

Potato Stocks



United States
Department of
Agriculture

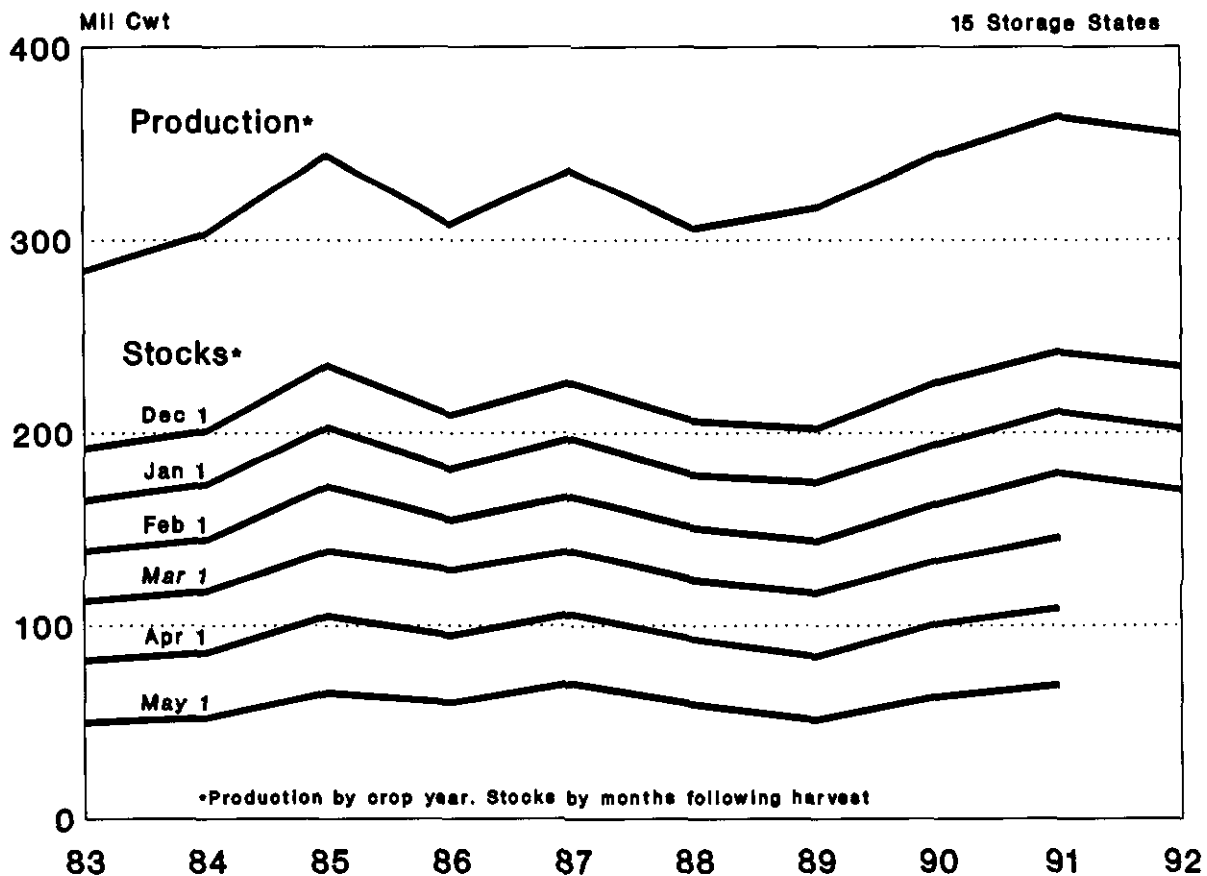
Washington, D.C.

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Potato Stocks Down 5 Percent

February 1, 1993, potato stocks totaled 170 million cwt, down 5 percent from a year earlier but 5 percent above two years ago. Disappearance, at 185 million cwt, is slightly less than the record high established last year. Processing accounted for 85.1 million cwt so far this season, 1 percent less than last year and 2 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss of 23.0 million cwt, was 9 percent above last year and 14 percent above two years ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production And Stocks



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

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	170,385			

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, Eight States, 1990-92 ^{1/}

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	35,710				
ME ^{2/}							
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	2,190				
WA & OR-Other							
1990	24,780	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	35,900				
Oth Sts ^{3/}							
1990	6,585	8,605	10,405	12,425	14,635	17,010	24,005
1991	7,515	9,350	11,580	13,585	15,685	17,935	24,990
1992	*7,140	*9,220	11,265				
Total							
1990	58,250	72,225	86,545	100,495	115,725	131,570	170,705
1991	58,855	71,280	85,650	101,095	116,965	132,275	174,100
1992	*57,295	*71,450	85,065				

^{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/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. ^{3/} MI, MN, ND, and WI. * Corrected.

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

State	Crop of 1991			Crop of 1992		
	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 1992	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 1993	% of Prod
	--- 1,000 Cwt ---	Percent	--- 1,000 Cwt ---	Percent		
CA	5,390	3,000	56	4,980	2,700	54
CO	23,800	13,150	55	22,110	13,600	62
ID	122,175	69,000	56	121,380	68,000	56
ME	18,170	8,100	45	22,400	11,300	50
MI	8,840	3,400	38	10,800	4,200	39
MN	17,160	9,500	55	16,080	8,800	55
MT	2,790	2,475	89	2,465	2,240	91
NE	2,464	1,120	45	2,698	1,070	40
NY						
Long Island	1,650	250	15	1,984	300	15
Upstate	5,267	1,600	30	5,824	1,600	27
ND	30,030	15,000	50	27,690	13,000	47
OH	1,425	120	8	1,440	75	5
OR	22,170	13,800	62	19,450	10,200	52
PA	3,500	1,400	40	4,940	1,500	30
WA	75,435	27,000	36	65,625	22,800	35
WI	23,275	9,600	41	25,160	9,000	36
Total 15 States:	363,541	178,515	49	355,026	170,385	48

Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
11 Major States, February 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		1	80	79	20	20
MI	1		72	76	27	24
MN	13	14	27	27	60	59
NY			100	100		
ND	12	14	52	56	36	30
OR			5	5	95	95
PA	3	2	97	98		
WA					100	100
WI	6	5	19	15	75	80
11 State Avg.	3	3	17	20	80	77

Potato Stocks Down 5 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 170 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, 1993, down 5 percent from last year but 5 percent above two years ago. Storage accounted for 48 percent of fall production this year, 1 percentage point less than last year. Stocks by type are 3 percent red, 20 percent white, and 77 percent russet, with more white and less russet than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest through January was 185 million cwt, slightly less than the record high last year but 2 percent more than two years ago. Shrink and loss to date was estimated at 23.0 million cwt, up 9 percent from the 21.2 million cwt lost last year and 14 percent above the 20.1 million cwt lost from the 1990 crop.

Processor usage totaled 85.1 million cwt to February 1 1993, down 1 percent from a year ago and 2 percent less than two years ago. January processing of 13.6 million cwt of potatoes dropped 5 percent from the last two years.

Eastern States stored 14.7 million cwt of potatoes this year, up 30 percent from last year and 10 percent above 1991. New York's stocks were up 3 percent; while Maine's stocks were up 40 percent and Pennsylvania gained 7 percent. Processing in Maine is 28 percent below last year but chips and fresh movement are picking up. Eastern losses remain heavy where poor keeping quality is blamed on excessive rain last summer and hot weather at harvest time.

Central States accounted for 36.1 million cwt of potato stocks this February, down 7 percent from last year but 20 percent above two years ago. North Dakota's potato stocks were down 13 percent and Minnesota stored 7 percent less. Wisconsin's stocks were down 6 percent, Nebraska's stocks were down 4 percent, and Ohio dropped 37 percent. Michigan's cellars were above last year by 24 percent. Losses are high again this season but below last year. Chip movement was heavy, while freezing and other processing was slightly below last year.

Western States held 120 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, 1993. This level is down 7 percent from last year but slightly more than two years ago. Oregon's stocks were down 26 percent, while Washington dropped 16 percent. Idaho's stocks were off 1 percent and accounted for 57 percent of the Western total. Montana was down 9 percent and California's storage was off 10 percent. In Colorado, the only western State to show an increase, stocks were up 3 percent from last year.

Reliability of February 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1 stocks estimate is 2.9 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 170 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.9 percent or approximately 4.9 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.0 percent or approximately 8.5 million cwt.

The 10-year (1983-92) record of the differences between the February 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 3.4 million cwt, ranging from 0.2 million to 8.5 million cwt. During the 10-year period, the February 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 9 out of 10 years.

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

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks <u>1/</u>
	1,000 Cwt	Percent	1,000 Cwt
1982	144,950	96.5	150,200
1983	134,655	96.9	138,900
1984	142,990	98.8	144,760
1985	169,810	99.0	171,510
1986	150,640	97.5	154,545
1987	167,110	99.9	167,325
1988	144,625	95.7	151,050
1989	143,150	99.2	144,290
1990	154,310	94.8	162,850
1991	178,965	100.3	178,515
1992	170,385	--	--

1/ As reported in the September Potato Annual Report.

 * **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. *

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