## HD 9235 P805

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 14, 1951

MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS LARGE ON MARCH 1 DESPITE CONTINUED HEAVY MARKETINGS IN FEBRUARY 1/

March 1 stocks of merchantable potatoes held by growers and local dealers in or near the areas where produced were 3 percent below the record-large March 1 holdings a year ago, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. Combined grower and dealer stocks on March 1, 1951 are estimated at 87,640,000 bushels, compared with 90,580,000 bushels on hand a year earlier. Potatoes held for use as food, seed or livestock feed on farms where grown and those purchased by the Government under the price support program but resold to the grower are not included in these estimates of merchantable stocks.

Movement of potatoes from storage continued heavy during February. Government purchases were stepped up and processors in Maine and Idaho continued to utilize large quantities of potatoes. Movement from some areas has been delayed by a shortage of cars.

Compared with a year earlier, March 1 stocks are somewhat smaller in the East, but higher in the central part of the country and in the West. The smaller stocks in the East reflect reduced holdings in Maine where Government purchases continue at a rapid rate. In North Dakota and Minnesota, stocks were smaller than March 1, 1950 holdings, but increased supplies in Wisconsin and South Dakota a little more than offset this reduction. Except in Wyoming and Nevada, holdings in each of the Western States exceed March 1, 1950 stocks. Record-high March 1 stocks are estimated for Idaho. Storage losses in Montana and Wyoming have been very large.

For the 37 late and intermediate potato States, disappearance (including Government purchases) during January and February is estimated at 73,010,000 bushels, compared with a disappearance of 60,010,000 bushels during the first two months of 1950. Government purchases accounted for about 24.5 million bushels during the past two months, compared with slightly over 14 million bushels during January and February of 1950. Rail and boat movement during January and February of 1951 was 22.8 million bushels, compared with 27.2 million bushels in the first two months of last year. A reduction in the quantity of Government purchased potatoes shipped by rail accounted for some of the sharp drop in carlot shipments.

<sup>1/</sup> This special report of merchantable potato stocks is made possible under funds provided by the Research and Marketing Act of 1946.

JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, AND MARCH 1 IN THE 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES, 1949, 1950 AND 1951 POTATOES (IRISH); MERCHANTABLE STOCKS HELD BY GROWERS AND LOCAL DEALERS

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Thousand bushels  41,440 50,020 42,260 35,210 43,940 34,930 27,390 36,490 36,900 11,700 9,1820 6,270 8,640 6,600 3,200 5,530 36,490 11,700 9,1820 6,270 8,640 6,620 3,800 5,800 5,800 11,700 9,1820 6,400 6,620 3,800 1,800 5,800 1,720 1,940 1,220 1,940 1,220 1,940 1,220 1,940 1,220 1,940 1,220 1,940 1,220 1,940 1,		Crop of			•	Jo	Crop	•	Crop of	Crop of
## 4440   \$60,020   \$42,280   \$5,210   \$45,940   \$44,950   \$77,390   \$6,490   \$7,000   \$1,700   \$9,680   \$6,270   \$6,400   \$6,600   \$1,800   \$5,170   \$6,400   \$6,500   \$1,800   \$5,170   \$6,400   \$6,600   \$1,800   \$1,700   \$1,800	STATE	1948	1949	1950	ا س	1949	- !	1948	1949	1950
41,440 50,020 42,260 35,210 43,940 34,930 27,390 36,490  3 ,000 11,700 9,680 6,270 6,600 3,200 5,550  5 ,470 7,400 7,820 6,400 6,620 3,800 1,180 1,650  5 ,770 3,160 4,600 1,890 2,410 3,800 1,180 1,650  5 ,770 13,20 10,710 7,080 10,410 8,600 3,960 5,900 1,180 1,650  5 ,900 11,390 10,710 7,080 10,400 8,150 8,600 3,960 1,720  5 ,270 15,20 10,710 7,080 10,770 1,250 2,950 1,720 2,960  5 ,500 11,220 1,100 1,420 1,030 1,040 1,030 1,1720 3,980 1,000  5 ,500 11,220 1,040 1,030 1,030 1,000 1,250 1,000 1,250 1,000  5 ,500 1,040 1,030 1,040 1,050 1,100 1,050 1,000					Tho	ŀ				
a	Waine	41,440	50,020	42,260	35,210	43,940	34,930	100	36,490	25,500
a         7,060         8,000         9,120         4,390         5,400         6,850         1,880         3,170           .         6,470         7,400         7,820         6,480         6,400         6,620         3,800         1,650           .         2,700         3,160         4,600         6,100         8,150         8,600         1,180         1,650           .         7,790         9,200         9,690         6,100         8,150         8,600         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,280         1,780         1,280         1,280         1,780         1,780         1,780         1,780         1,780         1,780         1,780         1,780         1,980         1,88	New York	000,6	11,700	089,6	6,270	8,640	009 69	3,200	5,530	5,350
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a         7,790         9,200         9,690         6,100         8,150         8,060         3,960         5,900           a         8,900         11,390         10,710         7,080         10,410         8,000         4,600         7,230           a         4,240         4,240         1,100         1,100         1,100         1,720         1,720         270           1,340         1,220         1,430         1,180         1,070         1,250         870         870         790           1,340         1,220         1,430         1,180         1,070         1,250         1,720         9,980         1           1,090         1,040         1,030         13,260         19,800         11,720         9,980         1           6,660         7,370         7,980         4,820         5,470         6,000         2,800         4,000           1,090         1,420         1,670         1,560         1,380         2,860         800         840           1,190         1,780         3,510         1,550         3,760         3,900         1,700         1,900           1,225         1,780         4,720         1,960         2,200	Wisconsin	2,700	3,160	4,600	1,890	2,410	3,800	1,180	1,650	2,600
a 8,900 11,390 10,710 7,080 10,410 8,500 4,600 7,290 and 980 540 11,000 810 480 970 380 270 370 and 980 540 1,000 1,000 1,250 1,720 1,250 1,720 1,220 1,430 1,040 1,070 1,250 10,980 11,720 1,090 1,040 1,030 920 800 680 680 680 690 690 1,090 1,040 1,030 1,040 1,050 1,720 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,370 1,380 1,040 1,050 1,050 1,780 1,090 1,090 1,090 1,780 1,090	Minnesota	7,790	9,200	069,6	6,100	8,150	8,060	3,960	2,900	5,600
a 980	North Dakota	8,900	11,390		7,080	10,410	•	4,600	7,290	6,400
4,240         4,200         5,830         3,360         2,950         4,230         2,050         1,720           1,340         1,220         1,430         1,180         1,070         1,250         870         790           1,340         1,220         1,430         1,180         1,260         13,260         19,800         11,720         9,980           1,190         1,040         1,030         920         800         680         660         4,000           1,190         1,420         1,040         1,560         1,370         610         750           1,190         1,420         1,670         1,50         2,20         200         90         150           1,190         1,420         1,560         1,380         2,860         800         840         150           1,250         1,780         3,310         1,560         1,380         2,860         1,000 <td>South Dakota</td> <td>086</td> <td>540</td> <td>1,100</td> <td>810</td> <td>480</td> <td>970</td> <td>380</td> <td>270</td> <td>580</td>	South Dakota	086	540	1,100	810	480	970	380	270	580
1,340 1,220 1,430 1,180 1,070 1,250 870 790 1  20,720 16,600 25,820 15,600 13,260 19,800 11,720 9,980 10,040 1,040 1,030 4,000 680 680 680 680 4,000 10,030 1,420 1,040 1,030 1,170 1,370 610 1,370 610 1,370 1,370 1,000 150 1,000 1,370 1,370 1,000 150 1,000 1,	Nebraska	4,240	4,200	5,830	3,360	2,950	4,230	2,050	1,720	2,650
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Montana	1,340	1,220	1,430	1,180	1,070	1,250	870	790	0 <b>2</b> 6
1,090 1,040 1,030 920 800 680 520 500 500 1,040 1,030 1,040 1,030 4,820 5,470 6,000 2,800 4,000 1,000 1,100 1,420 1,670 1,030 1,170 1,370 610 750 150 150 1,80 1,100 1,420 1,720 1,50 1,380 2,860 800 840 1,50 1,720 1,050 1,050 1,720 2,800 1,720 2,800 1,720 1,960 2,800 1,720 2,800 1,050 1,050 1,960 2,200 1,960 1,960 1,050 1,960 1,	Idaho • • • •	20,720	16,600	25,820	15,600	13,260	19,800	•	•	14,100
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Wyoming	1,090	1,040	1,030	920	800	089	520	200	400
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Colorado	099 <b>°</b> 9	7,370	7,980	4,820	5,470	000 6 9	2,800	4,000	4,400
180 250 260 150 220 200 90 150 250 2,860 800 840 840 840 840 840 840 840 840 84	Utah	1,190	1,420	1,670	1,030	1,170	•	610	750	006
2,250 1,780 3,310 1,550 1,380 2,860 800 840 3,940 4,600 5,200 3,050 3,750 3,900 1,720 2,800  (Late) 2,860 3,370 4,720 1,960 2,200 3,250 940 1,050  E	Nevada	180	250	260	150	220	200	06	150	140
(Late) $2,860$ $4,600$ $5,200$ $3,050$ $3,750$ $3,900$ $1,720$ $2,800$ $1,720$ $2,800$ $1,720$ $2,800$ $1,050$ $2,800$ $3,250$ $3,250$ $3,250$ $3,250$ $1,050$	Washington	2,250	1,780	3,310	1,550	1,380	2,860	800	840	1,700
(Late) 2,860 3,370 4,720 1,960 2,200 3,250 940 1,050 E	Oregon	3,940	4,600	5,200	3,050	3,750	3,900	~	2,800	3,000
E	$\smile_{\iota}$	2,860	3,370	4,720	1,960	2,200	3,250	940	1,050	1,660
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37 LATE TERMEDIATE  135,880 150,590 160,650 105,420 123,330 125,740 70,620 90,580	INTERMEDIATE.	800	720	006	400	430	200	160	200	210
135,880 150,590 160,650 105,420 123,330 125,740 70,620 90,580	TOTAL 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE			•						
	STATES	135,880	150,590	160,650	105,420	123,330	125,740	70,620	•	87,640