period in 1974-75. White varieties declined 7 percent compared to 4 percent for the comparable period a year earlier. For Russet varieties, 12 percent fewer potatoes met the No. 1 standard after storage this year compared to 22 percent decline for this period a year ago.

Culls for all varieties remain less than a year ago. The percent culls for April 1, 1976 and April 1, 1975 respectively are as follows: Reds 10, 11; Whites 13, 22; and Russets 19, 43. Total weight loss while in storage was unchanged from a year ago for Reds, but less for Whites and Russets.

Averages for all potatoes shipped during the season (final) are shown for the 1974 crop. Thus, comparisons relating to change in grade from April 1 to the end of the storage season can be made for the 1974 crop. In interpreting current survey indications, consideration should be given to further changes that may occur in average grade and weight loss from April 1 to the end of the storage seasons.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY, RED RIVER VALLEY, 1975-76
AVERAGE GRADE OF POTATOES SHIPPED: 1/

VARIETAL TYPE	NO. 1 INCLUDING B'S		NO. 2		CULLS		NO. 1 B'S	WEIGHT LOSS
	AT HARVEST	AFTER STORAGE	AT HARVEST	AFTER STORAGE	AT HARVEST	AFTER STORAGE	AFTER STORAGE 2/	
P E R C E N T								
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE APRIL 1, 1976								
RED	87	80	7	10	6	10	9	4
WHITE	85	78	8	9	7	13	9	3
RUSSET	79	67	13	14	8	19	10	4
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE APRIL 1, 1975								
RED	89	75	7	14	4	11	2	4
WHITE	72	68	14	10	14	22	1	6
RUSSET	71	49	17	8	12	43	3	5
ALL SAMPLES 1974-75 STORAGE SEASON-FINAL								
RED	88	69	7	12	5	19	<u>3/</u>	4
WHITE	76	70	12	10	12	20	<u>3/</u>	5
RUSSET	70	61	18	11	12	28	9	6

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

2/ NO. 1 B'S ARE POTATOES THAT MEET THE U. S. NO 1 GRADE BUT DID 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 WEIGHT LESS THAN 4 OUNCES.

3/ NOT AVAILABLE.