

Potato Stocks



United States
Department of
Agriculture

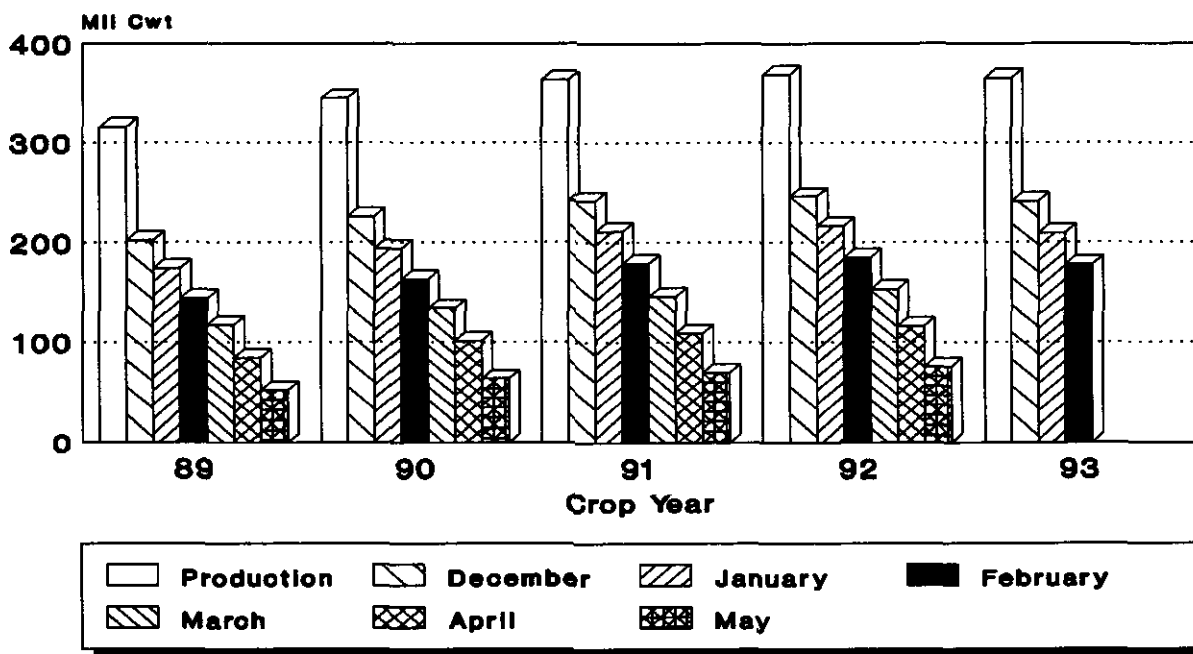
Washington, D.C.

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Potato Stocks Down 4 Percent

February 1, 1994, potato stocks totaled 178 million cwt, down 4 percent from a year earlier and slightly below two years ago. Disappearance was record high, at 188 million cwt, up 2 percent from the last two years. Processing accounted for 90.0 million cwt through January, 6 percent more than last year and 5 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss of 22.7 million cwt was down 1 percent from last year but 7 percent above two years ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Production by crop year
Stocks by month following harvest

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, 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 | 366,088 | 240,770 | 209,270 | 178,070 | | | |

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, Eight States, 1991-93 ^{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: | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 37,150 | | | | |
| ME ^{2/} | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 2,215 | | | | |
| 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 | 39,040 | | | | |
| Oth Sts ^{3/} | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 11,605 | | | | |
| 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 | 90,010 | | | | |

^{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.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on February 1, 1993-94

| State | Crop of 1992 | | | Crop of 1993 | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | Prod | Stocks Feb 1, 1993 | % of Prod | Prod | Stocks Feb 1, 1994 | % of Prod |
| | --- 1,000 Cwt --- | | Percent | --- 1,000 Cwt --- | | Percent |
| CA | 5,600 | 3,100 | 55 | 4,800 | 2,900 | 60 |
| CO | 22,110 | 13,600 | 62 | 25,270 | 13,300 | 53 |
| ID | 127,050 | 74,000 | 58 | 121,460 | 70,000 | 58 |
| ME | 24,300 | 13,100 | 54 | 20,540 | 10,500 | 51 |
| MI | 10,800 | 4,200 | 39 | 11,780 | 4,400 | 37 |
| MN | 16,080 | 8,800 | 55 | 12,100 | 5,700 | 47 |
| MT | 2,465 | 2,240 | 91 | 2,700 | 2,440 | 90 |
| NE | 2,698 | 1,070 | 40 | 3,008 | 1,370 | 46 |
| NY | | | | | | |
| Long Island | 1,984 | 340 | 17 | 1,643 | 250 | 15 |
| Upstate | 5,824 | 1,900 | 33 | 6,050 | 2,400 | 40 |
| ND | 27,690 | 13,000 | 47 | 19,980 | 9,000 | 45 |
| OH | 1,440 | 110 | 8 | 1,140 | 110 | 10 |
| OR | 21,075 | 11,700 | 56 | 23,277 | 15,900 | 68 |
| PA | 4,940 | 1,600 | 32 | 4,600 | 1,100 | 24 |
| WA | 69,300 | 24,900 | 36 | 85,500 | 29,500 | 35 |
| WI | 25,160 | 10,900 | 43 | 22,240 | 9,200 | 41 |
| Total 15 States: | 368,516 | 184,560 | 50 | 366,088 | 178,070 | 49 |

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

| State | Potato Types | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|------|--------|------|---------|------|
| | Reds | | Whites | | Russets | |
| | 1993 | 1994 | 1993 | 1994 | 1993 | 1994 |
| | Percent | | | | | |
| CO | 6 | 7 | | | 94 | 93 |
| ID | | | 9 | 7 | 91 | 93 |
| ME | 1 | | 79 | 80 | 20 | 20 |
| MI | | | 76 | 75 | 24 | 25 |
| MN | 14 | 8 | 27 | 15 | 59 | 77 |
| NY | | 7 | 100 | 91 | | 2 |
| ND | 14 | 17 | 56 | 52 | 30 | 31 |
| OR | | | 5 | 2 | 95 | 98 |
| PA | 2 | 3 | 98 | 97 | | |
| WA | | | | | 100 | 100 |
| WI | 5 | 1 | 15 | 10 | 80 | 89 |
| 11 State Avg. | 3 | 2 | 19 | 16 | 78 | 82 |

Potato Stocks Down 4 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 178 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, 1994, down 4 percent from last year and slightly below two years ago. Storage accounted for 49 percent of fall production this year, 1 percentage point less than last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 16 percent white, and 82 percent russet, with more russet and less white and red than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest through January was a record high 188 million cwt, 2 percent more than the last two years. Shrink and loss to date was estimated at 22.7 million cwt, down 1 percent from the 23.0 million cwt lost last year but 7 percent above the 21.2 million cwt lost from the 1991 crop.

Processor usage totaled 90.0 million cwt to February 1, 1994, up 6 percent from a year ago and 5 percent above two years ago. January processing of 14.6 million cwt of potatoes was up 7 percent from last year and 2 percent above two years ago.

Eastern States stored 14.3 million cwt of potatoes this year, down 16 percent from last year but 26 percent above 1992. New York's stocks were up 18 percent. Maine's stocks were down 20 percent and Pennsylvania was off 31 percent.

Central States accounted for 29.8 million cwt of potato stocks this February, down 22 percent from last year and 23 percent below two years ago. North Dakota's potato stocks were down 31 percent and Minnesota stored 35 percent less. Wisconsin's stocks were down 16 percent from last year, while Ohio remained the same. Nebraska's stocks jumped 28 percent and Michigan cellars stored 5 percent more potatoes than a year ago.

Western States held 134 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, 1994. This is up 3 percent from last year and 4 percent above two years ago. Oregon's stocks were up 36 percent and Washington gained 18 percent. Idaho's stocks were off 5 percent and accounted for 52 percent of the Western total. Colorado's stocks were down 2 percent from last year and California's storage was off 6 percent. Montana's stocks were up 9 percent.

Reliability of February 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1 stocks estimate is 3.6 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 178 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.4 percent or approximately 6.0 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.8 percent or approximately 10.3 million cwt.

The 10-year (1984-93) record of the differences between the February 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 4.2 million cwt, ranging from 0.2 million to 14.2 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, 1984-94

| Crop Year | Preliminary Stocks | % of Final | Final Stocks ^{1/} |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| | ----- 1,000 Cwt ----- | -- Percent -- | ----- 1,000 Cwt ----- |
| 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 | 92.3 | 184,560 |
| 1993 | 178,070 | -- | |

^{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.

The next "Potato Stocks" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on March 11, 1994.

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