

# POTATO STOCKS



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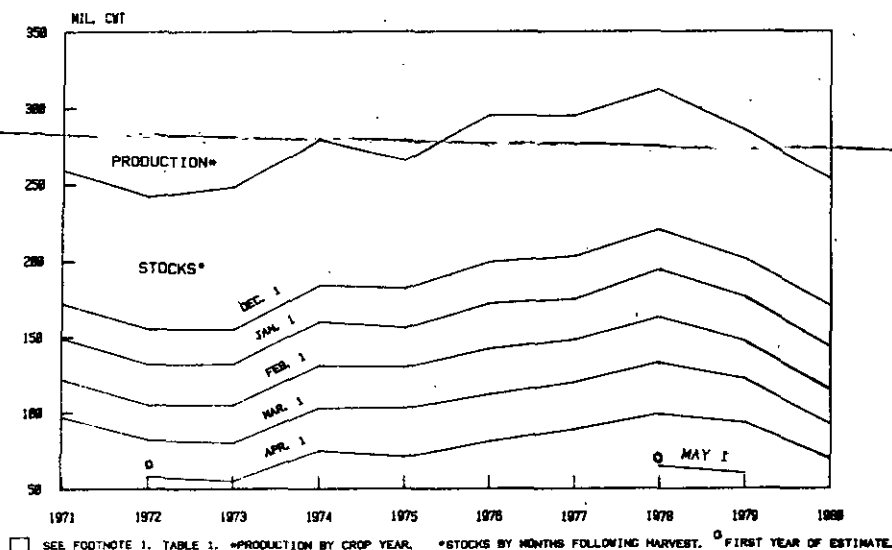
## POTATO STOCKS DOWN 26 PERCENT FROM YEAR EARLIER

Potato stocks as of April 1, 1981 are estimated at 68.3 million cwt in the 15 major fall potato producing States. This is down 26 percent from April 1, 1980 and 31 percent less than on April 1, 1979.

In the three Eastern States, excluding Long Island, New York estimated stocks are 8.33 million cwt, 39 percent below April 1 a year ago and 25 percent less than April 1, 1979. Maine's stocks total 7.20 million cwt, down 40 percent from a year earlier. Holdings in the six Central States excluding Ohio are estimated at 7.83 million cwt, 42 percent less than April 1, 1980 and 50 percent below April 1, 1979. Compared with a year earlier, stocks in North Dakota are down 47 percent while Minnesota and Wisconsin are down 50 and 22 percent, respectively. Estimated stocks in the six Western States are 52.1 million cwt, down 19 percent from April 1 a year ago and 28 percent less than April 1, 1979. Idaho's stocks total 30.5 million cwt, 18 percent below April 1, 1980. Holdings in Washington and Oregon are down from last year 23 and 19 percent, respectively.

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FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS



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: DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, APRIL 1, AND MAY 1 TOTAL STOCKS AND COMPARABLE PRODUCTION FOR 15 STATES ESTIMATING POTATO STOCKS 1/

| CROP YEAR      | PRODUCTION | DEC 1   | JAN 1   | FEB 1   | MAR 1   | APR 1  | MAY 1  |
|----------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1,000 CWT      |            |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 1970           | 259,977    | 171,600 | 147,550 | 120,650 | 95,850  |        |        |
| 1971 <u>2/</u> | 258,613    | 172,550 | 148,600 | 122,350 | 97,150  |        |        |
| 1972           | 242,390    | 155,190 | 132,050 | 105,690 | 82,510  | 57,860 |        |
| 1973           | 247,686    | 154,890 | 131,600 | 105,360 | 80,460  | 55,465 |        |
| 1974           | 278,679    | 183,850 | 160,100 | 131,480 | 102,963 | 75,217 |        |
| 1975           | 266,422    | 181,720 | 156,220 | 129,710 | 102,850 | 70,970 |        |
| 1976           | 294,978    | 198,630 | 172,230 | 142,030 | 112,830 | 81,130 |        |
| 1977           | 295,421    | 202,550 | 175,300 | 147,930 | 119,850 | 88,680 |        |
| 1978           | 311,981    | 219,850 | 193,520 | 162,980 | 132,570 | 99,250 | 64,830 |
| 1979           | 285,060    | 200,820 | 176,020 | 147,910 | 121,720 | 92,550 | 59,535 |
| 1980           | 253,883    | 169,780 | 143,960 | 118,465 | 94,230  | 68,340 |        |

1/ SEE TABLE 3 FOR LIST OF 15 STATES.

2/ BEGINNING WITH 1971, LATE SUMMER PRODUCTION FOR N Y - L I, WIS AND WASH HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FALL.

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING 1/, SEVEN STATES, 1979 AND 1980 CROPS

| STATE                       | STORAGE SEASON | TO DEC 1 | TO JAN 1 | TO FEB 1 | TO MAR 1 | TO APR 1 | TO MAY 1 | ENTIRE SEASON |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| 1,000 CWT                   |                |          |          |          |          |          |          |               |
| IDAHO AND MALHEUR CO., OREG | 1979-80        | 14,220   | 18,690   | 23,970   | 28,840   | 34,440   | 39,930   | 55,600        |
|                             | 1980-81        | 14,460   | 18,710   | 23,235   | 28,100   | 33,485   |          |               |
| MAINE <u>2/</u>             | 1979-80        | 2,010    | 2,655    | 3,470    | 4,245    | 5,200    | 6,200    | 7,965         |
|                             | 1980-81        | 2,190    | 2,880    | 3,545    | 4,245    | 5,000    |          |               |
| WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG  | 1979-80        | 13,510   | 16,995   | 20,725   | 24,915   | 29,395   | 33,360   | 43,295        |
|                             | 1980-81        | 14,610   | 16,845   | 19,725   | 23,710   | 27,405   |          |               |
| OTHER STATES <u>3/</u>      | 1979-80        | 2,660    | 3,405    | 4,260    | 5,100    | 6,055    | 6,880    | 8,785         |
|                             | 1980-81        | 2,355    | 2,890    | 3,745    | 4,565    | 5,205    |          |               |
| TOTAL                       | 1979-80        | 32,400   | 41,745   | 52,425   | 63,100   | 75,090   | 86,370   | 115,645       |
|                             | 1980-81        | 33,615   | 41,325   | 50,250   | 60,620   | 71,095   |          |               |

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, MICH OR MINN. 2/ INCLUDES MAINE GROWN POTATOES ONLY. 3/ MICH, MINN AND N DAK.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS AND LOCAL DEALERS ON APRIL 1, 1980 AND APRIL 1, 1981

| STATE          | CROP OF 1979 |               |                    | CROP OF 1980 |               |                    |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
|                | PRODUCTION   | TOTAL STOCKS: | APR 1 STOCKS:      | PRODUCTION   | TOTAL STOCKS: | APR 1 STOCKS:      |
|                | 1,000 CWT    | APR 1, 1980   | AS % OF PRODUCTION | 1,000 CWT    | APR 1, 1981   | AS % OF PRODUCTION |
| CALIF          | 6,364        | 1,700         | 27                 | 6,438        | 1,360         | 21                 |
| COLO           | 11,455       | 3,200         | 28                 | 10,950       | 2,850         | 26                 |
| IDAHO          | 85,050       | 37,000        | 44                 | 78,455       | 30,500        | 39                 |
| MAINE          | 27,685       | 12,000        | 43                 | 24,960       | 7,200         | 29                 |
| MICH           | 8,000        | 1,500         | 19                 | 7,403        | 700           | 9                  |
| MINN           | 12,920       | 4,600         | 36                 | 9,920        | 2,300         | 23                 |
| MONT           | 1,800        | 1,380         | 77                 | 1,725        | 720           | 42                 |
| NEBR           | 1,482        | 450           | 30                 | 1,876        | 480           | 26                 |
| N Y - L I      | 6,431        | 450           | 7                  | 1/           | 1/            |                    |
| - UPSTATE      | 6,463        | 400           | 6                  | 6,250        | 290           | 5                  |
| N DAK          | 18,240       | 4,500         | 25                 | 15,680       | 2,400         | 15                 |
| OHIO           | 2,400        | 220           | 9                  | 1/           | 1/            |                    |
| OREG           | 25,310       | 7,200         | 28                 | 19,745       | 5,800         | 29                 |
| PA             | 6,000        | 1,250         | 21                 | 4,180        | 840           | 20                 |
| WASH           | 48,450       | 14,200        | 29                 | 43,935       | 10,900        | 25                 |
| WIS            | 17,010       | 2,500         | 15                 | 16,000       | 1,950         | 12                 |
| OTH STS 1/     |              |               |                    | 6,366        | 50            | 1                  |
| 15 STATE TOTAL | 285,060      | 92,550        | 32                 | 253,883      | 68,340        | 27                 |

1/ LONG ISLAND-NEW YORK AND OHIO COMBINED AS OTHER STATES TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

During the past 8 years, the difference between the April 1 preliminary and final estimate averaged 2.8 million hundredweight. The largest deviation was 4.5 and the smallest was 0.2 million hundredweight. The preliminary April 1 estimate was below the final estimate 7 out of the past 8 years.

(Continued from page 1)

Disappearance to April 1, 1981 in the 15 major fall States totaled 186 million cwt, 4 percent below the same period a year ago. Total disappearance to date includes 21.3 million cwt of potatoes dumped during grading, fed to livestock on potato farms, discarded without grading, and lost to shrinkage (moisture loss). During the month of March disappearance totaled 25.9 million cwt compared with 29.2 million cwt for March 1980.

Potatoes processed to April 1, 1981 in the seven major States totaled 71.1 million cwt, 5 percent less than the same period a year ago.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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