

Potato Stocks



United States
Department of
Agriculture

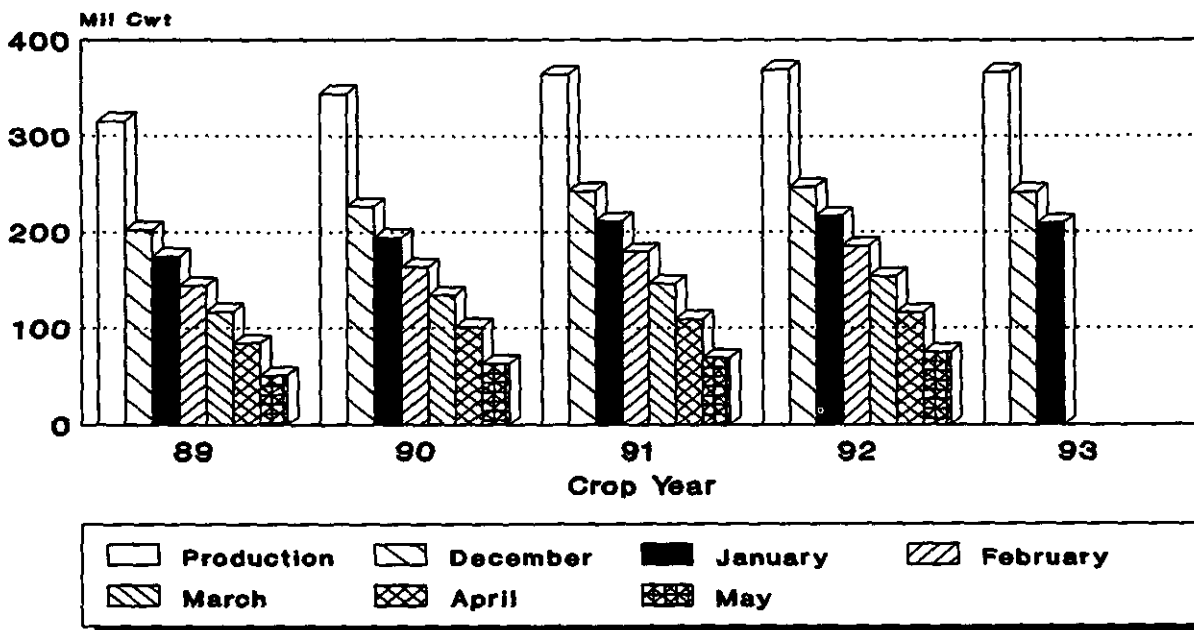
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Potato Stocks Down 3 Percent

January 1, 1994, potato stocks totalled 209 million cwt in the 15 storage States, down 3 percent from a year earlier and 1 percent below two years ago. Disappearance so far this season was up 3 percent, helped by a 5 percent gain in processing. Shrink and loss of 20.3 million cwt was down slightly from last year but was 8 percent above two years ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks
15 Storage States



Production by crop year
Stocks by month following harvest

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Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1984-93

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1
1,000 Cwt							
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	368,516	246,820	215,990	184,560	152,795	115,785	75,040
1993	365,926	240,770	209,270				

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, Eight States, 1991-93 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:							
1991	22,980	28,910	35,700	42,840	50,260	57,290	78,690
1992	22,180	29,080	35,710	42,800	50,090	57,090	80,570
1993	24,090	30,540					
ME <u>3/</u>							
1991	2,015	2,450	3,050	3,350	3,900	4,445	5,210
1992	1,195	1,630	2,205	2,720	3,390	4,020	5,055
1993	1,350	1,720					
WA & OR-Other							
1991	26,345	30,570	35,320	41,320	47,120	52,605	65,210
1992	26,840	31,550	35,950	41,670	46,530	51,630	63,510
1993	28,270	33,320					
Oth Sts <u>4/</u>							
1991	7,515	9,350	11,580	13,585	15,685	17,935	24,990
1992	7,140	9,220	11,265	13,305	15,550	17,555	25,070
1993	7,755	9,820					
Total							
1991	58,855	71,280	85,650	101,095	116,965	132,275	174,100
1992	57,355	71,480	85,130	100,495	115,560	130,295	174,205
1993	61,465	75,400					

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, 1993-94

State	Crop of 1992			Crop of 1993			
	Prod	Stocks	%	Prod	Stocks	Stocks	Jan %
		Jan 1, 1993	of Prod		Dec 1, 1993 <u>1/</u>	Jan 1, 1994	of Prod
-- 1,000 Cwt --		Percent	----- 1,000 Cwt -----		Percent		
CA	5,600	3,600	64	4,800	3,800	3,500	73
CO	22,110	15,500	70	25,270	18,250	15,800	63
ID	127,050	83,500	66	121,460	89,000	79,500	65
ME	24,300	15,600	64	20,540	15,000	12,900	63
MI	10,800	5,500	51	11,780	7,300	5,800	49
MN	16,080	10,500	65	12,100	8,000	6,900	57
MT	2,465	2,290	93	2,700	2,580	2,500	93
NE	2,698	1,500	56	3,008	1,890	1,650	55
NY							
Long Island	1,984	600	30	1,701	600	450	26
Upstate	5,824	2,500	43	5,830	3,300	2,900	50
ND	27,690	16,000	58	19,980	14,000	11,000	55
OH	1,440	200	14	1,140	250	170	15
OR	21,075	14,000	66	23,277	20,000	17,800	76
PA	4,940	2,200	45	4,600	2,300	1,400	30
WA	69,300	29,100	42	85,500	41,000	35,500	42
WI	25,160	13,400	53	22,240	13,500	11,500	52
Total 15 States:	368,516	215,990	59	365,926	240,770	209,270	57

1/ Revised.

Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
11 Major States, January 1, 1993-94

State	Potato Types								
	Reds			Whites			Russets		
	Jan 1993	Dec 1993 <u>1/</u>	Jan 1994	Jan 1993	Dec 1993 <u>1/</u>	Jan 1994	Jan 1993	Dec 1993 <u>1/</u>	Jan 1994
Percent									
CO	6	7	7				94	93	93
ID				9	7	7	91	93	93
ME				79	79	78	21	21	22
MI				81	70	75	19	30	25
MN	14	12	10	28	18	25	58	70	65
NY		7	7	100	92	91		1	2
ND	16	20	18	55	50	51	29	30	31
OR				5	2	2	95	98	98
PA	2	3	3	98	97	97			
WA		2		3	4	1	97	94	99
WI	5	5	5	17	20	15	78	75	80
11 St Avg.:	3	3	2	21	18	17	76	79	81

1/ Revised.

Potato Stocks Down 3 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 209 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 1994, down 3 percent from last year and 1 percent below two years ago. Storage accounted for 57 percent of fall production this year, 2 percentage points less than last year. Stocks by type are 2 percent red, 17 percent white, and 81 percent russet, with more russets and less whites and reds than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest through December was a record high 157 million cwt of potatoes, up 3 percent from last year and 5 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss to date was estimated at 20.3 million cwt, down slightly from the 20.4 million cwt lost last year but 8 percent above the 18.8 million cwt lost from two years ago.

Processor usage totaled 75.4 million cwt to January 1, 1994, up 5 percent from a year ago and 6 percent above two years ago. December processing of 13.9 million cwt of potatoes was short of a year ago by 1 percent but 12 percent above two years ago.

Eastern States stored 17.7 million cwt of potatoes this year, down 16 percent from last year but 20 percent above 1992. New York stocks were up 8 percent, Maine's stocks dropped 17 percent, and Pennsylvania's stocks fell 36 percent.

Central States accounted for 37.0 million cwt of potato stocks this January, down 21 percent from last year and 23 percent below two years ago. North Dakota's potato stocks were down 31 percent and Minnesota stored 34 percent less. Wisconsin's stocks were down 14 percent and Ohio was off 15 percent. Michigan cellars were up 5 percent from last year and Nebraska's storage was up 10 percent.

Western States held 155 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, 1994. This is up 4 percent from the last two years. The big gainers were Washington and Oregon, up 22 and 27 percent, respectively. Colorado's potato stocks increased 2 percent and Montana jumped 9 percent. Idaho's stocks were off 5 percent from last year but 1 percent above two years ago. California stored 3 percent fewer potatoes than the last two years.

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 209 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.4 percent or approximately 5.0 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.2 percent or approximately 8.8 million cwt.

The 10-year (1984-93) record of the differences between the January 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 4.03 million cwt, ranging from 0.1 million to 14.3 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 ^{1/}
	1,000 Cwt	Percent	1,000 Cwt
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
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	93.4	215,990
1993	209,270	--	--

^{1/} As reported in the September Potato Annual report.

NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes not yet moved and shrinkage, waste, and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes for the past 5 years averaged 90.5 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.5 percent. Most seed for use the following year is on hand, but remains as part of stocks until planted.

