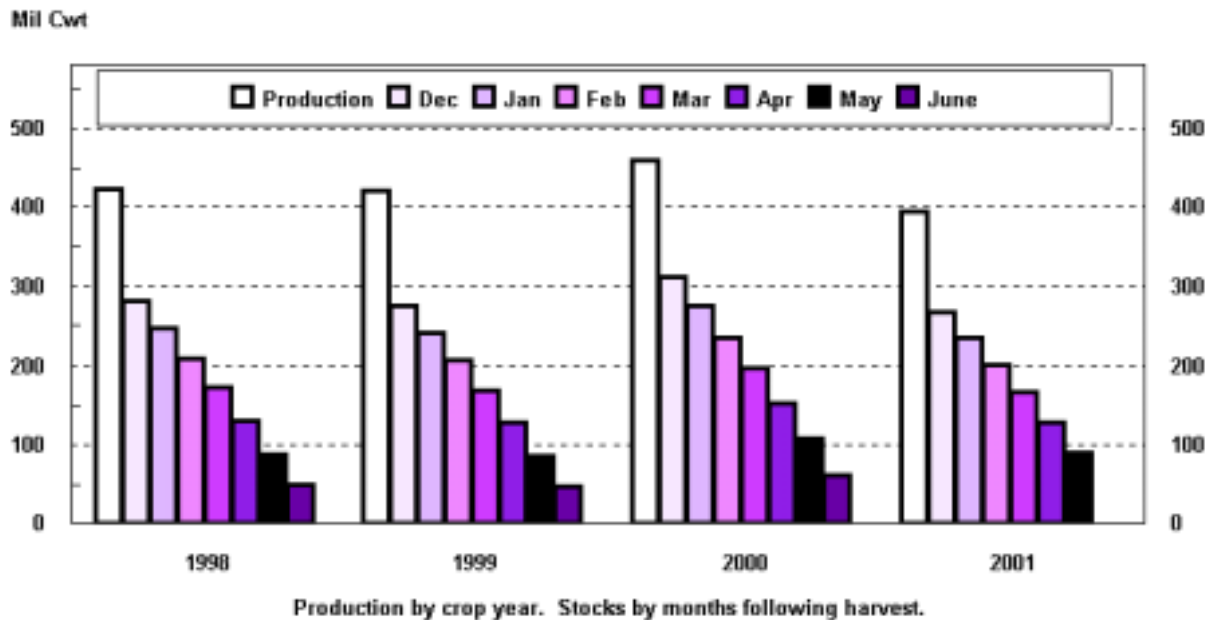


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May Potato Stocks Down 17 Percent

The 15 major potato States held 91.1 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2002, down 17 percent from last year but 5 percent above 2000. Storage accounts for 23 percent of the 2001 fall storage States' production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago. Disappearance of 303 million cwt, is down 13 percent from last year and the lowest since 1992. Processors in the 9 major States used 148 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 13 percent from a year ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks
15 Storage States



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 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>	<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	128,930	91,140	

¹ Data not available prior to 1998.

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 9 States, 1998-2001 ¹

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>
ID & OR-Mal								
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	47,710	54,150		
ME ²								
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	4,250	4,725		
WA & OR-Oth								
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	54,850	61,310		
Oth Sts ³								
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	24,395	27,520		
Total								
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	131,205	147,705		

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, and WI.

² Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

³ MN, NV, ND, SD, and WI in 2000 and 2001. MI, MN, ND, and WI in 1998 and 1999.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks on May 1, 2001-2002 ¹

State	Crop of 2000			Crop of 2001		
	Prod	Stocks May 1, 2001	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks May 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	800	21	1,113	110	10
CO	27,972	7,400	26	21,357	5,100	24
ID	152,320	47,000	31	127,980	40,500	32
ME	17,920	4,000	22	16,120	3,000	19
MI	14,963	700	5	14,030	400	3
MN	21,240	5,800	27	18,425	4,300	23
MT	3,503	750	21	3,040	700	23
NE ²	10,127			8,512		
NY ²	5,964			5,942		
ND	26,950	6,800	25	26,400	7,600	29
OH ²	1,134			984		
OR	30,683	10,000	33	20,730	6,500	31
PA ²	3,510			3,173		
WA	105,000	21,500	20	94,400	18,000	19
WI	33,800	3,300	10	31,955	4,000	13
Oth Sts		1,110			930	
15 States	458,827	109,160	24	394,161	91,140	23

¹ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2002 potatoes; 2001 crop seed usage total 27.4 million cwt.

² Nebraska, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania 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	22.9	24.4		

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

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks May 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	900	157	29	720	2,959
	1999	4,005	1,100	183	17	383	3,605
	2000	3,741	800	58	11	300	3,430
	2001	1,113	110				
CO	1998	25,360	6,600	1,930	1,615	2,615	21,130
	1999	25,762	7,400	1,971	1,705	2,967	21,090
	2000	27,972	7,400	1,771	1,485	3,847	22,640
	2001	21,357	5,100				
ID	1998	138,000	37,000	8,300	1,280	9,756	126,964
	1999	133,330	36,000	8,700	1,150	9,300	122,880
	2000	152,320	47,000	8,140	1,190	13,718	137,412
	2001	127,980	40,500				
ME	1998	18,060	3,800	1,430	360	1,740	15,960
	1999	17,813	4,400	1,408	330	1,850	15,633
	2000	17,920	4,000	1,302	315	1,490	16,115
	2001	16,120	3,000				
MI	1998	14,648	800	888	200	1,348	13,100
	1999	14,963	1,300	1,005	213	1,300	13,450
	2000	14,963	700	1,135	250	1,700	13,013
	2001	14,030	400				
MN	1998	21,170	4,300	1,400	254	1,440	19,476
	1999	18,020	3,200	1,254	170	1,980	15,870
	2000	21,240	5,800	1,140	130	1,700	19,410
	2001	18,425	4,300				
MT	1998	3,180	290	253	145	265	2,770
	1999	3,325	300	276	151	213	2,961
	2000	3,503	750	211	133	732	2,638
	2001	3,040	700				
NE ¹	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 ¹	1998	7,290	75	572	110	330	6,850
	1999	6,758		484	95	323	6,340
	2000	5,964		517	108	406	5,450
	2001	5,942					

--continued

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

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks May 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	7,500	2,178	395	2,840	25,435
	1999	26,400	4,500	2,232	340	4,600	21,460
	2000	26,950	6,800	2,035	295	3,235	23,420
	2001	26,400	7,600				
OH ¹	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	7,000	1,334	195	2,206	23,828
	1999	28,020	9,000	1,368	239	1,607	26,174
	2000	30,683	10,000	957	140	1,915	28,628
	2001	20,730	6,500				
PA ¹	1998	3,360	130	261	50	252	3,058
	1999	3,080	150	270	31	172	2,877
	2000	3,510		252	44	165	3,301
	2001	3,173					
WA	1998	93,225	14,500	4,080	300	6,500	86,425
	1999	95,200	14,500	4,320	300	6,500	88,400
	2000	105,000	21,500	3,960	300	9,500	95,200
	2001	94,400	18,000				
WI	1998	30,895	4,800	1,720	265	2,360	28,270
	1999	34,000	4,400	1,720	310	1,420	32,270
	2000	33,800	3,300	1,700	264	1,949	31,587
	2001	31,955	4,000				
Oth Sts	1998		200				
	1999		665				
	2000		1,110				
	2001		930				
15 Sts	1998	423,170	87,895	25,072	5,372	33,290	384,508
	1999	420,567	86,915	25,900	5,297	33,386	381,884
	2000	458,827	109,160	23,822	4,849	41,422	412,556
	2001	394,161	91,140				
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					

¹ Nebraska, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania 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 17 Percent

May 1, 2002 potato stocks totaled 91.1 million cwt, down 17 percent from 2001 but 5 percent above two years ago. Potatoes in storage account for 23 percent of the fall storage States' production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to May 1, at 303 million cwt, is down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 9 percent below two years ago. This is the lowest disappearance since 1992. April disappearance of 37.8 million cwt is down 15 percent from a year ago and 9 percent below 2000. Shrink and loss to this point in the season is 24.4 million cwt, down 32 percent from last year and 17 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 2001 crop potatoes totaled 148 million cwt to May 1, down 13 percent from the 2000 crop and 11 percent below two years ago. In April, processors used 16.5 million cwt of potatoes, 12 percent below a year ago and 9 percent below two years ago.

Western States held 70.9 million cwt of potatoes in storage on May 1, 2002, down 19 percent from last year but 4 percent above 2000. Idaho's potato stocks are down 14 percent from a year ago, while Washington is down 16 percent and Oregon is off 35 percent. Colorado's stocks are down 31 percent and Montana's fell 7 percent short of a year ago. California's potato holdings are down 86 percent from a year ago.

Central States accounted for 17.1 million cwt of potato stocks this May 1, down 2 percent from 2001 but 22 percent above 2000. North Dakota's stocks are up 12 percent and Wisconsin's holdings are 21 percent above this date last year. Michigan's potato stocks are down 43 percent from last year and Minnesota's are off 26 percent from a year ago. Combined Nebraska and Ohio stocks are 12 percent below a year ago.

Eastern States stored 3.2 million cwt of potatoes on May 1, 2002, down 25 percent from a year ago and 31 percent below two years ago. Maine's holdings are down 25 percent from last year, New York and Pennsylvania stocks are combined for a 31 percent decline from a year ago.

Reliability of May 1 Stocks Estimates

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the May 1 stocks estimate is 6.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 91.1 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 6.9 percent or approximately 6.3 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 12.0 percent or approximately 10.9 million cwt.

The 10-year (1992-2001) record of the differences between the May 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 3.9 million cwt, ranging from 2.3 million above to 11.5 million cwt below the final. During the 10-year period, the May 1 estimate has been below the final estimate in 8 of the 10 years.

Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final May 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	70,020	101.3	69,110
1992	63,550	84.7	75,040
1993	68,060	93.4	72,860
1994	81,495	93.0	87,600
1995	72,210	95.2	75,870
1996	100,780	97.6	103,210
1997	87,113	93.8	92,840
1998	87,640	99.7	87,895
1999	85,670	98.6	86,915
2000	111,425	102.1	109,160
2001	91,140		

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 June 14, 2002.

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