

Potato Stocks



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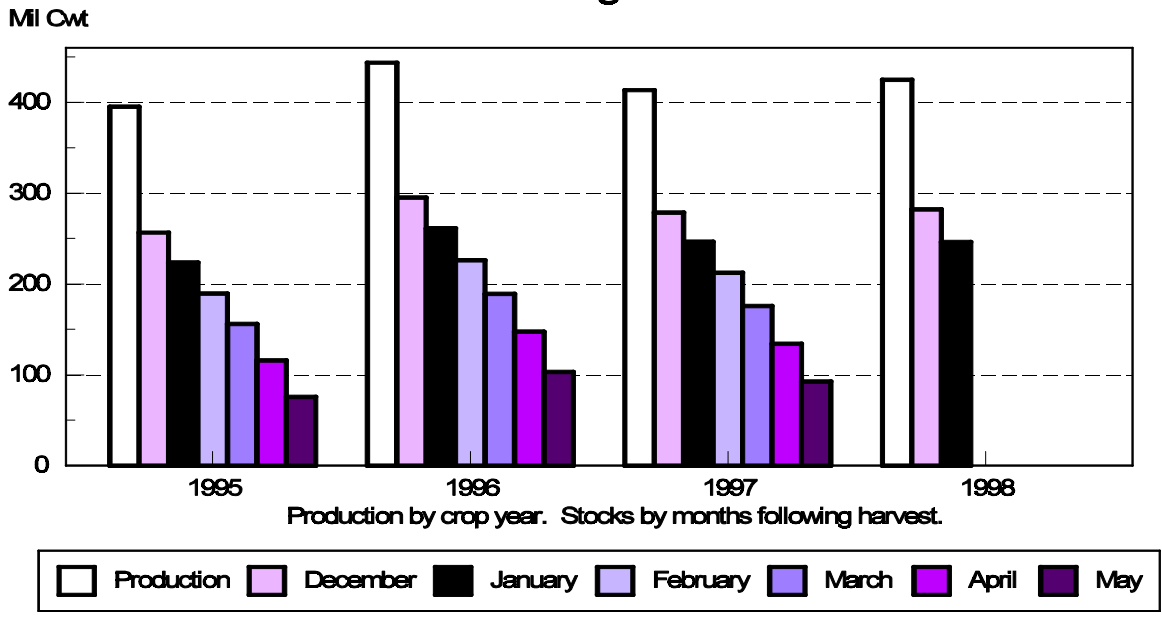
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January Potato Stocks Down Slightly

The 15 major potato States held 246 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 1999, down slightly from last year and 6 percent below 1997. Storage accounted for 58 percent of 1998 fall production, down 2 percent from a year ago. This year's storage held more russets but fewer long whites than a year earlier. Disappearance, at 179 million cwt, is up 7 percent from last year including a 9 percent gain in processing.

This report contains revised stocks and disposition estimates based on the 1992-97 final production estimates published on December 18, 1998. These production data are available in the **Field Crops - Final Estimates 1992-97**, Statistical Bulletin 947.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States



Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1989-98

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
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	376,954	249,410	217,300	185,490	153,435	115,170	72,860
1994	410,839	273,290	238,560	202,470	169,570	129,825	87,600
1995	394,785	256,710	223,550	189,360	156,020	115,855	75,870
1996	443,704	295,100	261,320	226,080	189,210	147,585	103,210
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840
1998	424,897	282,300	246,220				

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 8 States, 1995-98 ¹

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Season
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
ID & OR-Malheur Co							
1995	27,310	35,040	43,260	51,530	59,060	66,690	89,250
1996	31,060	38,210	45,420	54,640	62,570	70,720	96,970
1997	26,880	33,950	41,050	49,470	57,620	65,750	91,450
1998	27,510	34,700					
ME ²							
1995	1,455	1,850	2,430	2,850	3,435	3,965	5,725
1996	1,790	2,115	2,820	3,280	3,820	4,420	6,495
1997	1,250	1,720	2,265	2,735	3,355	3,900	5,870
1998	1,180	1,710					
WA & OR - Other							
1995	30,000	35,170	39,460	45,280	51,730	57,360	70,250
1996	31,670	36,660	41,700	48,740	55,570	62,320	80,970
1997	28,580	33,990	38,690	46,400	53,720	59,780	76,930
1998	33,460	38,895					
Oth Sts ³							
1995	12,650	15,630	18,815	21,985	25,510	28,610	33,580
1996	13,720	17,000	20,645	24,085	27,650	30,830	43,100
1997	11,645	13,960	17,115	19,905	23,515	26,365	37,842
1998	11,020	15,985					
Total							
1995	71,415	87,690	103,965	121,645	139,735	156,625	198,805
1996	78,240	93,985	110,585	130,745	149,610	168,290	227,535
1997	68,355	83,620	99,120	118,510	138,210	155,795	212,092
1998	73,170	91,290					

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, 1998-99

State	Crop of 1997			Crop of 1998			
	Prod	Stocks Jan 1, 1998	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Dec 1, 1998	Stocks Jan 1, 1999	Jan % of Prod
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	4,200	2,300	55	3,708	2,900	2,400	65
CO	24,993	17,000	68	25,360	18,800	16,300	64
ID	140,314	91,500	65	139,650	101,000	90,500	65
ME	19,080	14,100	74	18,060	14,100	12,500	69
MI	14,250	7,000	49	14,725	8,800	7,200	49
MN	20,440	12,000	59	21,170	13,500	12,000	57
MT	3,328	3,080	93	3,180	3,050	2,980	94
NE	7,761	4,300	55	8,175	5,480	4,830	59
NY	7,150	2,500	35	7,290	3,800	2,500	34
ND	22,000	13,800	63	28,670	20,500	16,000	56
OH	1,170	170	15	1,200	270	110	9
OR	27,319	19,000	70	26,229	20,000	17,500	67
PA	3,173	1,500	47	3,360	1,400	1,100	33
WA	88,160	41,500	47	93,225	49,000	43,500	47
WI	30,175	16,800	56	30,895	19,700	16,800	54
15 States	413,513	246,550	60	424,897	282,300	246,220	58

**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,
11 Major States, January 1, 1998-99**

State	Potato Types											
	Reds			Round Whites			Long Whites			Russets		
	Jan 1998	Dec 1998	Jan 1999	Jan 1998	Dec 1998	Jan 1999	Jan 1998	Dec 1998	Jan 1999	Jan 1998	Dec 1998	Jan 1999
<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	5	4	4	2	6	6				93	90	90
ID							8	4	4	92	96	96
ME	4	4	4	49	48	46	8	11	9	39	37	41
MI	1	1	1	74	81	84				25	18	15
MN	11	13	12	10	7	5	3	3	3	76	77	80
NY	5	5	5	93	93	93				2	2	2
ND	12	14	12	14	23	22	6	6	5	68	57	61
OR	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	4	4	96	93	93
PA	3	2	2	97	98	98						
WA	1	1	1		1		4	6	4	95	92	95
WI	2	4	2	18	24	20				80	72	78
11 St Avg	2	3	2	10	11	10	5	4	4	83	82	84

**Fall Potatoes: Production, January 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 States and Fall Season, 1995-98 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Jan 1	Total Used For Seed	Farm Disposition		
					Where Grown		Sold
					Seed, Feed, Home Use	Shrinkage and Loss	
		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	1995	5,330	3,500	242	10	460	4,860
	1996	4,600	3,000	200	23	472	4,105
	1997	4,200	2,300	206	20	340	3,840
	1998	3,708	2,400				
CO	1995	23,808	16,100	1,950	1,285	2,048	20,475
	1996	29,175	20,700	1,925	1,485	3,975	23,715
	1997	24,993	17,000	1,895	1,340	2,773	20,880
	1998	25,360	16,300				
ID	1995	132,657	85,000	8,700	1,785	8,920	121,952
	1996	142,800	92,000	8,600	1,500	10,100	131,200
	1997	140,314	91,500	8,700	1,130	9,258	129,926
	1998	139,650	90,500				
ME	1995	17,160	12,400	1,716	420	1,025	15,715
	1996	21,175	15,300	1,584	395	1,800	18,980
	1997	19,080	14,100	1,430	275	1,760	17,045
	1998	18,060	12,500				
MI	1995	16,350	8,300	962	168	690	15,492
	1996	13,800	6,600	768	300	1,300	12,200
	1997	14,250	7,000	864	200	1,300	12,750
	1998	14,725	7,200				
MN	1995	20,790	11,700	1,573	346	1,757	18,687
	1996	24,600	14,900	1,348	445	4,158	19,997
	1997	20,440	12,000	1,640	450	1,717	18,273
	1998	21,170	12,000				
MT	1995	2,940	2,700	239	128	147	2,665
	1996	3,213	2,950	239	137	221	2,855
	1997	3,328	3,080	244	152	208	2,968
	1998	3,180	2,980				
NE	1995	3,680	2,300	292	187	284	3,209
	1996	4,402	2,800	451	169	439	3,794
	1997	7,761	4,300	462	203	380	7,178
	1998	8,175	4,830				
NY	1995	7,425	2,500	594	155	290	6,980
	1996	7,420	2,400	583	127	341	6,952
	1997	7,150	2,500	607	139	315	6,696
	1998	7,290	2,500				

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**Fall Potatoes: Production, January 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
15 States and Fall Season, 1995-98 (continued)**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Jan 1	Total Used For Seed Home Use	Farm Disposition		
					Where Grown		Sold
					Seed, Feed, and Loss	Shrinkage	
		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
ND	1995	25,410	14,000	2,211	280	2,800	22,330
	1996	28,820	18,000	2,188	360	5,270	23,190
	1997	22,000	13,800	2,142	355	2,266	19,379
	1998	28,670	16,000				
OH	1995	1,404	150	107	4	10	1,390
	1996	1,275	170	109	5	35	1,235
	1997	1,170	170	105	8	37	1,125
	1998	1,200	110				
OR	1995	24,788	14,100	1,475	148	1,450	23,190
	1996	30,124	21,500	1,345	305	2,560	27,259
	1997	27,319	19,000	1,405	195	1,555	25,569
	1998	26,229	17,500				
PA	1995	4,080	1,900	314	20	102	3,958
	1996	4,160	1,800	266	81	320	3,759
	1997	3,173	1,500	276	78	176	2,919
	1998	3,360	1,100				
WA	1995	80,850	35,000	3,912	300	6,400	74,150
	1996	94,990	42,000	3,648	300	6,800	87,890
	1997	88,160	41,500	3,840	300	6,400	81,460
	1998	93,225	43,500				
WI	1995	28,113	13,900	1,806	298	1,350	26,465
	1996	33,150	17,200	1,710	320	1,425	31,405
	1997	30,175	16,800	1,764	275	1,448	28,452
	1998	30,895	16,800				
15 Sts	1995	394,785	223,550	26,093	5,534	27,733	361,518
	1996	443,704	261,320	24,964	5,952	39,216	398,536
	1997	413,513	246,550	25,580	5,120	29,933	378,460
	1998	424,897	246,220				
23 Fall Sts	1995	404,852		26,813	5,569	28,604	370,679
	1996	454,388		25,608	6,054	40,087	408,247
	1997	423,190		26,224	5,260	30,841	387,089
	1998	434,368					

**Fall Potatoes: Farm Marketings, Selected States,
1995-97 Marketing Years**

State	Crop Year	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	1995			4	8	10	10	11	10	10	12	10	9	6
	1996			4	7	9	9	10	9	10	11	10	11	10
	1997		1	4	8	9	11	10	8	11	11	10	10	7
ID	1995		4	16	17	6	7	6	6	9	8	8	7	6
	1996		6	14	18	7	5	6	6	9	8	8	6	7
	1997		6	15	12	8	8	8	6	7	7	9	7	7
ME	1995		2	5	7	9	9	11	11	17	18	7	4	
	1996		1	8	7	7	8	10	9	14	16	9	11	
	1997		1	6	7	8	8	10	9	15	17	10	9	
MI	1995		5	11	15	13	13	11	6	9	11	6		
	1996	1	9	10	11	11	9	12	11	10	9	5	2	
	1997	3	9	10	8	11	11	11	12	11	8	6		
MN	1995		2	30	26	6	4	5	5	6	8	6	2	
	1996		6	22	19	11	5	5	7	8	8	5	4	
	1997		5	22	25	11	7	5	6	7	7	5		
NY	1995		6	15	15	17	16	12	8	6	4	1		
	1996		7	17	17	14	14	10	8	7	4	2		
	1997		8	15	15	16	15	13	9	5	3	1		
ND	1995		3	14	16	9	10	9	9	8	9	11	2	
	1996		4	12	22	8	7	7	8	10	7	6	7	2
	1997		1	12	16	13	8	12	9	9	8	6	5	1
OR	1995	1	12	16	25	7	6	6	5	5	7	7	1	2
	1996	1	14	16	26	7	5	5	5	4	6	5	5	1
	1997	1	9	14	30	8	6	5	6	6	5	6	3	1
PA	1995		18	18	18	13	13	9	5	3	2	1		
	1996	1	12	15	13	11	9	10	8	9	6	4	2	
	1997	1	13	13	12	12	12	10	8	7	8	3	1	
WA	1995		16	13	32	7	3	4	4	7	5	4	4	1
	1996		17	11	31	8	3	4	4	5	5	5	5	2
	1997		12	14	31	7	4	4	4	6	6	6	5	1
WI	1995	1	9	17	13	12	7	10	9	11	8	3		
	1996	1	6	20	14	10	7	8	11	9	7	4	3	
	1997	1	7	17	14	10	9	8	11	10	7	4	2	

Potato Stocks Down Slightly

January 1, 1999 **potato stocks** totaled 246 million cwt, down slightly from a year ago and 6 percent below two years ago. Storage accounted for 58 percent of fall production, down 2 percent from a year ago. Stocks by type were 2 percent reds, 10 percent round whites, 4 percent long white, and 84 percent russets, with more russets but fewer long whites than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to January 1 totaled 179 million cwt this season, up 7 percent from last year but 2 percent below the record high two years ago. December disappearance of 36.1 million cwt was record high for the month. Shrink and loss of 20.0 million cwt was up 12 percent from last year but 4 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 1998 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 91.3 million cwt, up 9 percent from the 1997 crop but 3 percent below the 1996 crop. In December, processors claimed 18.1 million cwt of potatoes, up 19 percent from last year and 15 percent above two years ago.

Eastern States stored 16.1 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, 1999, down 11 percent from a year ago and 17 percent below two years ago. Maine's holdings were down 11 percent and Pennsylvania's stocks were off 27 percent. New York's storage was equal to last year.

Central States accounted for 56.9 million cwt of potato stocks this January, 5 percent above 1998 but 5 percent below 1997. North Dakota's stocks were up 16 percent and Nebraska was up 12 percent. Stocks in Michigan increased 3 percent from last year. Minnesota and Wisconsin stocks were equal to a year ago. Ohio stocks were 35 percent below last year.

Western States held 173 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, 1999, down 1 percent from last year and 5 percent below 1997. Idaho stocks were down 1 percent from a year ago, while Oregon was off 8 percent. Colorado and Montana were down 4 and 3 percent. Washington was up 5 percent and California gained 4 percent from a year ago.

Reliability of January 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the January 1 stocks estimate is 2.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 246 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.8 percent or approximately 6.89 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.8 percent or approximately 11.8 million cwt.

The 10-year (1988-97) record of the differences between the January 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 5.56 million cwt, ranging from 0.01 million to 14.3 million cwt. During the 10-year period, the January 1 estimate has been below the final estimate each of the 10 years.

Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final January Stocks, United States, 1988-98

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
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	96.3	217,300
1994	229,350	96.1	238,560
1995	218,970	98.0	223,550
1996	256,520	98.2	261,320
1997	240,850	97.7	246,550
1998	246,220		

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 90.8 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss and home use account for the remaining 9.2 percent. Most seed for use the following year is on hand December 1st, but remains as part of stocks until moved or planted.

Potatoes: Production, Sold, Not Sold, and Kept for Seed, United States, 1993-98

Crop Year	Fall Potatoes					Amount Used for Seed All Seasons Following year
	Production	Sold	Sold as % of Prod	Not Sold	Not Sold as % of Prod	
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1993	387,885	353,052	91.0	34,833	9.0	29,076
1994	422,345	380,818	90.2	41,527	9.8	29,428
1995	404,852	370,679	91.6	34,173	8.4	30,561
1996	454,388	408,247	89.8	46,141	10.2	29,138
1997	423,190	387,089	91.5	36,101	8.5	29,975
1998	434,368					

The next "Potato Stocks" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on February 12, 1999.

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