

TOTAL POTATO STOCKS
ON JANUARY 1, 1957

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

January 18, 1957

NOV 19 1957

HL
9235
P8
258

Total storage stocks held by growers and local dealers on January 1, 1957 amounted to 101.1 million hundredweight, according to the Crop Reporting Board of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. These holdings are 17 percent above the 86.8 million hundredweight held on January 1, 1956 and 11 percent larger than the 6-year average (1950-55) holding of 91.4 millions. This year's stocks are, however, 9 percent below the January 1 stocks from the crop of 1950 and 5 percent below those from the crop of 1949.

These estimates, like the December 1 estimates, are of total stocks and represent all potatoes in the hands of growers and local dealers in or near producing areas in the 26 fall producing States. They include quantities to be sold for table use, starch, other processing, feed for livestock, seed for succeeding crops, and to be used for feed, seed, and household use on farms where grown. The stocks figures also include potatoes that will be lost through shrinkage, decay and dumping after January 1. The total stocks figures shown in this report should not be confused with the "merchantable" stocks estimates published in previous years for January 1. Merchantable stocks were defined as potatoes on hand that were available for sale for all purposes. The level of the January 1 merchantable stocks estimates averaged about 16 percent less than the total stocks estimates for January 1 shown in this report.

Disappearance of storage potatoes during December 1956 was at an above-average rate despite the abnormally mild weather in most northern areas during the month. Estimated disappearance during December 1956 was 17.7 million hundredweight compared with 18.0 millions in December 1955 and the 1949-54 average of 15.5 millions. Disappearance from the 1956 crop of fall potatoes from time of harvest to January 1, 1957 was larger than in any of the last 8 seasons for the corresponding period, amounting to 64.9 million hundredweight compared with 61.6 million hundredweight in 1955 and the average of 58.8 millions for 1949-54. Disappearance covers sales for all purposes as well as quantities used to date on farms where grown and lost through shrinkage, decay and dumping.

Production of fall potatoes in 1956 amounted to 166.0 million hundredweight--12 percent above the 1955 crop and the largest crop since 1950 when 174.1 million hundredweight were produced.

The stocks estimates for January 1, 1957 were based largely on a comprehensive survey of growers and warehousemen in the 26 fall crop States. The

U. S. D E P A R T M E N T O F A G R I C U L T U R E

Agricultural Marketing Service

Crop Reporting Board

Pot 1-2 (1-57)

estimates of total January 1 stocks for the 7 preceding years were prepared by adjusting the January 1 merchantable stocks to the total basis. The total stocks estimates for the crops of 1949-55, shown in this report for comparison with current stocks, are believed to be reasonably accurate.

Potatoes: Production, January 1 total stocks, crops of 1949-1956 and December 1 total stocks, crops of 1955-1956 in the 26 fall States

Year	Production	Total Stocks	
		December 1	January 1 Following Year
	<u>1,000 cwt.</u>	<u>1,000 cwt.</u>	<u>1,000 cwt.</u>
1949	162,697	---	106,450
1950.....	174,111	---	111,640
1951.....	125,761	---	69,170
1952.....	141,108	---	81,240
1953.....	151,278	---	91,750
1954.....	146,095	---	88,160
1955.....	<u>1/</u> 148,383	104,810	86,760
1956.....	165,990	118,820	101,110

1/ Production includes 150,000 hundredweight not harvested or not marketed because of low prices.

Potatoes: Total stocks held by growers and local dealers on January 1
in the 26 fall States, crops of 1949-1956 1/

State	Jan. 1, 1950	Jan. 1, 1951	Jan. 1, 1952	Jan. 1, 1953	Jan. 1, 1954	Jan. 1, 1955	Jan. 1, 1956	Jan. 1, 1957
	Crop of 1949 2/	Crop of 1950 2/	Crop of 1951	Crop of 1952	Crop of 1953	Crop of 1954	Crop of 1955	Crop of 1956
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Maine.....	32,700	28,200	19,900	23,300	27,000	22,900	26,000	29,600
New Hampshire.....	440	410	270	290	290	240	260	230
Vermont.....	490	400	270	310	320	300	300	270
Massachusetts.....	650	470	260	300	410	450	300	450
Rhode Island.....	280	280	230	220	230	240	320	270
Connecticut.....	1,000	1,080	790	680	700	900	800	850
New York - L.I....	1,340	1,600	1,150	1,020	1,030	1,220	1,600	1,650
- Upstate	7,400	6,100	4,200	4,400	4,500	4,300	3,750	3,900
Pennsylvania.....	6,600	7,200	4,400	4,250	3,850	4,700	4,800	4,000
8 Eastern.....	50,900	45,740	31,470	34,770	38,330	35,250	38,130	41,220
Ohio.....	1,150	1,400	630	580	780	850	750	780
Indiana.....	520	760	400	370	420	440	300	340
Michigan.....	5,600	5,700	3,700	3,600	4,000	3,850	2,600	4,200
Wisconsin.....	2,950	3,600	2,300	2,750	3,100	2,750	2,600	2,400
Minnesota.....	6,500	6,750	4,450	4,700	4,850	6,750	4,900	6,700
Iowa.....	340	330	230	270	160	200	190	170
North Dakota.....	7,800	7,400	4,400	4,700	5,500	6,800	4,100	7,350
South Dakota.....	490	830	540	460	620	580	400	530
Nebraska.....	2,900	3,900	1,600	2,300	2,150	1,650	1,200	1,400
9 Central.....	28,250	30,670	18,250	19,730	21,580	23,870	17,040	23,870
Montana.....	1,050	1,150	740	800	860	900	1,050	1,030
Idaho.....	12,400	18,300	10,500	13,100	17,200	15,000	19,200	22,000
Wyoming.....	600	560	330	340	300	400	270	420
Colorado.....	5,900	5,400	3,200	5,600	5,600	5,300	4,000	4,500
Utah.....	1,070	1,130	600	960	880	880	670	800
Nevada.....	180	190	150	180	190	200	240	220
Washington.....	1,300	2,000	880	910	1,060	1,080	1,360	1,250
Oregon.....	3,200	4,100	2,000	3,000	3,400	3,400	3,300	3,500
California.....	1,600	2,400	1,050	1,850	2,350	1,880	1,500	2,300
9 Western.....	27,300	35,230	19,450	26,740	31,840	29,040	31,590	36,020
Total 26 fall States	106,450	111,640	69,170	81,240	91,750	88,160	86,760	101,110

- 1/ Total stocks consist of "production less total disappearance to date." Disappearance includes all sales for all purposes to date, all potatoes eaten or fed on farms where produced to date, and all losses to date through shrinkage, decay, dumping, etc.
- 2/ Stocks for Jan. 1, 1950-1951 inclusive, include potatoes which were removed by the Government from normal market channels under price support programs.