

Potato Stocks



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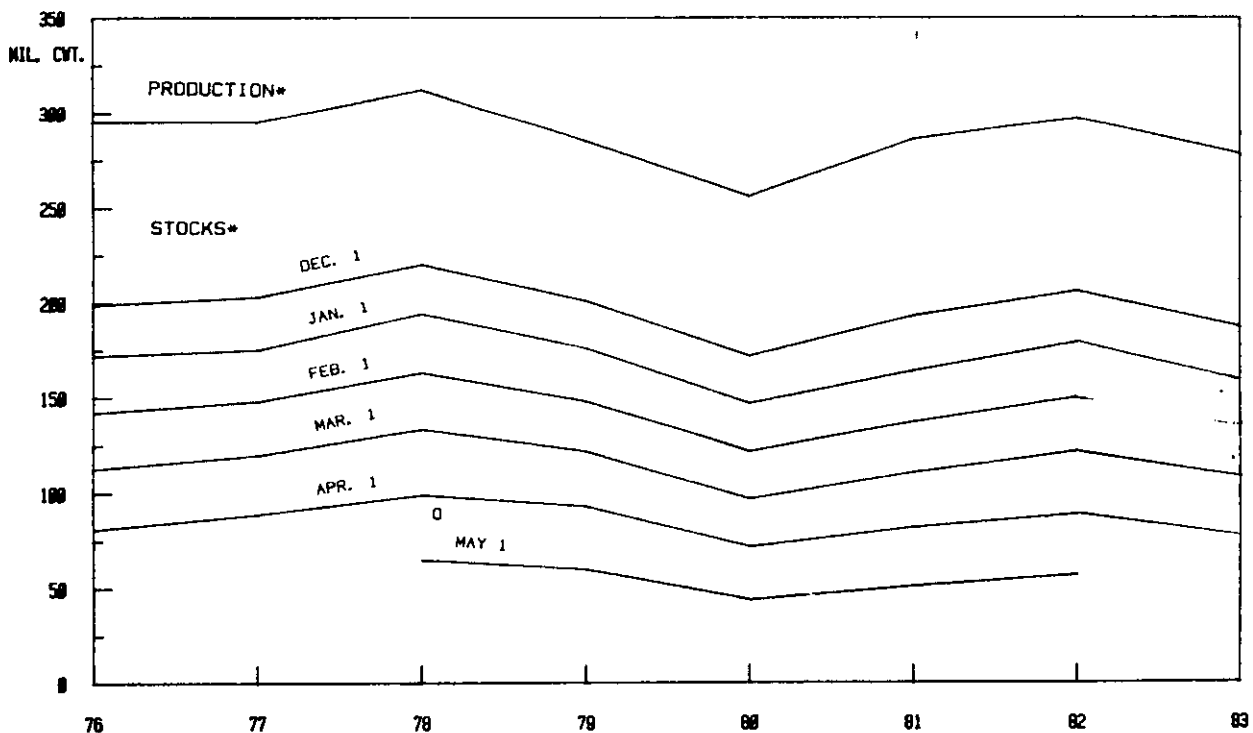
For subscribers of "POTATOES & SWEETPOTATOES"

POTATO STOCKS DOWN 13 PERCENT

Potato stocks on April 1, 1984 in the 15 major producing States totaled 77.4 million cwt (3.51 million metric tons). This is down 13 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below two years ago. April 1 stocks accounted for 28 percent of fall production this year compared with 30 percent last April 1.

continued on page 4.

FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (FOR 15 STATES ESTIMATING POTATO STOCKS)



*PRODUCTION BY CROP YEAR. STOCKS BY MONTHS FOLLOWING HARVEST.

0 1978 FIRST YEAR OF ESTIMATE.

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 * 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, loss and *
 * home use account for the remaining 10 percent. *

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS, 15 MAJOR STATES

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	DEC 1	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1
1,000 CWT							
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	255,691	171,730	146,610	121,565	97,280	72,460	44,446
1981	286,245	192,810	163,680	137,120	111,280	81,870	50,660
1982	296,657	206,175	178,750	149,560	121,540	89,120	56,875
1983	277,769	187,100	161,210	134,655	108,370	77,445	

TABLE 2. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ON APRIL 1, 1983 AND APRIL 1, 1984

STATE	CROP OF 1982			CROP OF 1983		
	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS APR 1, 1983	AS % OF PRODUCTION	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS APR 1, 1984	AS % OF PRODUCTION
	1,000 CWT		PERCENT	1,000 CWT		PERCENT
CALIF	7,585	1,600	21	7,790	1,760	23
COLO	12,825	4,000	31	13,200	3,350	25
IDAHO	91,710	36,500	40	83,590	31,500	38
MAINE	27,030	9,400	35	22,090	7,600	34
MICH	8,085	1,800	22	7,425	1,700	23
MINN	11,520	3,400	30	10,313	3,300	32
MONT	1,924	1,220	63	1,800	1,050	58
NEBR	2,147	550	26	2,025	345	17
N Y - L I	4,995	250	5	4,075	250	6
- UPSTATE	7,020	1,000	14	5,635	650	12
N DAK	17,250	4,900	28	20,460	4,800	23
OHIO	2,328	20	1	1,886	40	2
OREG	21,105	6,700	32	20,710	6,500	31
PA	5,758	1,150	20	4,300	900	21
WASH	52,800	13,200	25	53,560	11,000	21
WIS	22,575	3,430	15	18,910	2,700	14
15 STATE TOTAL	296,657	89,120	30	277,769	77,445	28

Holdings in the three Eastern States totaled 9.40 million cwt, down 20 percent from a year ago and 10 percent below two years ago. Maine stocks, at 7.60 million cwt, were off 19 percent from last year. New York, at 900 thousand cwt, was down 28 percent, and Pennsylvania, with stocks of 900 thousand cwt was off 22 percent.

Potato stocks in the six Central States, estimated at 12.9 million cwt, were down 9 percent from last year and 1 percent below two years ago. North Dakota stocks dwindled to 4.80 million cwt, 2 percent below last year. Minnesota fell 3 percent below last year with 3.30 million cwt remaining. Wisconsin with 2.70 million cwt and Michigan at 1.70 million cwt were 21 and 6 percent below last year respectively.

In the six Western States, potato stocks were estimated at 55.2 million cwt, 13 percent below last year and 6 percent below two years ago. Idaho stocks, at 31.5 million cwt were off 14 percent. Washington, with heavy movement, fell to 11.0 million cwt, down 17 percent from last year. Oregon held at 6.50 million cwt, 3 percent below April; while California, at 1.76 million cwt, was 10 percent above last year. Colorado stocks, at 3.35 million cwt, were down 16 percent.

Disappearance of potatoes from harvest to April 1 totaled just over 200 million cwt in the 15 major States this year, 3 percent less than last year. March disappearance of 30.9 million cwt was 5 percent below the March 1983 total of 32.4 million cwt. Shrink and loss to date is estimated at 21.0 million cwt, 25 percent below last year at the same time.

Processing to April 1 totaled 83.4 million cwt, a scant 1 percent below last season's pace. March processing of 13.2 million cwt was 2 percent above a year ago.

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