

# Potato Stocks



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

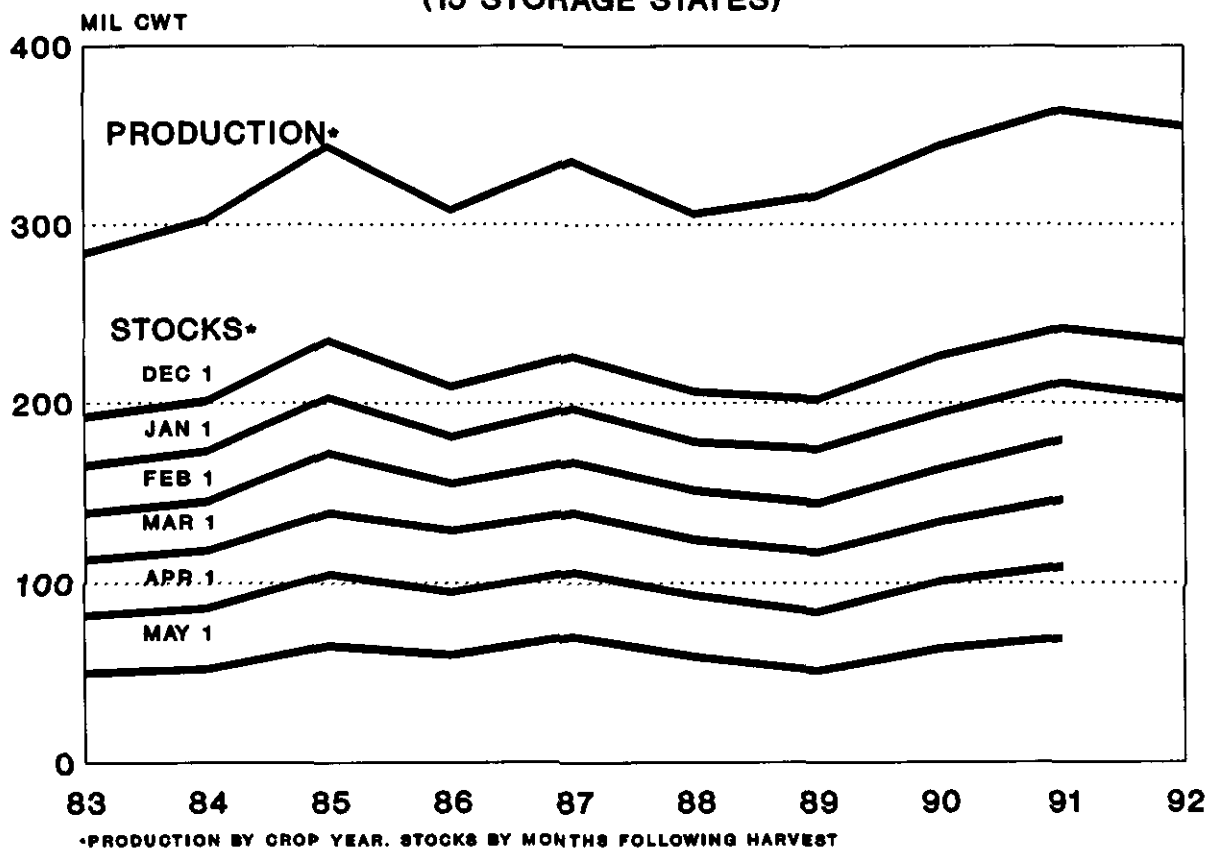
Washington, D.C.

Released January 14, 1993, by the Agricultural Statistics Board.

## Potato Stocks Down 4 Percent

January 1, 1993, potato stocks totaled 202 million cwt in the 15 storage States, down 4 percent from a year earlier but 4 percent above two years ago. Disappearance so far this season was up 1 percent, helped by a 2 percent gain in processing. Shrink and loss of 20.4 million cwt was 8 percent above last year and 14 percent above two years ago.

### FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (15 STORAGE STATES)



For information, call Arvin Budge at (202) 720-4285. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Pot 1-2 (1-93)

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 \* 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. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1983-92

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1
	1,000 Cwt						
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	316,097	202,050	173,550	144,290	116,600	84,320	50,675
1990	344,200	225,500	194,460	162,850	134,470	101,150	63,040
1991	363,541	242,070	211,005	178,515	145,820	108,865	69,110
1992	355,026	234,020	201,690				

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, Eight States, 1990-92 1/ 2/

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Season
	1,000 Cwt						
ID & OR-Malheur Co:							
1990	24,780	31,100	37,550	44,220	51,030	58,660	78,500
1991	22,980	28,910	35,700	42,840	50,260	57,290	78,690
1992	22,180	29,080					
ME <u>3/</u>							
1990	2,105	2,690	3,420	3,900	4,460	5,120	6,750
1991	2,015	2,450	3,050	3,350	3,900	4,445	5,210
1992	1,195	1,650					
WA & OR-Other							
1990	24,480	29,830	35,170	39,950	45,600	50,780	61,450
1991	26,345	30,570	35,320	41,320	47,120	52,605	65,210
1992	26,780	31,500					
Oth Sts <u>4/</u>							
1990	6,585	8,755	10,645	12,595	14,805	17,360	24,005
1991	7,515	9,350	11,580	13,585	15,685	17,935	24,990
1992	6,860	10,125					
Total							
1990	57,950	72,375	86,785	100,665	115,895	131,920	170,705
1991	58,855	71,280	85,650	101,095	116,965	132,275	174,100
1992	57,015	72,355					

1/ Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the state in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, MI, MN, ND, and WI. 2/ December estimates revised.

3/ Includes Maine grown potatoes only. 4/ MI, MN, ND, and WI.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on January 1, 1992-93

State	Crop of 1991			Crop of 1992			
	Prod	Stocks Jan 1, 1992	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Dec 1, 1992 <sup>1/</sup>	Stocks Jan 1, 1993	Jan % of Prod
	-- 1,000 Cwt --		Percent	----- 1,000 Cwt -----			Percent
CA	5,390	3,600	67	4,980	3,800	3,300	66
CO	23,800	15,600	66	22,110	17,700	15,500	70
ID	122,175	79,000	65	121,380	87,000	77,500	64
ME	18,170	10,300	57	22,400	16,500	14,000	63
MI	8,840	4,400	50	10,800	6,500	5,300	49
MN	17,160	11,300	66	16,080	12,000	10,500	65
MT	2,790	2,575	92	2,465	2,360	2,290	93
NE	2,464	1,380	56	2,698	1,710	1,500	56
NY							
Long Island	1,650	500	30	1,984	800	500	25
Upstate	5,267	2,300	44	5,824	2,600	2,000	34
ND	30,030	18,500	62	27,690	19,000	15,500	56
OH	1,425	250	18	1,440	400	200	14
OR	22,170	15,500	70	19,450	14,500	12,500	64
PA	3,500	1,600	46	4,940	2,350	2,000	40
WA	75,435	32,200	43	65,625	31,000	26,700	41
WI	23,275	12,000	52	25,160	15,800	12,400	49
Total 15 States:	363,541	211,005	58	355,026	234,020	201,690	57

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.

Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,  
11 Major States, January 1, 1992-93

State	Potato Types					
	Reds		Whites		Russets	
	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993
	Percent					
CO	7	6			93	94
ID			6	9	94	91
ME			79	79	21	21
MI	2		71	81	27	19
MN	13	14	26	28	61	58
NY			100	100		
ND	13	16	54	55	34	29
OR			5	5	95	95
PA		2	100	98		
WA				3	100	97
WI	5	5	15	17	80	78
11 State Avg.	3	3	18	21	79	76

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## Potato Stocks Down 4 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 202 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 1993, down 4 percent from last year but 4 percent above two years ago. Storage accounted for 57 percent of fall production this year, 1 percent less than last year. Stocks by type are 3 percent red, 21 percent white, and 76 percent russet, with more white and less russet than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest through December was a record high 153 million cwt of potatoes, up 1 percent from last year and 8 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss to date was estimated at 20.4 million cwt, up 8 percent from the 18.8 million cwt lost last year and 14 percent above the 17.8 million cwt lost from the 1990 crop.

Processor usage totaled 72.4 million cwt to January 1 1993, up 2 percent from a year ago but slightly less than two years ago. December processing of 15.3 million cwt of potatoes jumped 23 percent from a year ago and 6 percent above two years ago.

Eastern States stored 18.5 million cwt of potatoes this year, up 26 percent from last year and 6 percent above 1991. New York's stocks were down 11 percent but Maine's stocks were up 36 percent and Pennsylvania gained 25 percent. Production was up sharply in the East but storage of potatoes has been difficult.

Central States accounted for 45.4 million cwt of potato stocks this January, down 5 percent from last year but 22 percent above two years ago. North Dakota's potato stocks were down 16 percent, while Minnesota stored 7 percent less than last year. Wisconsin's stocks were up 3 percent after a December adjustment of 12 percent on the upward side. Michigan and Nebraska were up 20 and 9 percent from last year, respectively. Ohio was down 20 percent.

Western States held 138 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, 1993. This is down 7 percent from last year and 2 percent less than in 1991. Oregon's stocks were 19 percent smaller than a year ago, while Washington dropped 17 percent. Idaho's stocks were off 2 percent and Colorado's potato stocks were down 1 percent from a year ago. Montana's storage was down 11 percent and California stored 8 percent fewer potatoes than a year ago.

## 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 202 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.4 percent or approximately 4.8 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.2 percent or approximately 8.5 million cwt.

The 10-year (1983-92) record of the differences between the January 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 3.20 million cwt, ranging from 0.1 million to 8.3 million cwt. During the 10-year period, the January 1 estimate has been below the final estimate each year.

Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final January Stocks,  
United States, 1983-93

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	%	of Final	Final Stocks <u>1/</u>
:	1,000 Cwt	:	Percent	1,000 Cwt
1982	173,500		96.9	178,980
1983	161,210		97.5	165,330
1984	172,860		99.7	173,380
1985	201,300		99.3	202,800
1986	176,600		97.6	180,915
1987	195,880		99.6	196,760 <sup>t</sup>
1988	171,560		96.5	177,750
1989	173,400		99.9	173,550
1990	186,160		95.7	194,460
1991	210,935		100.0	211,005
1992	201,690		--	--

1/ As reported in the September Potato Annual report.

The next "Potato Stocks" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on February 12, 1993.

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