

Potato Stocks



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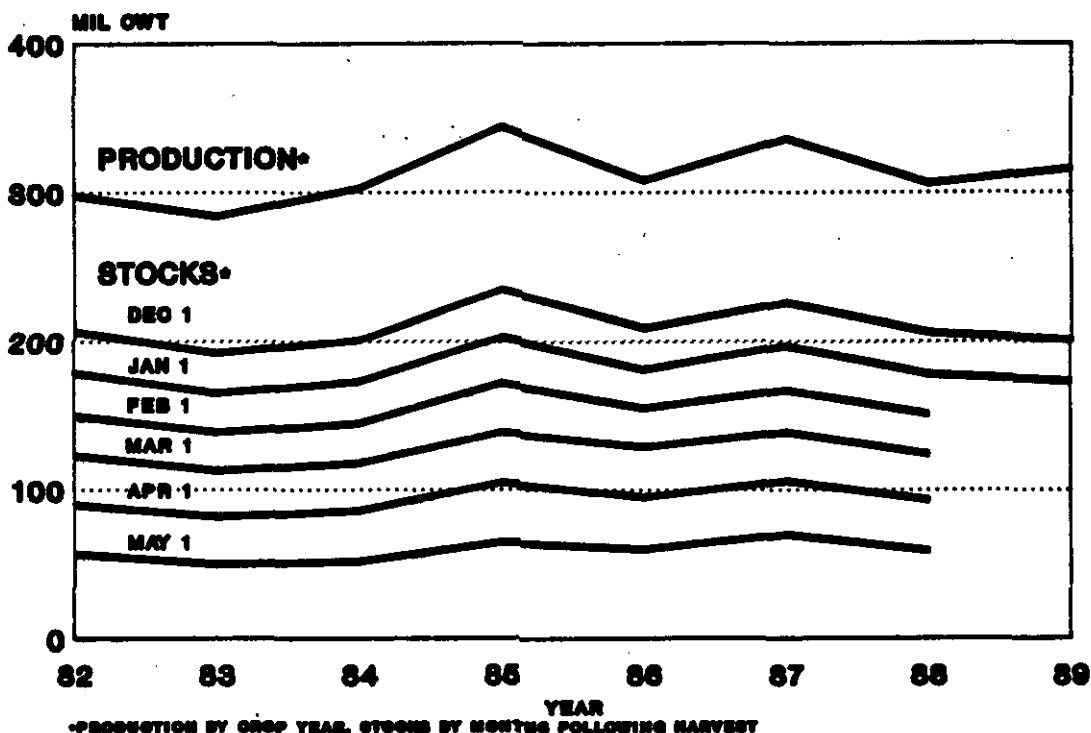
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POTATO STOCKS DOWN 2 PERCENT

January 1, 1990, potato stocks are estimated at 173 million cwt. This is down 2 percent from a year ago and 12 percent short of 2 years ago. Remaining storage was 55 percent of the 1989 crop compared with 58 percent a year ago. Storage types are 81 percent russet, 16 percent white, and 3 percent red.

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FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (16 STORAGE STATES)



 * NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) re- *
 * maining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrink- *
 * age and waste and other losses that occur after the date of *
 * each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes general- *
 * ly account for about 90 percent of the total fall production. *
 * Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 10 per- *
 * cent. *

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							
1980	256,518	172,030	147,010	122,065	97,680	72,660	44,546
1981	287,710	193,610	164,380	137,820	111,780	82,270	50,760
1982	298,031	206,525	178,980	150,200	122,500	90,105	57,305
1983	284,344	192,150	165,330	138,900	112,730	81,740	50,365
1984	302,958	201,410	173,380	144,760	118,400	86,440	52,465
1985	343,984	235,475	202,800	171,510	138,720	104,540	65,380
1986	307,928	209,435	180,915	154,545	128,720	95,090	59,790
1987	335,607	225,890	196,760	167,325	138,800	105,905	70,030
1988	305,623	206,420	177,750	151,050	124,485	92,585	59,355
1989	316,147	201,400	173,400				

TABLE 2. POTATOES PROCESSED 1/, EIGHT STATES, 1988 AND 1989 CROPS

STATE AND CROP YEAR	DEC 1	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1	SEASON
1,000 CWT							
IDAHO AND MAIHEUR CO, OREG	1988 : 18,740	24,270	29,420	34,720	41,360	48,080	64,425
	1989 : 22,200	28,140					
MAINE 2/	1988 : 1,685	2,190	2,830	3,455	4,230	4,915	6,915
	1989 : 2,015	2,605					
WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG	1988 : 19,200	23,455	27,280	31,960	37,575	41,795	51,555
	1989 : 23,635	28,015					
OTHER STATES 3/	1988 : 5,805	7,450	9,040	10,645	12,340	14,075	18,385
	1989 : 6,340	8,010					
TOTAL	1988 : 45,430	57,365	68,570	80,780	95,505	108,865	141,280
	1989 : 54,190	66,770					

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

TABLE 3. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ON JANUARY 1, 1989 AND JANUARY 1, 1990

STATE	CROP OF 1988			CROP OF 1989		
	PROD	STOCKS JAN 1, 1989	% OF PROD	PROD	STOCKS JAN 1, 1990	% OF PROD
	1,000 CWT		PERCENT	1,000 CWT		PERCENT
CALIF	6,105	3,200	52	6,600	3,300	50
COLO	19,040	12,950	68	20,603	13,750	67
IDAHO	102,610	65,500	64	102,475	61,500	60
MAINE	22,000	13,300	60	22,000	13,600	62
MICH	7,820	3,500	45	6,900	3,200	46
MINN	12,075	7,900	65	13,860	7,500	54
MONT	2,156	1,950	90	2,228	2,000	90
NEBR	2,128	1,050	49	2,528	1,200	47
N Y -LI	1,992	650	33	1,898	550	29
-UPST	4,800	2,200	46	4,730	1,900	40
N DAK	15,525	8,600	55	15,070	9,500	63
OHIO	1,697	300	18	1,462	200	14
OREG	20,735	13,100	63	23,308	12,100	52
PA	3,690	2,150	58	4,715	2,100	45
WASH	63,250	32,100	51	64,310	30,400	47
WIS	20,000	9,300	47	23,460	10,600	45
15 STATES	305,623	177,750	58	316,147	173,400	55

RELIABILITY OF JANUARY 1 STOCKS ESTIMATES

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the January 1 stocks estimate is 2.4 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 173 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.4 percent or approximately 4.16 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.2 percent or approximately 7.28 million cwt.

The 10-year (1980-89) record of the differences between the January 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 3466 million cwt, ranging from .52 million to 6190 million cwt. During the 10-year period, the January 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 9 out of 10 years.

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 * The next issue of this report will be published *
 * February 14, 1989. *
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TABLE 4. FALL POTATOES: STOCKS BY TYPE AS PERCENT OF TOTAL STOCKS,
JANUARY 1, 1990, 11 MAJOR STATES

STATE	POTATO TYPES			
	REDS	WHITES	RUSSETS	TOTAL
	PERCENT			
COLO	8		92	100
IDAHO			100	100
MAINE		78	22	100
MICH		65	35	100
MINN	16	29	55	100
N Y		100		100
N DAK	16	56	28	100
OREG			100	100
PA		100		100
WASH			100	100
WIS	4	20	76	100
11 STATE TOTAL	3	16	81	100

The 3 **EASTERN STATES** stored 18.2 million cwt. of potatoes on January 1, 1990, down 1 percent from last year and 13 percent below 2 years ago. Maine stocks of 13.6 million cwt. were up 2 percent from a year ago; Pennsylvania with 2.10 million cwt. was down 2 percent; and New York stocks of 2.45 million cwt. are off 14 percent.

Six **CENTRAL STATES** held 32.2 million cwt. of potatoes on the first of the year, up 5 percent from a year ago, but 24 percent under 2 years ago. Stocks in Wisconsin at 10.6 million cwt. and Nebraska with 1.20 million cwt. are up 14 percent each from last year; while North Dakota holdings of 9.50 million cwt. are up 10 percent. Michigan's 3.20 million cwt. was 9 percent short of last year and Minnesota with 7.50 million cwt. was off 5 percent.

WESTERN STATES were holding 123 million cwt. of potatoes on January 1, 1990, down 4 percent from a year ago and 8 percent below 2 years ago. Idaho cellars held 61.5 million cwt. the first of this year, down 6 percent from last year. Washington stocks of 30.4 million cwt. were off 5 percent; while Oregon stocks of 12,100 million cwt. were down 8 percent from last year. Colorado storages held 13.8 million cwt. this year, up 6 percent from last year, as California at 3.30 million cwt. and Montana with 2.00 million were up 3 percent each.

DISAPPEARANCE of potatoes from the 15 storage States so far this season totaled 143 million cwt. This is up 12 percent from a year ago and 3 percent above the 1987 crop. Shrink and loss to date is 16.4 million cwt., down 5 percent from last year and 11 percent below 1987.

PROCESSORS have used 66.8 million cwt. of 1989 crop potatoes this year, up 16 percent from last year and 13 percent above 2 years ago. December processing of 12.6 million cwt. was 5 percent above a year ago and 14 percent above 2 years ago.