

Potato Stocks



United States
Department of
Agriculture

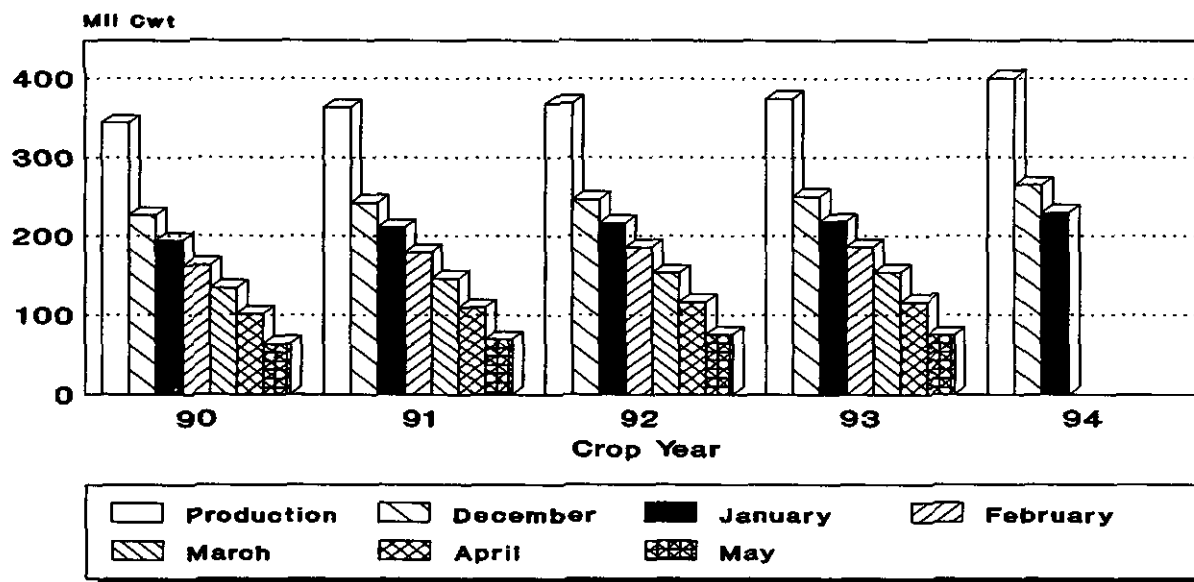
Washington, D.C.

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Potato Stocks Up 5 Percent

January 1, 1995, potato stocks totalled 229 million cwt in the 15 storage States, up 5 percent from a year earlier and 6 percent above two years ago. Disappearance so far this season was up 9 percent, helped by a 9 percent gain in processing. Shrink and loss of 21.4 million cwt was 6 percent above last year and 5 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, 1985-94

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1
1,000 Cwt							
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	375,004	249,710	217,800	186,090	154,135	115,970	73,860
1994	400,385	263,630	229,350				

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, Eight States, 1992-94 ^{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:							
1992	22,180	29,080	35,710	42,800	50,090	57,090	80,570
1993	24,090	30,540	37,150	44,720	53,070	61,440	85,780
1994	26,620	34,230					
ME ^{2/}							
1992	1,195	1,630	2,205	2,720	3,390	4,020	5,055
1993	1,350	1,720	2,210	2,505	2,890	3,275	4,555
1994	1,510	1,840					
WA & OR-Other							
1992	26,840	31,550	35,950	41,670	46,530	51,630	63,510
1993	28,260	33,350	39,010	45,020	51,290	57,180	70,690
1994	28,690	33,500					
Oth Sts ^{3/}							
1992	7,140	9,220	11,265	13,305	15,550	17,555	25,070
1993	7,605	9,515	11,605	13,720	16,080	18,705	25,690
1994	8,790	12,045					
Total							
1992	57,355	71,480	85,130	100,495	115,560	130,295	174,205
1993	61,305	75,125	89,975	105,965	123,330	140,600	186,715
1994	65,610	81,615					

^{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 January 1, 1994-95

State	Crop of 1993			Crop of 1994			
	Prod	Stocks Jan 1, 1994	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Dec 1, 1994 <u>1/</u>	Stocks Jan 1, 1995	Jan % of Prod
	-- 1,000 Cwt --		Percent	----- 1,000 Cwt -----			Percent
CA	4,800	3,200	67	4,400	3,300	3,000	68
CO	25,270	15,800	63	25,795	18,900	16,300	63
ID	126,192	85,000	67	134,340	95,500	84,500	63
ME	19,890	12,700	64	17,250	13,400	11,400	66
MI	11,780	5,800	49	12,180	7,600	6,100	50
MN	12,650	7,300	58	17,755	12,500	11,100	63
MT	2,700	2,500	93	3,200	3,040	3,000	94
NE	3,008	1,650	55	3,888	1,990	1,860	48
NY							
Long Island	1,643	400	24	1,617	700	500	31
Upstate	6,050	1,600	26	6,188	3,500	2,800	45
ND	21,090	12,600	60	28,200	18,500	15,500	55
OH	1,140	150	13	1,348	300	190	14
OR	23,103	16,800	73	25,784	20,200	17,500	68
PA	4,600	1,800	39	3,780	2,200	1,600	42
WA	88,500	38,000	43	88,920	47,500	42,000	47
WI	22,588	12,500	55	25,740	14,500	12,000	47
Total 15 States:	375,004	217,800	58	400,385	263,630	229,350	57

1/ Revised.

Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
11 Major States, January 1, 1994-95

State	Potato Types								
	Reds			Whites			Russets		
	Jan 1994	Dec 1994 <u>1/</u>	Jan 1995	Jan 1994	Dec 1994 <u>1/</u>	Jan 1995	Jan 1994	Dec 1994 <u>1/</u>	Jan 1995
	Percent								
CO	7	4	4				93	96	96
ID				7	5	5	93	95	95
ME		1	1	78	78	82	22	21	17
MI				75	70	75	25	30	25
MN	10	16	14	25	16	17	65	68	69
NY	7	5	5	91	93	93	2	2	2
ND	18	12	13	51	45	43	31	43	44
OR				2	1	1	98	99	99
PA	3	3	3	97	97	97			
WA		2	1	1	5	3	99	93	96
WI	5	2	3	15	20	20	80	78	77
11 St Avg.:	2	3	2	17	17	16	81	80	82

1/ Revised.

Potato Stocks Up 5 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 229 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 1995, up 5 percent from a year earlier and 6 percent above 1993. Storage accounted for 57 percent of 1994 fall production, down 1 point from last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 16 percent white, and 82 percent russet. December 1 stocks were revised down slightly with Washington coming off down 500,000 cwt.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to January 1, was a record high 171 million cwt of potatoes, up 9 percent from the same period in 1993. Disappearance in December 1994 was 34.3 million cwt, up 7 percent from last year and 11 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss to date was estimated at 21.4 million cwt, up 6 percent from last year.

Processors continue to buy larger amounts of potatoes, using 81.6 million cwt so far this season, a gain of 9 percent from a year ago and 14 percent above two years ago. During December, processing claimed 16.0 cwt of potatoes, up 16 percent from a year ago.

Eastern States stored 16.3 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 1995, down 1 percent from a year ago and 22 percent below 1993. Pennsylvania's stocks were down 11 percent. Maine's holdings were off 10 percent but New York was up sharply.

Central States accounted for 46.8 million cwt of potato stocks this January, a gain of 17 percent from 1994, but 1 percent below two years ago. Minnesota's stocks jumped 52 percent from a poor crop a year earlier and North Dakota was up 23 percent. Ohio gained 27 percent and Nebraska stored 13 percent more potatoes on January 1 than a year ago. Michigan's stocks were up 5 percent but Wisconsin's stocks were down 4 percent.

Western States held 166 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, 1995, a gain of 3 percent from 1994 and 12 percent more than two years ago. Most of the Western stocks are held in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Idaho cellars held 1 percent fewer potatoes this year than last, with very heavy movement. Washington's stocks were up 11 percent and Oregon gained 4 percent. Colorado's stocks were 3 percent above a year ago and Montana was up 20 percent. California stored 6 percent fewer potatoes than a year earlier.

Reliability of January 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the January 1 stocks estimate is 2.7 percent. This means that the chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 230 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.7 percent or approximately 6.2 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.7 percent or approximately 10.8 million cwt.

The 10-year (1985-94) record of the differences between the January 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 4.5 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, 1984-94 Crop Year

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks ^{1/}
	1,000 Cwt	Percent	1,000 Cwt
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	96.1	217,800
1994	229,350		

^{1/} As reported in the September "Potatoes" 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 90.6 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.4 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 February 14, 1995.

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