

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
CROP REPORTING BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 19, 1955

MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS
AS OF JANUARY 1, 1955
WITH COMPARISONS

HD
9235
P8
458

MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS 10.2 MILLION BUSHELS SMALLER THAN LAST YEAR

Stocks of merchantable potatoes held by growers and dealers on January 1, 1955 in or near producing areas are estimated at 118,168,000 bushels, according to the Crop Reporting Board. These holdings are 10.2 million bushels or 7.9 percent less than the 128,333,000 bushels on hand January 1, 1954.

These estimates of January 1 merchantable stocks include all potatoes available for sale at any price for table stock, seed, livestock feed, starch and other processing. Thus, cullouts sold and to be sold at very low prices to starch plants or for livestock feed are included in these stocks estimates. The stocks estimates do not include potatoes saved for food, seed and feed for livestock on farms where grown and expected losses for the entire season through shrinkage, decay and waste.

Compared with holdings on January 1, 1954, stocks this year are down 8.9 million bushels (15.2 percent) in the eastern late States, up 0.8 million bushels (3.7 percent) in the central late States, down 2.0 million bushels (4.2 percent) in the western late States and down nearly 0.2 million bushels in the intermediate States.

Although the 1954 production in the late and intermediate States was 11.4 million bushels smaller than that for 1953, the quantity sold and available for sale from the 1954 crop is 13.7 million bushels less than estimated sales from the 1953 crop. Quantities lost through shrinkage and cullage and fed to livestock are expected to be substantially larger than from the 1953 crop--28,192,000 bushels compared with 24,939,000 bushels from the 1953 crop. The quantity of the 1954 crop saved for food on farms where grown is estimated at 13,358,000 bushels compared with 14,195,000 bushels from the 1953 crop. This reduction reflects the continued decline in number of farms producing potatoes. Potatoes saved for seed on farms where produced are placed at 12,182,000 bushels this season compared with 12,221,000 bushels from the 1953 crop.

Sales prior to January 1 this year from the 1954 crop are estimated at 131,268,000 bushels compared with 134,832,000 bushels to the same date a year ago. Through December 31, 1954 rail and boat shipments of 1954-crop potatoes from the late and intermediate States totaled 45.5 million bushels or about 34.7 percent of estimated marketings from these States prior to January 1, 1955. Rail and boat movement from the 1953 crop through December 1953 accounted for 49.5 million bushels or 36.7 percent of total marketings prior to January 1, 1954.

In Maine sales of 1954-crop potatoes to starch factories are expected to be quite large chiefly because of poor quality and small size. Of the 8,016,000 bushels sold before January 1, 1955 from the Maine crop, 1,789,000 bushels or 22 percent went to starch factories. For the 1953 crop, sales to starch factories prior to January 1, 1954 were about 17 percent of total sales to that date.

1955 Acreage Intentions - Growers reported their planting intentions for this year, as well as their January 1 stocks. Based on past relationships between intended acreages reported and acreage actually planted, growers in the late and intermediate States are expected to plant 1,138,500 acres--4 percent less than the 1,183,500 acres planted in 1954. Decreases are indicated for all groups of States, viz., eastern late, down 5 percent; central late, down 5 percent; western late, down 2 percent; and intermediate, down 1 percent.

Agriculture-Washington, D. C.

POTATOES (IRISH): MERCHANTABLE STOCKS HELD BY GROWERS AND LOCAL DEALERS ON

JANUARY 1 IN THE 36 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES 1/

: 10-year average :

GROUP AND STATE : Jan. 1, 1944-1953 2/ : January 1, 1954 : January 1, 1955 3/

: Crops of 1943-52 : Crop of 1953 : Crop of 1954

LATE STATES:

Thousand bushels

Maine	39,077	42,900	33,500
New Hampshire	474	500	470
Vermont	415	280	270
Massachusetts	679	640	847
Rhode Island	388	330	410
Connecticut	1,680	1,250	1,540
New York - L.I.	2,292	1,580	1,150
New York - Upstate	6,592	5,900	5,200
Pennsylvania	7,269	5,000	6,000
West Virginia	128	60	160
9 Eastern	58,993	58,440	42,540
Ohio	1,257	950	900
Indiana	789	630	580
Illinois	42	10	10
Michigan	5,897	4,000	3,500
Wisconsin	2,958	3,800	3,050
Minnesota	7,423	5,800	7,500
Iowa	188	30	70
North Dakota	8,947	6,800	7,400
South Dakota	778	680	540
9 Central	28,188	22,700	23,550
Nebraska	4,168	2,950	2,500
Montana	1,177	1,250	1,310
Idaho	18,466	22,500	21,000
Wyoming	966	500	800
Colorado	6,377	7,200	5,800
New Mexico	28	5	5
Utah	1,206	1,500	1,510
Nevada	275	330	300
Washington	1,722	1,400	1,700
Oregon	3,897	4,550	4,700
California - Late	2,755	4,500	5,100
11 Western	41,036	46,685	44,725
29 Late States	128,218	127,825	117,815

INTERMEDIATE STATES:

New Jersey	271	300	200
Delaware	25	20	10
Maryland	108	35	40
Virginia	134	100	60
Kentucky	84	50	40
Missouri	40	2	1
Kansas	31	1	2
7 Intermediate States	694	508	353

36 LATE AND

INTERMEDIATE STATES 128,912 128,333 118,168

1/ Merchantable stocks consist of potatoes held by growers, local dealers and buyers on farms or near areas of production for sale or delivery after December 31 for food, seed, feed and processing. 2/ Note that the 10-year average figures ("Group" "All States") are the averages of the yearly totals, not the sum of group or State averages. 3/ Preliminary.

POTATOES (IRISH): PRODUCTION AND FARM DISPOSITION IN THE 36
LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES, CROP OF 1953 (REVISED)

GROUP AND STATE	: PRODUCTION :	FARM DISPOSITION					Percent				
		: stock,*shrink- : age, and loss : after harvest :	: For : Used for:		: Sold	: Quantity 1/ : of crop					
			: farm : seed on :	: household : farms : use : where : grown :							
LATE STATES:		Thousand bushels				Percent					
Maine	59,625	1,490	474	2,808	54,853	92					
New Hampshire	1,071	53	124	27	867	81					
Vermont	779	54	205	56	464	60					
Massachusetts	2,088	125	136	6	1,821	87					
Rhode Island	1,282	45	16	3	1,218	95					
Connecticut	2,688	148	90	7	2,443	91					
New York - L. I.	17,600	388	55	87	17,070	97					
New York - Upstate	13,260	1,418	858	628	10,356	78					
Pennsylvania	13,020	938	1,054	546	10,482	81					
West Virginia	1,330	113	918	84	215	16					
9 Eastern	112,743	4,772	3,930	4,252	92,789	88.5					
Ohio	4,800	360	693	104	3,643	76					
Indiana	3,062	239	352	34	2,437	80					
Illinois	412	33	250	14	115	28					
Michigan	10,730	1,363	1,140	710	7,517	70					
Wisconsin	14,335	1,276	1,395	627	11,037	77					
Minnesota	12,480	1,497	1,152	789	9,042	72					
Iowa	630	44	308	31	247	39					
North Dakota	17,340	2,063	672	1,184	13,421	77					
South Dakota	1,875	197	348	117	1,213	65					
2 Central	55,664	7,072	6,310	3,610	48,672	74.1					
Nebraska	5,852	702	336	186	4,628	79					
Montana	2,258	373	149	114	1,622	72					
Idaho	46,500	4,186	240	1,639	40,435	87					
Wyoming	1,403	182	27	89	1,105	79					
Colorado	19,095	2,864	122	1,043	15,066	79					
New Mexico	75	6	9	2	58	77					
Utah	3,430	600	109	128	2,593	76					
Nevada	544	65	20	24	435	80					
Washington	10,800	810	187	82	9,721	90					
Oregon	12,675	1,508	172	499	10,496	83					
California - Late	15,840	950	58	322	14,510	92					
11 Western	118,472	12,246	1,429	4,128	100,669	85.0					
29 Late States	296,879	24,090	11,669	11,990	249,130	83.9					
INTERMEDIATE STATES:											
New Jersey	6,519	378	52	58	6,031	93					
Delaware	1,657	108	54	22	1,473	89					
Maryland	871	31	188	26	626	72					
Virginia	6,300	208	595	59	5,438	86					
Kentucky	1,479	81	980	55	363	25					
Missouri	682	31	567	8	76	11					
Kansas	133	12	90	3	28	21					
7 Intermediate States	17,641	849	2,526	231	14,035	79.6					
36 Late & Intermediate	14,520	24,939	14,195	12,221	263,165	83.7					
1/ Consists of potatoes sold for all purposes, including food, seed, processing and livestock feed. *On farms where grown.											

POTATOES (IRISH): PRODUCTION AND FARM DISPOSITION IN THE 36 LATE
AND INTERMEDIATE STATES, CROP OF 1954 (PRELIMINARY)

GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION: stock,*shrink- age, and loss: after harvest	INDICATED FARM DISPOSITION					Quantity grown	1/ of crop
		Fed and to be fed to live-		Used and saved for:		Saved		
		: stock,*shrink- age, and loss:		: farm household: where				
		: after harvest		: use grown				
LATE STATES:		Thousand	bushels					Percent
Maine	49 725	4,475	444	3,290	41,516	83		
New Hampshire	988	79	102	21	786	80		
Vermont	720	47	177	37	459	64		
Massachusetts	2,100	147	113	6	1,834	87		
Rhode Island	1,148	57	14	3	1,074	94		
Connecticut	3,140	204	78	7	2,851	91		
New York - L. I.	18,615	559	50	49	17,957	96		
New York - Upstate	12,320	1,417	704	515	9,684	79		
Pennsylvania	14,210	1,179	900	363	11,768	83		
West Virginia	1,680	134	1,020	84	442	26		
9 Eastern	104,646	8,298	3,602	4,375	88,371	84.4		
Ohio	5,750	316	638	65	4,731	82		
Indiana	3,438	148	441	352	2,497	73		
Illinois	360	29	200	11	120	33		
Michigan	9,555	1,386	960	672	6,537	68		
Wisconsin	11,610	1,567	1,044	533	8,466	73		
Minnesota	16,000	2,000	1,134	702	12,164	76		
Iowa	600	39	247	18	296	49		
North Dakota	18,620	2,793	575	1,235	14,017	75		
South Dakota	1,680	176	325	111	1,068	64		
9 Central	67,613	8,454	5,564	3,699	49,896	73.8		
Nebraska	4,830	411	342	183	3,894	81		
Montana	2,401	367	139	130	1,765	74		
Idaho	42,075	2,735	207	1,493	37,640	89		
Wyoming	1,680	227	26	69	1,358	81		
Colorado	17,280	2,678	116	976	13,510	78		
New Mexico	78	4	9	2	63	81		
Utah	3,380	406	96	126	2,752	81		
Nevada	510	51	18	22	419	82		
Washington	13,200	1,518	187	82	11,413	86		
Oregon	13,200	1,492	146	494	11,068	84		
California - Late	16,560	911	58	304	15,287	92		
11 Western	115,194	10,800	1,344	3,881	99,169	86.1		
29 Late States	287,453	27,552	10,510	11,955	237,436	82.6		
INTERMEDIATE STATES:								
New Jersey	2/ 5,784	139	46	59	5,540	96		
Delaware	1,591	80	48	24	1,439	90		
Maryland	767	34	158	23	552	72		
Virginia	4,789	202	612	64	3,911	82		
Kentucky	1,445	94	1,078	39	234	16		
Missouri	1,080	60	770	13	237	22		
Kansas	259	31	136	5	87	34		
7 Intermediate States	15,715	640	2,848	227	12,000	76.4		
36 Late & Intermediate	303,168	28,192	13,358	12,182	249,436	82.3		
1/ Consists of potatoes sold and available for sale for all purposes, including food, seed, processing and livestock feed. 2/ Includes an estimated 4,000 bushels of early commercial crop not marketed. *On farms where grown.								