

POTATO STOCKS



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FEBRUARY 1 POTATO STOCKS UP 4 PERCENT

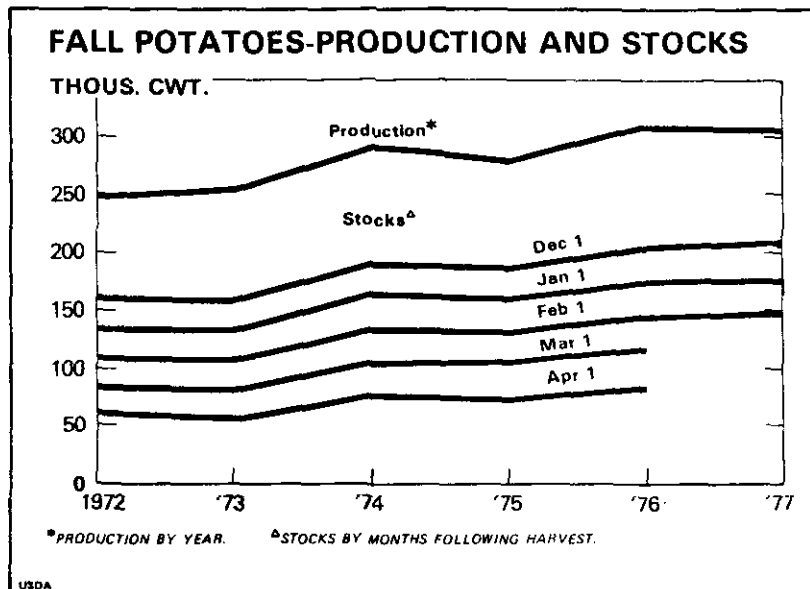
An estimated 149.3 million cwt. of potatoes for all uses were in storage in the fall producing areas on February 1, 1978. This is 4 percent above a year earlier and 13 percent more than 1976.

The regional breakdown is as follows: The eight Eastern States had 23.8 million cwt. in storage, up 14 percent from a year earlier. Maine's stocks of 18.1 million cwt. compare with 14.6 million cwt. in 1977. New York and Pennsylvania continue to show stocks below last year's level. Stocks in the eight Central States totaled 29.1 million cwt., 32 percent above last year. Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin are showing greater stocks than last year. The eight Western States had 96.4 million cwt. in storage, down 5 percent from 1977 due mostly to significant reductions in Washington. Stocks in Idaho were 53.5 million cwt., less than 1 percent above last year.

Disappearance of the 1977 fall crop to February 1, 1978 was 149.9 million cwt. (excluding Nevada), a decrease of 5 percent from last year.

The quantity of potatoes processed to February 1, 1978 in the seven major States is 58.5 million cwt., 6 percent less than last year.

Oregon and Washington stocks for December 1, 1977 and January 1, 1978 have been revised and are shown on page 3. Also in this report, final estimates of stocks for the 1976 crop year are shown on page 4.



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 1967-77 IN THE FALL STATES

YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS				
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR			
		JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	
1,000 CWT						
1967	243,849	161,500	139,170	112,640	86,465	
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 ^{1/}	266,707	176,390	151,435	124,375	98,485	
1972 ^{2/}	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	304,427	207,030	178,215	149,305		

^{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.

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING, ^{1/}, SEVEN STATES 1976 AND 1977 CROP ^{2/}

STATE	STORAGE SEASON	TO	TO	TO	TO	TO	ENTIRE SEASON
		DEC 1	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	
1,000 CWT							
IDAHO AND MALHEUR CO., OREG	1976-77	18,125	24,215	30,070	36,380	43,575	68,030
	1977-78	16,675	22,200	27,305			
MAINE ^{3/}	1976-77	2,575	3,380	4,235	5,105	6,055	7,275
	1977-78	2,315	3,020	3,965			
WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG	1976-77	16,005	19,550	23,435	27,960	32,190	45,535
	1977-78	14,210	17,775	21,865			
OTHER STATES ^{4/}	1976-77	2,385	3,355	4,470	5,550	6,780	7,600
	1977-78	3,300	4,210	5,355			
TOTAL	1976-77	39,090	50,500	62,210	74,995	88,600	128,440
	1977-78	36,500	47,205	58,490			

^{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, MICHIGAN OR MINNESOTA. ^{2/} 1976-77 REVISED. ^{3/} INCLUDES MAINE GROWN POTATOES ONLY. ^{4/} 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, 1977 AND FEBRUARY 1, 1978

STATE	CROP OF 1976		CROP OF 1977	
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS FEB 1, 1977	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS FEB 1, 1978
1,000 CWT				
CALIF	6,475	2,500	5,950	2,600
COLO	9,257	4,200	9,490	4,350
CONN	494	75	466	100
IDAHO	88,455	53,000	88,200	53,500
IND	1,530	90	1,128	75
MAINE	27,440	14,600	28,320	18,100
MASS	770	160	888	160
MICH	8,330	3,300	8,800	3,400
MINN	11,055	5,700	12,960	7,400
MONT	1,806	1,640	2,016	1,730
NEBR	1,274	690	1,380	680
N H	104	50	71	30
N Y-L I	7,409	1,400	6,726	1,200
-UPSTATE	6,101	1,700	5,356	1,700
N DAK	16,940	7,300	20,800	3/11,200
OHIO	2,933	500	2,744	480
OREG	28,913	13,300	25,774	12,500
PA	7,140	2,900	6,375	2,400
R I	1,050	1/	943	1/
S DAK	286	105	1,062	375
UTAH	1,248	600	1,296	525
VT	226	75	235	100
WASH	55,800	25,000	48,685	20,800
WIS	15,370	4,300	18,038	5,500
WYO	1,701	740	1,474	400
24 STATE TOTAL	302,107	143,925	299,177	149,305
NEV	5,320	2/	5,250	2/
TOTAL 25 FALL STS	307,427		304,427	

1/ R I STOCKS INCLUDED IN CONN.

2/ NOT INCLUDED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

3/ USERS ARE CAUTIONED THAT THE STOCKS ESTIMATE FOR NORTH DAKOTA MAY BE LESS RELIABLE THAN FOR THE OTHER STATES DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF NORTH DAKOTA STORAGE OPERATORS WHO REFUSED TO REPORT STOCKS ON THE FEBRUARY 1978 INQUIRY.

	CROP OF 1977	
	DECEMBER 1, 1977 STOCKS	JANUARY 1, 1978 STOCKS
1,000 CWT		
OREGON	15,700	14,100
WASHINGTON	28,700	24,900
24 STATE TOTAL	207,030	178,215

POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
1976 CROP YEAR

STATE	PRODUCTION	STOCKS				
		DEC 1, 1976	JAN 1, 1977	FEB 1, 1977	MAR 1, 1977	APR 1, 1977
CALIF	6,475	4,200	3,300	2,500	1,800	1,200
COLO	9,257	6,700	5,500	4,200	3,300	2,100
CONN	494	230	210	75	1/	1/
IDAHO	88,455	67,500	60,500	53,000	45,000	35,500
IND	1,530	210	150	90	70	70
MAINE	27,440	20,600	17,900	14,600	11,800	8,400
MASS	770	325	225	160	105	1/
MICH	8,330	5,200	4,300	3,300	2,300	1,500
MINN	11,055	9,000	7,400	5,700	4,000	2,100
MONT	1,806	1,700	1,670	1,640	1,600	1,100
NEBR	1,274	980	860	690	460	250
N H	104	75	60	50	1/	1/
N Y - L I	7,409	3,200	2,300	1,400	670	230
- UPSTATE	6,101	3,200	2,400	1,700	1,200	750
N DAK	16,940	11,500	9,400	7,300	5,100	2,600
OHIO	2,933	1,200	800	500	300	150
OREG	28,913	17,700	16,000	13,300	10,500	7,500
PA	7,140	4,750	3,900	2,900	1,900	1,150
R I	1,050	85	2/	2/	1/	1/
S DAK	286	165	120	105	65	40
UTAH	1,248	950	790	600	400	180
VT	226	150	130	75	1/	1/
WASH	55,800	33,200	29,700	25,000	20,100	15,200
WIS	15,370	7,900	6,200	4,300	2,800	1,400
WYO	1,701	1,260	960	740	550	370
OTHER STATES					120	85
24 STATE TOTAL	302,107	201,980	174,775	143,925	114,140	81,875
NEV	5,320	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/
25 STATE TOTAL	307,427					

1/ OTHER STATES.

2/ R I STOCKS INCLUDED WITH CONN.

3/ NOT INCLUDED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

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. A total of 129 samples selected on a random basis were placed in storages at harvest time. Subsequent reports will be issued each month during the 1977-78 storage season showing the cumulative average grade and weight loss for the potatoes removed from storage at the time of shipment.

At the request of the Red River Valley Potato Growers Association, samples were selected this year for processing potatoes only. Since few Red type potatoes are used for processing, data will not be published for Red type potatoes.

Samples recovered before February 1, 1978 indicate that the quality of the white varieties at harvest was slightly lower this year but that the after storage quality was noticeably higher than for the comparable date a year earlier. The quality of the Russet varieties was higher than a year earlier at harvest and also for those removed from storage by February 1. The decline in No. 1 grade (including B's) for white varieties while in storage was 11 percent (10 points) and 10 percent (9 points) for Russet varieties for samples removed from storage to date. This compares with a 22 percent decline for white varieties and a 17 percent decline for Russet varieties during the same period a year earlier.

The percent graded as culls after storage is below a year ago for both varieties. Total weight loss while in storage for samples recovered to date is slightly below a year earlier.

Final data for the 1976-77 storage season are also provided and show the average grade at harvest and after storage for all samples which were recovered from storage.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY SURVEY, RED RIVER VALLEY, 1977-78
AVERAGE GRADE OF POTATOES

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 1/	
	PERCENT							
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 1978 <u>2/</u>								
WHITE	87	77	8	10	5	13	6	4
RUSSET	87	78	5	10	9	11	5	3
SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 1977 <u>2/</u>								
WHITE	89	69	6	12	5	19	9	4
RUSSET	82	68	10	11	8	21	6	4
ALL SAMPLES 1976-77 STORAGE SEASON - FINAL								
WHITE	87	68	7	14	6	18	9	7
RUSSET	85	70	8	12	7	18	6	8

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 - 1½ - 2¼ 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.

