

Potato Stocks



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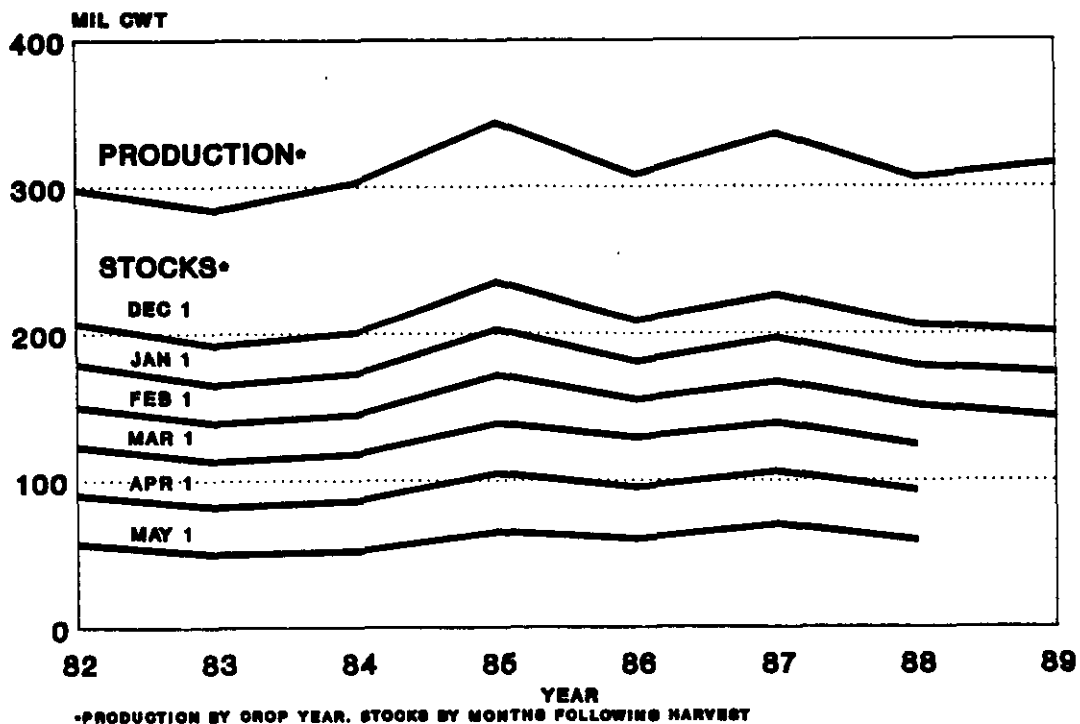
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POTATO SHORTFALL WIDENS

Potato stocks on February 1, 1990 totaled 143 million cwt, down 5 percent from last year and 14 percent below two years ago. Holdings were 45 percent of 1989 production compared with 49 percent a year ago. Types in storage are 2 percent red, 15 percent white and 83 percent russet.

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FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (15 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 | 143,150 | | | |

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 MALHEUR CO, OREG | 1988 : 18,740 | 24,270 | 29,420 | 34,720 | 41,360 | 48,080 | 64,425 |
| | 1989 : 22,200 | 28,140 | 34,240 | | | | |
| MAINE 2/ | 1988 : 1,685 | 2,190 | 2,830 | 3,455 | 4,230 | 4,915 | 6,915 |
| | 1989 : 2,015 | 2,605 | 3,450 | | | | |
| 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 | 33,170 | | | | |
| OTHER STATES 3/ | 1988 : 5,805 | 7,450 | 9,040 | 10,645 | 12,340 | 14,075 | 18,385 |
| | 1989 : 6,340 | 8,010 | 9,860 | | | | |
| TOTAL | 1988 : 45,430 | 57,365 | 68,570 | 80,780 | 95,505 | 108,865 | 141,280 |
| | 1989 : 54,190 | 66,770 | 80,720 | | | | |

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 FEBRUARY 1, 1989 AND FEBRUARY 1, 1990

| STATE | CROP OF 1988 | | | CROP OF 1989 | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | PROD | STOCKS FEB 1, 1989 | % OF PROD | PROD | STOCKS FEB 1, 1990 | % OF PROD |
| | 1,000 CWT | PERCENT | | 1,000 CWT | PERCENT | |
| CALIF | 6,105 | 2,600 | 43 | 6,600 | 2,450 | 37 |
| COLO | 19,040 | 11,200 | 59 | 20,603 | 11,700 | 57 |
| IDAHO | 102,610 | 58,000 | 57 | 102,475 | 53,000 | 52 |
| MAINE | 22,000 | 10,700 | 49 | 22,000 | 10,900 | 50 |
| MICH | 7,820 | 2,400 | 31 | 6,900 | 2,200 | 32 |
| MINN | 12,075 | 6,900 | 57 | 13,860 | 6,300 | 45 |
| MONT | 2,156 | 1,900 | 88 | 2,228 | 1,900 | 85 |
| NEBR | 2,128 | 850 | 40 | 2,528 | 900 | 36 |
| N Y -LI | 1,992 | 450 | 23 | 1,898 | 350 | 18 |
| -UPST | 4,800 | 1,700 | 35 | 4,730 | 1,200 | 25 |
| N DAK | 15,525 | 6,800 | 44 | 15,070 | 7,800 | 52 |
| OHIO | 1,697 | 50 | 3 | 1,462 | 50 | 3 |
| OREG | 20,735 | 11,100 | 54 | 23,308 | 10,000 | 43 |
| PA | 3,690 | 1,500 | 41 | 4,715 | 1,400 | 30 |
| WASH | 63,250 | 27,700 | 44 | 64,310 | 25,100 | 39 |
| WIS | 20,000 | 7,200 | 36 | 23,460 | 7,900 | 34 |
| 15 STATES | 305,623 | 151,050 | 49 | 316,147 | 143,150 | 45 |

RELIABILITY OF FEBRUARY 1 STOCKS ESTIMATES

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1 stocks estimate is 3.0 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 143 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.0 percent or approximately 4.24 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.1 percent or approximately 7.34 million cwt.

The 10-year (1980-89) record of the differences between the February 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 3.63 million cwt, ranging from 0.39 million to 6.43 million cwt. During the 10-year period, the February 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 8 out of 10 years.

TABLE 4. FALL POTATOES: STOCKS BY TYPE AS PERCENT OF TOTAL STOCKS, FEBRUARY 1, 1990, 11 MAJOR STATES

| STATE | POTATO TYPES | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|---------|-------|
| | REDS | WHITES | RUSSETS | TOTAL |
| | PERCENT | | | |
| COLO | 8 | | 92 | 100 |
| IDAHO | | | 100 | 100 |
| MAINE | | 75 | 25 | 100 |
| MICH | | 64 | 36 | 100 |
| MINN | 16 | 29 | 55 | 100 |
| N Y | | 100 | | 100 |
| N DAK | 16 | 52 | 32 | 100 |
| OREG | | | 100 | 100 |
| PA | | 100 | | 100 |
| WASH | | | 100 | 100 |
| WIS | 2 | 19 | 79 | 100 |
| 11 STATE TOTAL: | 2 | 15 | 83 | 100 |

Eastern States stored 13.9 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, down 3 percent from last year and 17 percent below two years ago. Stocks in Maine were up 2 percent from last year, but Pennsylvania was down 7 percent and New York dropped 28 percent below a year ago.

Central States held 25.2 million cwt of potatoes the first of this month, up 4 percent from last year, but 26 percent below 1988 holdings. North Dakota stocks were up 15 percent, Wisconsin was up 10 percent and Nebraska potato cellars held 6 percent more than a year ago. Minnesota, however, dropped 9 percent and Michigan 8 percent below year ago levels.

Western States storages held 104 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, 1990, down 7 percent from last year and 11 percent below two years ago. Idaho and Washington were each off 9 percent from last year and Oregon was off 10 percent. California stocks were 6 percent below a year ago; while Colorado holdings were up 4 percent. Montana potato storage was the same as a year ago.

Disappearance from harvest to February 1 was a record high 173 million cwt, up 12 percent from last year and 3 percent above two years ago. Shrinkage and loss so far this season was 18.1 million cwt, down 5 percent from last year's 19.0 million cwt and 12 percent below 20.5 million cwt two years ago. Disappearance during January totaled 30.2 million cwt compared with 26.7 million cwt in 1989 and 29.4 million cwt in January 1988.

Processing usage this season totaled 80.7 million cwt, up 18 percent from last year and 12 percent above two years ago. January usage was 14.0 million cwt compared with 11.2 million cwt last year and 12.7 million cwt processed in January 1988.

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