

potato stocks



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POTATO STOCKS UP 30 PERCENT

Stocks of potatoes for all uses held in storage by growers, local dealers and processors in the fall production areas totaled 72.7 million cwt. on April 1, 1975, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This was 16.8 million cwt. (30 percent) more than the 55.9 million cwt. on hand April 1, a year ago and 25 percent more than April 1, 1973 U.S. potato stocks.

In the eight Eastern States, April 1, 1975 supplies totaled 15.0 million cwt., 42 percent or 4.4 million cwt. above the 10.6 million on hand a year earlier. Maine stocks of 13.0 million cwt. are up 40 percent from the 9.3 million on hand a year earlier and are 14 percent above April 1, 1973 stocks.

Current stocks of 10.7 million cwt. in the eight Central States were up 41 percent from the April 1, 1974 stocks of 7.6 million cwt. Combined stocks in North Dakota and Minnesota at 8.0 million cwt., are up 45 percent from year earlier levels.

For the eight Western States April 1, 1975 stocks totaled 47.0 million cwt. 26 percent more than the 37.3 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. Idaho stocks at 30.3 million cwt. were 4.3 million cwt. above last year and Washington stocks at 8.9 million cwt. were 3.4 million cwt. more than a year ago.

Total disappearance to April 1, 1975 totaled 211.8 million cwt. (excluding Nevada), 7 percent more than the 198.0 million cwt. moved during the comparable period a year earlier.

The accumulated quantity of potatoes processed in seven major States to April 1, 1975 from the 1974 crop totaled 78.1 million cwt., 2 percent below the 79.6 million cwt. processed for the comparable period a year earlier.

NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes generally account for about 90 percent of the total fall production with losses due to shrink accounting for most of the remaining 10 percent. Although storage losses are above average this season due to lower quality of potatoes entering storage in some areas, no attempt is made at this date to estimate potential losses to current storage stocks.

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION, DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, AND APRIL 1 TOTAL STOCKS, CROPS OF 1964-74 IN THE FALL STATES

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	TOTAL STOCKS				
		DEC 1	FOLLOWING YEAR			
			JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1
		1,000 CWT.				
1964	174,491	114,550	94,205	73,120	54,535	
1965	216,749	147,780	124,170	98,670	74,905	
1966	228,442	153,550	128,050	103,630	79,632	
1967	231,656	161,500	139,170	112,640	86,405	
1968	221,906	152,810	130,350	104,995	81,940	
1969	239,460	162,800	138,140	111,510	87,620	
1970	253,525	175,145	150,030	122,830	96,780	
1971 1/	266,686	176,340	151,400	124,370	98,480	
1972	248,841	158,440	134,320	107,165	83,305	2/58,185
1973 3/	253,866	157,802	133,585	106,600	81,150	55,865
1974	287,710	187,385	161,725	130,740	102,255	72,695

1/ BEGINNING WITH 1971, LATE SUMMER PRODUCTION FOR N Y-L I, WIS, AND WASH HAS BEEN CLASSIFIED AS FALL.
2/ APRIL 1 STOCKS EFFECTIVE WITH 1972 CROP YEAR.
3/ REVISED AUGUST 1974 POT 6 (74).

TABLE 2. POTATOES: USED FOR PROCESSING 1/, SEVEN STATES, 1973 AND 1974 CROPS

STATE AND AREA	FROM 1973 CROP		FROM 1974 CROP
	TO APR 1 1974	ENTIRE SEASON	TO APR 1 1975
1,000 CWT.			
IDAHO AND MALHEUR CO.,			
OREG	40,063	55,506	38,205
MAINE	6,439	7,288	7,116
WASHINGTON			
AND OTHER			
OREGON AREAS	24,609	30,140	24,472
OTHER STATES 2/	8,445	9,937	8,304
SEVEN STATE			
TOTAL	79,556	102,871	78,097

1/ TOTAL QUANTITY RECEIVED AND USED FOR PROCESSING REGARDLESS OF THE STATE OR SEASON IN WHICH THE POTATOES WERE PRODUCED. DOES NOT INCLUDE QUANTITIES USED FOR POTATO CHIPS IN MAINE AND MICHIGAN.
2/ MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA AND NORTH DAKOTA.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES
HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS, AND LOCAL DEALERS ON
APRIL 1, 1974 AND APRIL 1, 1975 1/

STATE	CROP OF 1973		CROP OF 1974	
	PRODUCTION	STOCKS	PRODUCTION	STOCKS
		APR 1, 1974		APR 1, 1975
				1,000 CWT
CALIF	6,253	820	6,324	1,250
COLO	8,235	1,700	8,840	1,950
CONN	572	3/	598	3/
IDAHO	78,965	26,000	80,045	30,300
IND	1,238	3/	1,272	3/
MAINE	28,770	9,300	36,400	13,000
MASS	592	3/	800	3/
MICH	7,520	900	8,330	1,300
MINN	13,120	2,300	15,300	3,200
MONT	1,462	800	1,750	800
NEBR	1,012	200	1,152	225
NEV	--	--	3,188	2/
N H	102	3/	144	3/
N Y - LONG ISLAND	5,375	200	6,750	230
- UPSTATE	6,670	600	7,236	800
N DAK	19,140	3,200	22,950	4,750
OHIO	1,800	100	1,995	100
OREG	15,929	2,445	17,482	3,375
PA	6,300	500	7,360	880
R I	796	3/	1,034	3/
S DAK	770	3/	371	3/
UTAH	1,100	3/	1,481	130
VT	150	3/	220	3/
WASH	35,260	5,500	41,160	8,900
WIS	11,515	900	14,000	950
WYO	1,220	3/	1,528	260
OTHER STATES	--	400	--	295
TOTAL 25 FALL STATES	253,866	55,865	287,710	72,695

1/ TOTAL STOCKS CONSIST OF PRODUCTION LESS TOTAL DISAPPEARANCE TO DATE.

2/ NOT PUBLISHED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

3/ STOCKS INCLUDED IN OTHER STATES.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY SURVEY
MINNESOTA AND NORTH DAKOTA (RED RIVER VALLEY)

Quality information contained in this report is based on a potato stocks survey conducted by the Statistical Reporting Service in the Red River Valley. There were 175 samples selected on a random basis that were placed in storage at the time of harvest. A final report will be issued following recovery of all remaining samples in storage.

Samples for all varieties removed from storage before April 1, 1975 continue to average fewer U.S. No. 1 (including B's) than a year earlier. The total decline in quality of Red and Russet varieties has been greater than for potatoes moved during the comparable time a year earlier. Red varieties taken from bins before April 1 contained 6 percent fewer No. 1's after storage than when they were harvested. This compares to a decline of 5 percentage points during the comparable period in 1973-74. The decline in Russet varieties was more pronounced, as 22 percent fewer potatoes met the No. 1 standard after storage this year compared to a one percent decline for this period a year ago. White varieties declined 4 percent compared to 7 percent for the comparable period a year earlier.

Culls for all varieties remain sharply above year-ago levels. Reds contain 7 percent more culls after storage than when they were harvested. Whites contain 8 percent more and Russets 31 percent more culls as a result of deterioration while in storage. Comparable percentage point increases in culls for the 1973-74 storage season up to April 1 were as follows; Reds, 2; Whites, 6; Russets, 2.

Deterioration and physiological changes in potatoes while in storage now account for a four to six percent overall weight loss. Averages for potatoes shipped to April 1, 1974 are also shown for the 1973 crop. Thus, comparisons relating to change in grade from April to the end of the storage season can be made for the 1973 crop. In interpreting current survey indications consideration should be given to further changes that may occur in average grade and weight loss from April 1 to the end of the storage season.

POTATO STOCKS QUALITY, RED RIVER VALLEY, 1974-75
AVERAGE GRADE OF POTATOES SHIPPED 1/

VARIETAL TYPE	NO. 1		NO. 2		CULLS		NO. 1	WEIGHT LOSS
	INCLUDING B'S						B'S	
	AT	AFTER	AT	AFTER	AT	AFTER	2/	
	HARVEST	STORAGE	HARVEST	STORAGE	HARVEST	STORAGE		
	-----PERCENT-----							
	SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE APRIL 1, 1975							
RED	89	75	7	14	4	11	2	4
WHITE	72	68	14	10	14	22	1	6
RUSSET	71	49	17	8	12	43	3	5
	SAMPLES RECOVERED BEFORE APRIL 1, 1974							
RED	93	88	4	7	3	5	4	2
WHITE	82	75	10	11	8	14	2	5
RUSSET	83	82	10	9	7	9	8	3
	ALL SAMPLES 1973-74 STORAGE SEASON - FINAL							
RED	93	88	4	6	3	6	4	2
WHITE	83	76	9	11	8	13	3	3
RUSSET	83	83	10	8	7	9	9	2

1/ MATCHED SAMPLES QUALITY AT HARVEST COMPARED WITH QUALITY AFTER STORAGE.

2/ NO. 1 B'S ARE POTATOES THAT MEET THE U.S. NO. 1 GRADE BUT DID NOT MEET MINIMUM SIZE STANDARDS FOR THE AREA; RED AND WHITE VARIETIES 1 1/2 - 2 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND RUSSET VARIETIES UNDER 2 INCHES IN DIAMETER OR WEIGHT LESS THAN 4 OUNCES.