

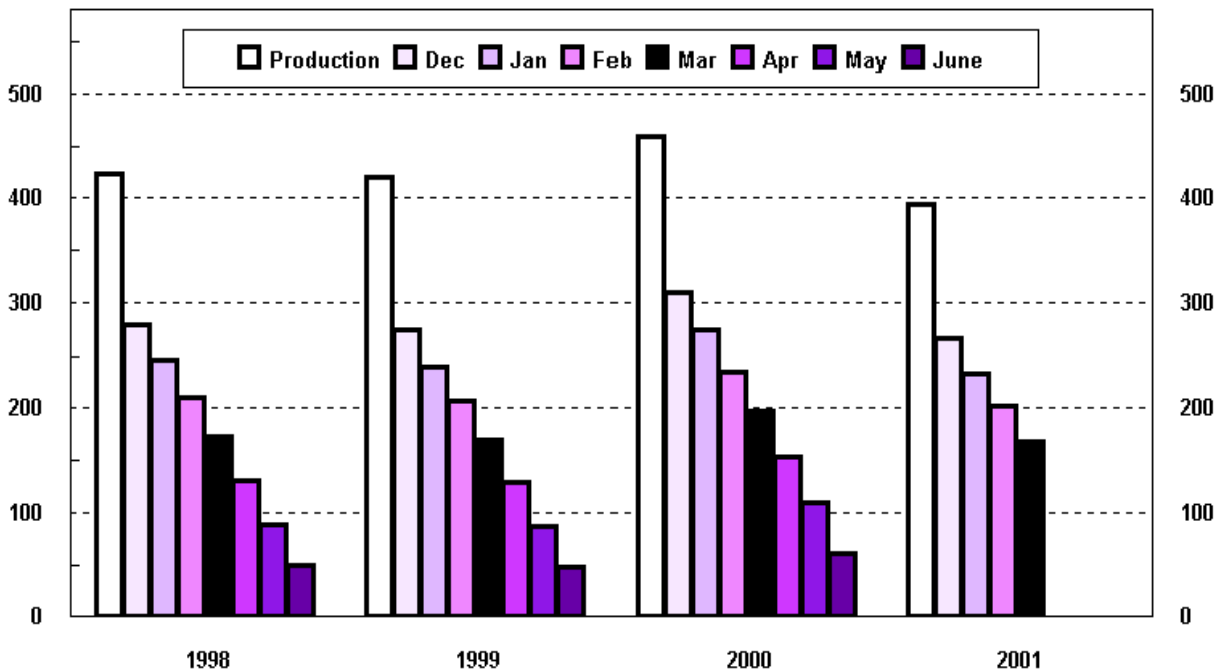
Released March 14, 2002, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Potato Stocks" call Arvin Budge at (202) 720-4285, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

## March Potato Stocks Down 15 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 168 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2002, down 15 percent from last year and 1 percent below 2000. Storage accounts for 43 percent of the 2001 fall storage States' production, the same percentage as a year ago. Disappearance of 226 million cwt, is down 13 percent from last year and the lowest since 1993. Processors in the 9 major States used 114 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 13 percent from a year ago.

## Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 15 Storage States

Mil Cwt



Production by crop year. Stocks by months following harvest.

**Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1992-2001**

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 <sup>1</sup>
	<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>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
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	147,635	103,210	
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840	
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,240
2001	394,161	266,520	233,420	201,750	167,870			

<sup>1</sup> Data not available prior to 1998.

**Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 9 States, 1998-2001 <sup>1</sup>**

State and Crop Year	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 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>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
<b>ID &amp; OR-Mal</b>								
1998	27,510	34,700	42,670	51,210	60,040	68,550	76,410	92,860
1999	27,970	34,490	40,790	49,220	57,820	66,080	74,110	88,210
2000	29,290	35,720	43,470	50,580	58,910	66,760	75,270	93,460
2001	20,940	27,330	33,620	40,860				
<b>ME <sup>2</sup></b>								
1998	1,430	1,935	2,530	2,985	3,595	4,180	4,705	5,945
1999	1,270	1,700	2,385	3,070	3,765	4,560	5,150	6,670
2000	1,845	2,475	3,105	3,695	4,225	4,760	5,340	7,015
2001	1,935	2,420	3,080	3,665				
<b>WA &amp; OR-Oth</b>								
1998	33,630	38,890	45,650	53,290	60,930	67,180	74,190	83,730
1999	33,320	39,620	45,500	53,350	61,080	67,230	74,840	83,210
2000	34,770	40,970	47,720	55,250	62,860	69,850	78,010	91,130
2001	29,270	35,310	40,540	47,910				
<b>Oth Sts <sup>3 4</sup></b>								
1998	11,570	14,465	18,030	20,850	24,850	28,190	31,365	39,865
1999	12,455	15,035	17,950	20,855	24,305	27,220	30,410	35,940
2000	12,665	16,215	18,975	22,095	25,410	28,695	31,765	39,020
2001	12,715	15,905	18,765	21,915				
<b>Total <sup>4</sup></b>								
1998	74,140	89,990	108,880	128,335	149,415	168,100	186,670	222,400
1999	75,015	90,845	106,625	126,495	146,970	165,090	184,510	214,030
2000	78,570	95,380	113,270	131,620	151,405	170,065	190,385	230,625
2001	64,860	80,965	96,005	114,350				

<sup>1</sup> 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, and WI.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

<sup>3</sup> MN, NV, ND, SD, and WI in 2000 and 2001. MI, MN, ND, and WI in 1998 and 1999.

<sup>4</sup> February 1 data corrected for the 2001 crop.

**Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on March 1, 2001-2002 <sup>1</sup>**

State	Crop of 2000			Crop of 2001		
	Prod	Stocks Mar 1, 2001	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Mar 1, 2002	% 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>Percent</i>
CA	3,741	1,300	35	1,113	200	18
CO	27,972	13,000	46	21,357	9,400	44
ID	152,320	76,500	50	127,980	66,000	52
ME	17,920	8,700	49	16,120	7,000	43
MI	14,963	3,400	23	14,030	3,200	23
MN	21,240	10,100	48	18,425	7,900	43
MT	3,503	2,800	80	3,040	2,550	84
NE <sup>2</sup>	10,127			8,512		
NY	5,964	1,000	17	5,942	650	11
ND	26,950	11,500	43	26,400	12,300	47
OH <sup>2</sup>	1,134			984		
OR	30,683	17,000	55	20,730	11,500	55
PA	3,510	830	24	3,173	660	21
WA	105,000	37,500	36	94,400	32,500	34
WI	33,800	10,500	31	31,955	11,500	36
Oth Sts		3,540			2,510	
15 States	458,827	197,670	43	394,161	167,870	43

<sup>1</sup> Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2002 crop. Seed usage in 2001 totaled 27.4 million cwt.

<sup>2</sup> Combined into "Other States".

**Potatoes: Shrinkage and Loss, 15 Fall Storage States, 1998-2001**

Crop Year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	Total Jun 1	Season
	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>	<i>Million Cwt</i>
1998	20.0	21.8	23.7	25.5	27.5	29.4	31.1	33.3
1999	19.7	22.4	24.1	25.9	27.7	29.6	31.3	33.4
2000	18.7	21.3	26.3	29.2	33.1	36.0	38.4	41.4
2001	14.8	17.2	19.4	21.2				

**Fall Potatoes: Production, March 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,  
15 Storage States and 23 Fall Season States, 1998-2001 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Mar 1	Total Used For Fall 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	1998	3,708	1,600	157	29	720	2,959
	1999	4,005	1,800	183	17	383	3,605
	2000	3,741	1,300	58	11	300	3,430
	2001	1,113	200				
CO	1998	25,360	12,000	1,930	1,615	2,615	21,130
	1999	25,762	12,900	1,971	1,705	2,967	21,090
	2000	27,972	13,000	1,771	1,485	3,847	22,640
	2001	21,357	9,400				
ID	1998	138,000	66,000	8,300	1,280	9,756	126,964
	1999	133,330	65,000	8,700	1,150	9,300	122,880
	2000	152,320	76,500	8,140	1,190	13,718	137,412
	2001	127,980	66,000				
ME	1998	18,060	8,450	1,430	360	1,740	15,960
	1999	17,813	9,400	1,408	330	1,850	15,633
	2000	17,920	8,700	1,302	315	1,490	16,115
	2001	16,120	7,000				
MI	1998	14,648	4,100	888	200	1,348	13,100
	1999	14,963	4,200	1,005	213	1,300	13,450
	2000	14,963	3,400	1,135	250	1,700	13,013
	2001	14,030	3,200				
MN	1998	21,170	8,900	1,400	254	1,440	19,476
	1999	18,020	6,200	1,254	170	1,980	15,870
	2000	21,240	10,100	1,140	130	1,700	19,410
	2001	18,425	7,900				
MT	1998	3,180	2,650	253	145	265	2,770
	1999	3,325	2,700	276	151	213	2,961
	2000	3,503	2,800	211	133	732	2,638
	2001	3,040	2,550				
NE <sup>1</sup>	1998	8,175		469	166	881	7,128
	1999	8,904		621	240	711	7,953
	2000	10,127		542	182	730	9,215
	2001	8,512					
NY	1998	7,290	800	572	110	330	6,850
	1999	6,758	1,300	484	95	323	6,340
	2000	5,964	1,000	517	108	406	5,450
	2001	5,942	650				

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**Fall Potatoes: Production, March 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,  
15 Storage States and 23 Fall Season States, 1998-2001 Crop Years (continued)**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks Mar 1	Total Used For Fall 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>
ND	1998	28,670	12,800	2,178	395	2,840	25,435
	1999	26,400	9,000	2,232	340	4,600	21,460
	2000	26,950	11,500	2,035	295	3,235	23,420
	2001	26,400	12,300				
OH <sup>1</sup>	1998	1,200		100	8	37	1,155
	1999	987		88	6	60	921
	2000	1,134		102	2	35	1,097
	2001	984					
OR	1998	26,229	13,000	1,334	195	2,206	23,828
	1999	28,020	15,500	1,368	239	1,607	26,174
	2000	30,683	17,000	957	140	1,915	28,628
	2001	20,730	11,500				
PA	1998	3,360	700	261	50	252	3,058
	1999	3,080	700	270	31	172	2,877
	2000	3,510	830	252	44	165	3,301
	2001	3,173	660				
WA	1998	93,225	29,500	4,080	300	6,500	86,425
	1999	95,200	28,000	4,320	300	6,500	88,400
	2000	105,000	37,500	3,960	300	9,500	95,200
	2001	94,400	32,500				
WI	1998	30,895	11,000	1,720	265	2,360	28,270
	1999	34,000	10,600	1,720	310	1,420	32,270
	2000	33,800	10,500	1,700	264	1,949	31,587
	2001	31,955	11,500				
Oth Sts	1998		2,150				
	1999		2,320				
	2000		3,540				
	2001		2,510				
15 Sts	1998	423,170	173,650	25,072	5,372	33,290	384,508
	1999	420,567	169,620	25,900	5,297	33,386	381,884
	2000	458,827	197,670	23,822	4,849	41,422	412,556
	2001	394,161	167,870				
Fall Sts	1998	432,737		25,657	5,584	34,231	392,922
	1999	429,847		26,449	5,408	34,229	390,210
	2000	467,504		24,249	4,968	42,257	420,279
	2001	400,727					

<sup>1</sup> Combined into "Other States".

**Fall Potatoes: Farm Marketings, Selected States,  
1998-2000 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>
CA	1998				13	12	13	11	10	12	10	8	7	4
	1999				5	12	14	10	12	9	10	10	11	7
	2000				9	11	13	10	9	11	7	11	9	10
CO	1998			5	8	9	12	10	10	12	11	10	9	4
	1999			4	7	10	10	10	10	12	11	10	10	6
	2000			5	8	10	10	11	8	11	11	12	9	5
ID	1998		6	11	20	6	6	7	6	8	9	9	6	6
	1999		3	15	18	6	6	5	7	9	10	9	6	6
	2000		5	9	10	9	6	7	6	9	9	13	8	9
ME	1998		1	7	9	9	9	10	11	14	12	9	9	
	1999		3	6	7	7	9	10	10	12	16	11	9	
	2000		2	8	8	7	9	9	12	12	15	10	5	3
MI	1998	3	8	9	9	9	12	14	9	12	10	5		
	1999	3	7	8	9	15	12	9	9	9	11	6	2	
	2000	3	7	8	12	12	12	11	12	11	7	4	1	
MN	1998		11	16	14	10	5	7	6	8	9	6	8	
	1999		8	12	13	11	8	8	7	9	8	6	5	5
	2000	2	8	8	7	6	5	6	7	10	11	12	18	
NY	1998		7	16	16	16	15	11	8	6	4	1		
	1999		4	21	18	11	9	10	8	9	10			
	2000		2	26	18	11	12	8	8	10	5			
ND	1998		3	13	14	10	10	8	7	7	9	10	6	3
	1999		2	13	20	7	10	12	7	7	8	7	6	1
	2000		4	21	11	10	5	8	5	9	11	8	8	
OR	1998	2	12	15	27	8	5	4	5	6	6	4	4	2
	1999	2	13	10	21	7	6	7	8	7	7	7	3	2
	2000	3	9	12	21	4	5	5	6	7	7	9	6	6
PA	1998		14	12	11	12	15	11	9	7	6	2	1	
	1999		14	13	12	12	13	11	9	7	6	2	1	
	2000		14	13	12	12	13	11	9	7	6	2	1	
WA	1998		16	13	25	7	3	5	6	7	5	6	6	1
	1999		17	14	24	6	6	5	5	6	5	6	5	1
	2000		16	14	25	7	4	6	5	5	5	5	5	3
WI	1998	1	6	18	13	10	10	10	9	9	8	4	2	
	1999	2	7	16	12	11	9	8	10	9	9	5	2	
	2000	1	7	15	14	11	8	8	9	10	10	5	2	

## Potato Stocks Down 15 Percent

March 1, 2002 potato stocks totaled 168 million cwt, down 15 percent from 2001 and 1 percent below two years ago. Potatoes in storage account for 43 percent of the fall storage States' production, the same percentage as a year ago. This is the lowest March potato stocks since the 1995 crop.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to March 1, at 226 million cwt, is down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 10 percent below two years ago. This is the lowest disappearance since 1993. February disappearance of 33.9 million cwt is down 7 percent from a year ago and 10 percent below 2000. Shrink and loss to this point in the season is 21.2 million cwt, down 27 percent from last year and 18 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 2001 crop potatoes totaled 114 million cwt to March 1, down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 10 percent below two years ago. In February, processors used 18.3 million cwt of potatoes, slightly below a year ago and 8 percent below two years ago.

Western States held 122 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, 2002, down 18 percent from last year and 3 percent below 2000. Idaho's potato stocks are down 14 percent from a year ago, while Washington is down 13 percent and Oregon is off 32 percent. Colorado's stocks are down 28 percent and Montana's dipped 9 percent from a year ago. California's potato holdings are down 85 percent from a year ago.

Central States accounted for 37.4 million cwt of potato stocks this March 1, down 4 percent from 2001 but 16 percent above 2000. North Dakota's stocks are up 7 percent and Wisconsin's holdings are up 10 percent from this date last year. Michigan's potato stocks are 6 percent lower than last year and Minnesota's are off 22 percent from a year ago. Combined Nebraska and Ohio stocks are 29 percent below a year ago.

Eastern States stored 8.3 million cwt of potatoes on March 1, 2002, down 21 percent from a year ago and 27 percent below two years ago. Both Maine and Pennsylvania holdings are down 20 percent from last year. New York's potato storage is down 35 percent from a year ago.

## Reliability of March 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the March 1 stocks estimate is 3.6 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 168 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.6 percent or approximately 6.0 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 6.3 percent or approximately 10.6 million cwt.

The 10-year (1992-2001) record of the differences between the March 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 4.3 million cwt, ranging from 0.65 million above to 13.1 million cwt below the final. During the 10-year period, the March 1 estimate has been below the final estimate in 6 of the 10 years.

**Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final March 1 Stocks,  
United States, 1991-2001**

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1991	146,180	100.2	145,820
1992	139,665	91.4	152,795
1993	146,080	95.2	153,435
1994	163,305	96.3	169,570
1995	152,255	97.6	156,020
1996	184,565	97.5	189,210
1997	170,325	96.8	175,870
1998	174,100	100.3	173,650
1999	170,050	100.3	169,620
2000	198,320	100.3	197,670
2001	167,870		



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 crop year is on hand and remains part of stocks until moved or planted.

**Potatoes: Production, Sold, Not Sold, and Kept for Seed,  
United States, 1996-2001**

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>
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	432,737	392,922	90.8	39,815	9.2	29,217
1999	429,847	390,210	90.8	39,637	9.2	29,709
2000	467,504	420,279	89.9	47,225	10.1	27,435
2001	400,727					

The next "Potato Stocks" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on April 15, 2002.

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