

Potato Stocks



United States
Department of
Agriculture

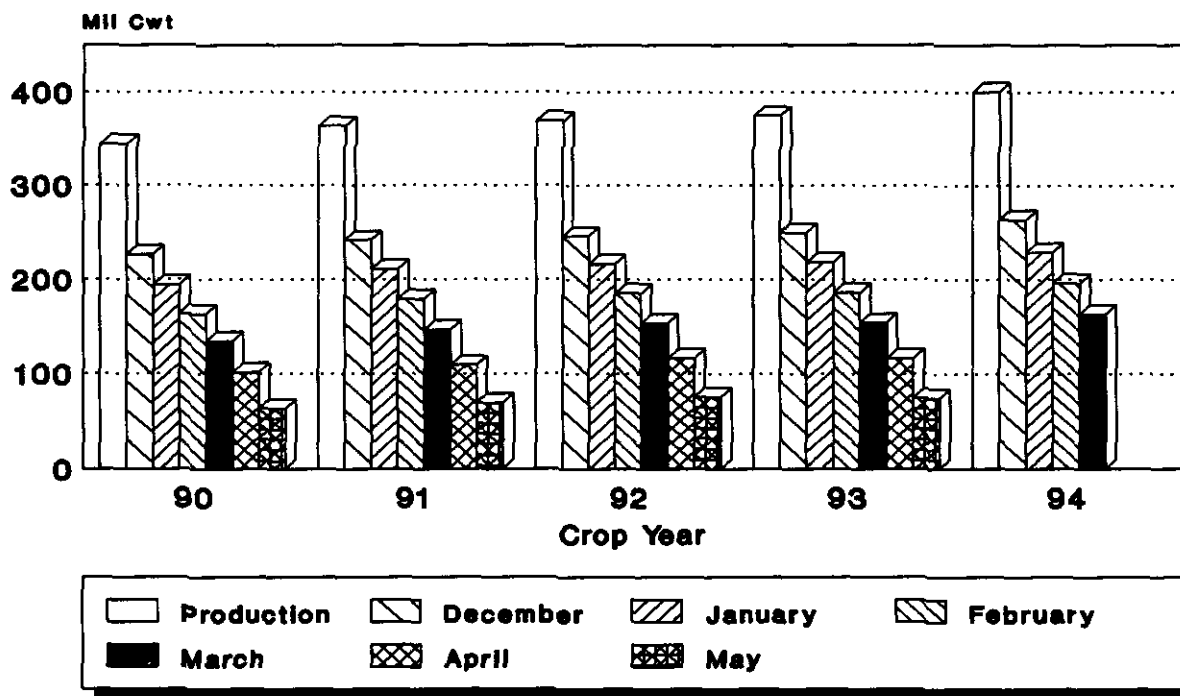
Washington, D.C.

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Potato Stocks Up 6 Percent

Potato stocks on the first of March totaled 163 million cwt, up 6 percent from a year ago and 7 percent above two years ago. Disappearance was a record high 237 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 7 percent from last year. Shrink and loss of 26.3 million cwt was 6 percent more than a year ago. Processor usage, at 116 million cwt of potatoes, was up 9 percent for the season, and February usage was up 3 percent from the same month last year.

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	196,005	163,305		

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	42,330	49,890			
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	2,275	2,535			
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	39,120	46,070			
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	14,605	17,095			
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	98,330	115,590			

^{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 March 1, 1994-95

State	Crop of 1993			Crop of 1994		
	Prod	Stocks Mar 1, 1994	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Mar 1, 1995	% of Prod
	--- 1,000 Cwt ---		Percent	--- 1,000 Cwt ---		Percent
CA	4,800	2,200	46	4,400	2,300	52
CO	25,270	10,900	43	25,795	11,200	43
ID	126,192	65,000	52	134,340	63,000	47
ME	19,890	8,200	41	17,250	7,700	45
MI	11,780	3,100	26	12,180	3,800	31
MN	12,650	5,000	40	17,755	8,200	46
MT	2,700	2,370	88	3,200	2,730	85
NE	3,008	1,050	35	3,888	1,350	35
NY						
Long Island	1,643	<u>1</u> /115		1,617	<u>1</u> /225	
Upstate	6,050	600	10	6,188	1,100	18
ND	21,090	7,900	37	28,200	10,400	37
OH	1,140	<u>1</u> /		1,348	<u>1</u> /	
OR	23,103	12,100	52	25,784	13,000	50
PA	4,600	900	20	3,780	700	19
WA	88,500	26,500	30	88,920	30,500	34
WI	22,588	8,200	36	25,740	7,100	28
Total 15 State:	375,004	154,135	41	400,385	163,305	41

1/ Combined to prevent possible disclosure of individual operations.

Potato Stocks up 6 percent

Potato stocks totaled 163 million cwt on March 1, 1995, up 6 percent from last year and 7 percent above two years ago. Stocks now are 41 percent of fall potato production in the 15 storage States, the same as last year. Disappearance to date for the season was a record 237 million cwt, 7 percent above last year and 10 percent above two years ago. Processors used 116 million cwt, up 9 percent.

Disappearance from harvest through February totaled 237 million cwt of potatoes, up 7 percent from last year and 10 percent above two years ago. February disappearance of 32.7 million was up 2 percent from a year ago. Shrinkage and loss to date was 26.3 million cwt, up 6 percent from the 24.9 million cwt lost last year and 3 percent above the 25.7 million cwt lost two years ago.

Processor usage totaled 116 million cwt to March 1, 1995, up 9 percent from a year ago and 15 percent above two years ago. February processing of 17.3 million cwt of potatoes was up 8 percent from last year and 12 percent above 1994.

Eastern States stored 9.7 million cwt of potatoes this year, down 2 percent from last year and 27 percent below 1993. Maine's stocks were down 6 percent and Pennsylvania's stocks were off 22 percent.

Central States accounted for 30.9 million cwt of potato stocks this March, up 22 percent from last year and 3 percent above two years ago. North Dakota's stocks were 32 percent above a year ago but 1 percent below two years ago. Minnesota's storages were up 64 percent. Nebraska's stocks were up 29 percent and Michigan's cellars stored 23 percent more than a year ago. Wisconsin's stocks were off 13 percent from last year.

Western States held 123 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, 1995. This is up 3 percent from last year and 12 percent above two years ago. Idaho's stocks were off 3 percent and accounted for over half of the Western total. Oregon's stocks were up 7 percent and Washington was 15 percent above a year earlier. Colorado's stocks were up 3 percent from last year and California's storage was up 5 percent. Montana's stocks, mainly seed, were up 15 percent.

Reliability of March 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the March 1 stocks estimate is 3.9 percent. This means the that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 163 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.9 percent or approximately 6.4 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 6.8 percent or approximately 11.1 million cwt.

The 10-year (1984-93) record of the differences between the March 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 4.3 million cwt, ranging from 0.4 million to 13.1 million cwt. During the 10-year period, the March 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 9 out of 10 years.

Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final March Stocks, United States, 1984-94 Crop Years

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks ^{1/}
	1,000 Cwt	Percent	1,000 Cwt
1984	116,655	98.5	118,400
1985	137,420	99.1	138,720
1986	124,820	97.0	128,720
1987	137,950	99.4	138,800
1988	118,960	95.6	124,485
1989	115,780	99.3	116,600
1990	126,030	93.7	134,470
1991	146,180	100.2	145,820
1992	139,665	91.4	152,795
1993	146,080	94.8	154,135
1994	163,305	--	--

^{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 90.6 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 April 13, 1995.

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