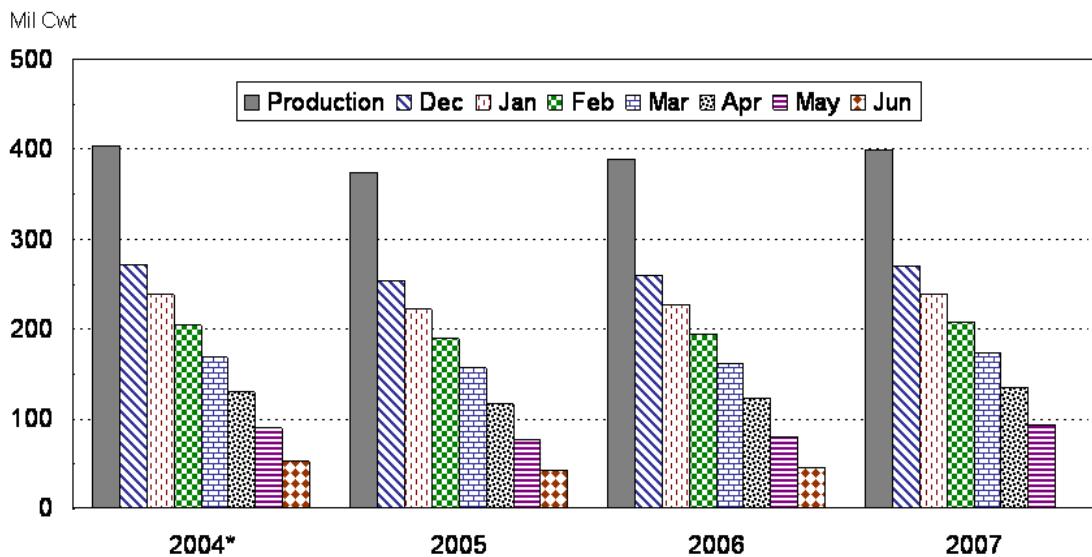


Released May 15, 2008, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Potato Stocks* call Faye Propson at (202) 720-5412, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

May Potato Stocks Up 17 Percent From May 1, 2007

The 13 major potato States held 92.7 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2008, up 17 percent from a year ago and 22 percent above May 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 23 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from last year. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 570 thousand cwt on May 1, 2008, down 5 percent from last year. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Disappearance from the start of harvest to May 1 was at 307 million cwt, 1 percent below last year but up 3 percent from 2006. Shrink and loss, at 23.4 million cwt, was down 3 percent from the same period in 2007 but up 6 percent from 2006. Processors have used 158 million cwt of the 2007 potato crop so far this season, down 3 percent from last year's season-to-date usage but up 6 percent from 2 years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon total processing decreased 1 percent from a year ago and Maine's total processing was 3 percent below 2007. Washington and the rest of Oregon total processing was 4 percent lower than last season. Dehydrating usage accounted for 33.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year but 11 percent above the same period in 2006.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks 13 Storage States



Production by crop year. Stocks by months following harvest.
*15 Storage States.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States, 1998-2007

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 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>
1998 ¹	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999 ¹	420,567	275,100	239,910	207,150	169,620	128,410	86,915	47,220
2000 ¹	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,270
2001 ¹	387,033	258,750	224,680	192,090	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002 ¹	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003 ¹	403,181	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004 ¹	403,587	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005	374,298	253,800	220,500	189,100	155,500	115,700	75,900	41,560
2006	389,272	259,300	226,100	192,600	159,700	121,000	79,050	44,460
2007	400,085	270,100	237,500	206,200	171,800	133,600	92,710	

¹ 15 major States.

Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 9 States, 2005-2007 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								
2005	22,840	29,300	35,970	43,300	50,820	57,830	65,030	77,360
2006	27,090	34,070	41,350	48,940	56,650	63,680	71,220	85,630
2007	26,230	33,260	40,220	48,570	55,480	63,000		
ME ²								
2005	1,365	1,880	2,485	3,090	3,800	4,450	5,130	6,825
2006	1,755	2,360	2,910	3,465	4,185	4,810	5,470	7,560
2007	1,700	2,170	2,815	3,440	3,985	4,670		
WA & OR-Oth								
2005	30,310	35,895	40,545	48,290	55,320	61,855	69,360	78,550
2006	30,980	37,060	42,190	49,930	56,690	63,170	70,410	77,355
2007	28,995	34,675	39,700	47,390	53,645	60,750		
Other Sts ³								
2005	11,055	14,070	17,005	19,895	22,520	25,270	27,740	35,535
2006	14,270	17,695	21,290	24,545	28,040	31,370	34,830	43,315
2007 ⁴	15,040	17,560	20,890	23,955	26,615	29,535		
Total								
2005	65,570	81,145	96,005	114,575	132,460	149,405	167,260	198,270
2006	74,095	91,185	107,740	126,880	145,565	163,030	181,930	213,860
2007 ⁴	71,965	87,665	103,625	123,355	139,725	157,955		
Dehydrated ⁵								
2005	11,920	15,655	19,225	22,765	26,605	30,065	34,130	41,625
2006	14,590	19,250	23,635	27,885	32,210	36,480	40,915	49,370
2007 ⁴	12,660	16,680	20,965	25,185	29,325	33,405		

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 and WI.

² Includes Maine grown potatoes only.

³ CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI.

⁴ April revised.

⁵ Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Included in above totals. Includes CO, ID, NV, ND, OR, WA, and WI.

**Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States
May 1, 2007-2008¹**

State	Crop of 2006			Crop of 2007		
	Prod	Stocks May 1, 2007 ²	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks May 1, 2008 ²	% 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	3,870	450	12	4,223	460	11
CO	22,686	5,800	26	20,981	4,400	21
ID	128,915	33,000	26	131,650	37,000	28
ME	17,980	5,300	29	16,530	3,950	24
MI	14,190	700	5	14,700	1,600	11
MN	20,400	4,100	20	20,680	4,800	23
MT	3,518			3,696		
NE	8,730	1,400	16	8,051	1,000	12
NY	5,700			5,216		
ND	25,480	4,800	19	23,660	3,900	16
OR	18,533	4,800	26	20,238	6,400	32
WA	89,900	14,000	16	102,300	25,000	24
WI	29,370	4,000	14	28,160	3,700	13
Other States		700			500	
13 States	389,272	79,050	20	400,085	92,710	23
Klamath Basin ³		600			570	

¹ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2007 totaled 25.6 million cwt.

² Missing stocks combined into "Other States".

³ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co. OR.

NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes that are 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 91.1 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage, loss, and home use account for the remaining 8.9 percent.

**Potatoes: Production, Sold, Not Sold, and Kept for Seed,
United States, 2002-2007**

Crop Year	Fall Potatoes					Amount Used for Seed All Seasons Following Year
	Production	Sold	Sold as % of Production	Not Sold	Not Sold as % of Production	
	<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>
2002	413,581	378,796	91.6	34,785	8.4	28,149
2003	410,588	371,755	90.5	38,833	9.5	26,687
2004	410,253	369,781	90.1	40,472	9.9	24,768
2005	382,743	351,083	91.7	31,660	8.3	25,659
2006	398,921	365,863	91.7	33,058	8.3	26,437
2007	409,082					

**Fall Potatoes: Production, May 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
13 Storage States and All Fall Season States, 2004-2007 Crop Years**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks May 1 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	2004	3,648	500	213	1	292	3,355
	2005	3,306	400	249		331	2,975
	2006	3,870	450	210		480	3,390
	2007	4,223	460				
CO	2004	23,791	6,000	1,513	1,300	2,286	20,205
	2005	22,910	5,700	1,498	1,200	1,650	20,060
	2006	22,686	5,800	1,480	1,140	2,056	19,490
	2007	20,981	4,400				
ID	2004	131,970	38,500	7,150	1,250	10,902	119,818
	2005	118,288	31,000	7,370	1,230	7,800	109,258
	2006	128,915	33,000	7,875	1,188	8,200	119,527
	2007	131,650	37,000				
ME	2004	19,065	5,000	1,231	190	4,900	13,975
	2005	15,455	4,300	1,264	242	1,183	14,030
	2006	17,980	5,300	1,236	228	1,482	16,270
	2007	16,530	3,950				
MI	2004	13,650	900	860	194	1,656	11,800
	2005	13,910	500	1,044	182	1,728	12,000
	2006	14,190	700	961	180	1,800	12,210
	2007	14,700	1,600				
MN	2004	18,920	5,100	837	100	1,750	17,070
	2005	17,630	2,700	1,040	140	1,600	15,890
	2006	20,400	4,100	1,190	250	1,700	18,450
	2007	20,680	4,800				
MT	2004	3,551	500	257	156	276	3,119
	2005	3,445		244	156	210	3,079
	2006	3,518		270	180	130	3,208
	2007	3,696					
NE	2004	9,288		519	212	906	8,170
	2005	8,245	1,200	515	231	834	7,180
	2006	8,730	1,400	521	200	775	7,755
	2007	8,051	1,000				
NY	2004	5,184		451	100	513	4,571
	2005	5,226		453	100	491	4,635
	2006	5,700		460	100	480	5,120
	2007	5,216					

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

**Fall Potatoes: Production, May 1 Stocks, and Farm Disposition,
13 Storage States and All Fall Season States, 2004-2007 Crop Years (continued)**

State	Crop Year	Production	Stocks May 1 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	2004	26,765	7,200	1,794	240	2,825	23,700
	2005	20,500	3,200	1,900	240	1,810	18,450
	2006	25,480	4,800	1,853	240	2,290	22,950
	2007	23,660	3,900				
OH ²	2004	1,080		73	6	33	1,041
	2005						
	2006						
	2007						
OR	2004	19,775	3,900	955	241	1,264	18,270
	2005	22,023	5,000	837	255	1,392	20,376
	2006	18,533	4,800	880	260	1,020	17,253
	2007	20,238	6,400				
PA ²	2004	2,640		253	39	216	2,385
	2005						
	2006						
	2007						
WA	2004	93,810	15,500	3,850	240	5,600	87,970
	2005	95,480	17,500	3,900	240	6,000	89,240
	2006	89,900	14,000	4,290	240	5,500	84,160
	2007	102,300	25,000				
WI	2004	30,450	3,800	1,360	260	1,985	28,205
	2005	27,880	3,900	1,452	300	1,380	26,200
	2006	29,370	4,000	1,430	245	1,925	27,200
	2007	28,160	3,700				
Other Sts	2004		1,650				
	2005		500				
	2006		700				
	2007		500				
13 States ³	2004	403,587	88,550	21,316	4,529	35,404	363,654
	2005	374,298	75,900	21,766	4,516	26,409	343,373
	2006	389,272	79,050	22,656	4,451	27,838	356,983
	2007	400,085	92,710				
Fall States	2004	410,253		21,593	4,549	35,923	369,781
	2005	382,743		22,415	4,545	27,115	351,083
	2006	398,921		23,337	4,482	28,576	365,863
	2007	409,082					
Klamath Basin ⁴	2004						
	2005						
	2006		600				
	2007		570				

¹ Missing stocks combined into "Other Sts" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

² Stock estimates discontinued in crop year 2005.

³ 15 storage States in crop year 2004.

⁴ Estimates began in December 2006. Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co., OR.

**Fall Potatoes: Farm Marketings, Selected States and United States,
2004-2006 Marketing Years**

State	Marketing 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	2004				8	9	21	13	8	14	12	7	8	
	2005				4	14	22	10	11	12	12	8	7	
	2006				9	15	11	15	10	11	12	9	5	3
CO	2004			5	7	9	10	10	8	12	10	11	11	7
	2005			5	8	10	10	10	8	11	10	12	10	6
	2006			6	7	9	9	10	9	10	11	11	11	7
ID	2004		6	9	10	11	7	6	6	9	10	9	10	7
	2005		2	11	13	8	7	8	7	11	10	10	6	7
	2006		3	11	12	8	7	8	8	10	10	9	7	7
ME	2004		1	9	6	7	10	10	10	11	15	10	7	4
	2005			5	11	8	9	10	9	12	15	10	6	5
	2006			8	7	8	9	9	8	13	13	12	7	6
MI	2004	1	10	11	11	12	12	11	8	10	9	5		
	2005	1	8	11	13	12	12	12	10	10	8	3		
	2006	1	9	12	13	12	12	12	7	11	7	4		
MN	2004		9	8	8	6	6	7	8	13	7	9	10	9
	2005		7	6	4	7	15	12	12	14	9	3	6	5
	2006	5	8	7	7	7	7	8	9	11	10	10	11	
NY	2004		4	16	19	16	13	10	9	8	5			
	2005		2	14	14	12	13	10	12	14	7	2		
	2006		4	15	14	12	14	16	7	10	4	4		
ND	2004		1	20	9	6	6	8	7	11	11	7	8	6
	2005		2	25	13	5	9	9	9	8	10	7	2	1
	2006		3	27	11	6	6	11	5	7	10	9	4	1
OR	2004		12	11	16	8	6	4	9	10	9	8	4	3
	2005		17	10	13	5	7	5	8	9	10	8	4	4
	2006		12	10	13	5	7	7	7	10	10	8	7	4
PA ¹	2004	1	18	16	15	8	15	8	6	5	6	2		
	2005													
	2006													
WA	2004		18	14	21	6	5	5	7	6	6	6	5	1
	2005		14	13	23	7	6	4	6	7	7	7	5	1
	2006		15	11	25	7	6	5	7	6	6	6	5	1
WI	2004		6	14	12	12	9	9	9	11	10	6	2	
	2005	1	6	16	11	10	10	9	9	10	8	8	2	
	2006	1	6	15	10	10	10	9	9	11	10	6	3	
US	2004		9	11	13	9	7	7	7	9	9	8	7	4
	2005		7	12	14	8	8	7	8	10	9	8	5	4
	2006		7	12	14	8	8	7	8	9	9	8	6	4

¹ Farm marketing estimates discontinued in 2005.

May Potato Stocks Up 17 Percent From May 1, 2007

The 13 major potato States held 92.7 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2008, up 17 percent from last year and 22 percent above May 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 23 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from last year. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 570 thousand cwt on May 1, 2008, down 5 percent from last year. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to May 1 was at 307 million cwt, 1 percent below last year but up 3 percent from 2006. Shrink and loss, at 23.4 million cwt, was down 3 percent from the same period in 2007 but up 6 percent from 2006.

Processors have used 158 million cwt of the 2007 potato crop so far this season, down 3 percent from last year's season-to-date usage but up 6 percent from 2 years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon total processing decreased 1 percent from a year ago and Maine's total processing was 3 percent below 2007. Washington and the rest of Oregon total processing was 4 percent lower than last season. Dehydrating usage accounted for 33.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year but 11 percent above the same period in 2006.

California's, Idaho's, Oregon's, and Washington's potato stocks were up 2, 12, 33, and 79 percent from May 1, 2007, respectively, while Colorado's stocks were down 24 percent from a year ago. Wisconsin's potato stocks were down 8 percent from last year; North Dakota's stocks were 19 percent below 2007; and potato stocks in Nebraska were down 29 percent from the previous season. Minnesota's stocks increased 17 percent from the same date in 2007 and Michigan's potato stocks were 129 percent higher than a year ago. Maine's potato stocks were 25 percent lower than last year.

Potatoes: Shrinkage and Loss, 13 Fall Storage States, 2004-2007

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>
2004 ¹	15.5	19.1	22.0	24.8	27.3	29.7	32.5	35.4
2005	12.7	15.0	16.8	18.4	20.2	22.0	23.7	26.4
2006	13.2	16.1	18.4	20.4	22.3	24.0	25.5	27.8
2007	13.9	16.0	18.0	19.7	21.6	23.4		

¹ 15 fall storage States.

Reliability of May 1 Stocks Estimates

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the May 1 stocks estimate, the “Root Mean Square Error,” a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the May 1 stocks estimate and the final estimate is expressed as a percentage of the final estimate. The average of squared percentage deviations for the latest 20-year period is computed. The square root of the average becomes statistically the “Root Mean Square Error.” Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current estimate relative to the final end-of-season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year’s estimate are not different from those influencing recent years.

The “Root Mean Square Error” for the May 1 stocks estimate is 6.7 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 92.7 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 6.7 percent, or approximately 6.21 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 11.5 percent, or approximately 10.7 million cwt.

The 20-year (1987-2006) record of differences between the May 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates averaged 3.76 million cwt, ranging from 9.94 million cwt above the final to 11.5 million cwt below the final. During the 20-year period, the May 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 15 years and above 5 years.

**Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final May 1 Stocks,
United States, 1997-2007**

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks <i>1,000 Cwt</i>	% of Final <i>Percent</i>	Final Stocks <i>1,000 Cwt</i>
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	112.2	81,200
2002	83,180	100.2	83,040
2003	84,800	99.8	85,000
2004	86,990	98.2	88,550
2005	72,950	96.1	75,900
2006	73,200	92.6	79,050
2007	92,710		

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