

POTATOES & SWEETPOTATOES

Released: May 13, 1983
3:00 P.M. ET



Statistical Reporting
Service

U.S. Department
of Agriculture

Washington, D.C.
20250

ESTIMATED POTATO STOCKS

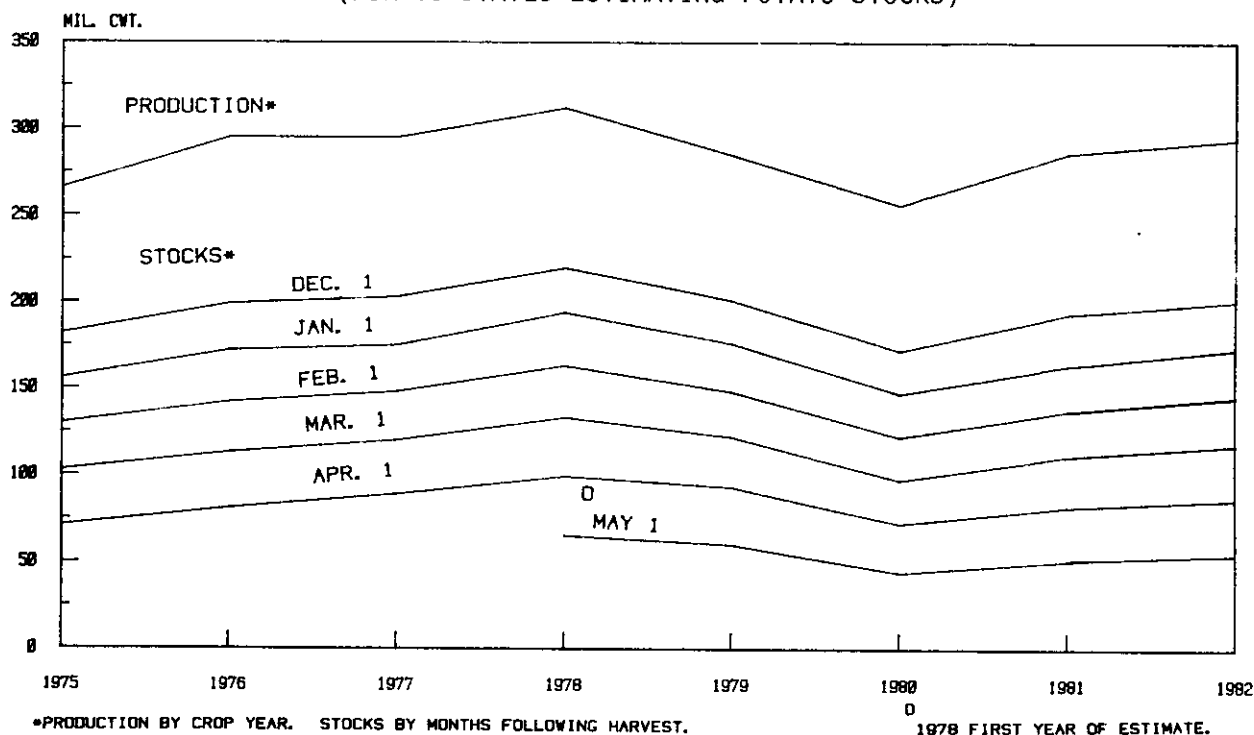
POTATO STOCKS UP 4 PERCENT

May 1, 1983 potato stocks are estimated at 52.9 million cwt (2.40 million metric tons) for the 15 major fall producing States. This is up 4 percent from last May 1 and 19 percent above two years ago. The May 1 stocks accounted for 18 percent of production in these 15 States, the same percentage as a year ago.

In the three Eastern States, estimated holdings totaled 5.5 million cwt, 4 percent less than a year ago but 6 percent above two years ago. Maine storage dropped to 4.5 million cwt, 12 percent short of last May and 6 percent below two years ago. New York stocks are up 6 percent from last year while Pennsylvania holdings are more than doubled, but stocks in both States are small.

(Comments continued on page 4)

FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (FOR 15 STATES ESTIMATING POTATO STOCKS)



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. Shrinkage and loss and home use account for the remaining 10 percent.

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, APRIL 1, AND MAY 1 TOTAL STOCKS, AND COMPARABLE PRODUCTION FOR 15 STATES ESTIMATING POTATO STOCKS

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION	DEC 1	JAN 1	FEB 1	MAR 1	APR 1	MAY 1
1,000 CWT							
1972	242,390	155,190	132,050	105,690	82,510	57,860	
1973	247,686	154,890	131,600	105,360	80,460	55,465	
1974	278,679	183,850	160,100	131,480	102,963	75,217	
1975	266,422	181,720	156,220	129,710	102,850	70,970	
1976	294,978	198,630	172,230	142,030	112,830	81,130	
1977	295,421	202,550	175,300	147,930	119,850	88,680	
1978	311,981	219,850	193,520	162,980	132,570	99,250	64,830
1979	285,060	200,820	176,020	147,910	121,720	92,550	59,535
1980	255,691	171,730	146,610	121,565	97,280	72,460	44,446
1981	286,245	192,810	163,180	137,120	111,280	81,870	50,660
1982	294,082	201,775	173,500	144,950	116,500	84,845	52,904

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING 1/, EIGHT STATES, 1981 AND 1982 CROPS

STATE	STORAGE: SEASON	TO DEC 1	TO JAN 1	TO FEB 1	TO MAR 1	TO APR 1	TO MAY 1	ENTIRE SEASON
IDAHO & MALHEUR CO., OREG	1981-82	16,720	21,450	26,000	31,205	36,840	42,270	56,585
	1982-83	14,330	18,645	23,395	28,535	34,480	39,715	
MAINE 2/	1981-82	2,145	2,715	3,450	4,135	5,195	5,975	7,325
	1982-83	2,075	2,800	3,675	4,430	5,315	6,195	
WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG	1981-82	17,730	21,255	24,940	29,175	33,855	38,095	47,325
	1982-83	16,840	20,130	23,685	27,870	32,100	36,365	
OTHER STATES 3/	1981-82	5,088	6,329	7,743	9,385	11,111	12,750	15,769
	1982-83	5,651	7,135	8,625	10,220	12,170	13,820	
TOTAL	1981-82	41,683	51,749	62,133	73,900	87,001	99,090	127,004
	1982-83	38,896	48,710	59,380	71,055	84,065	96,095	

1/ TOTAL QUANTITY RECEIVED AND USED FOR PROCESSING REGARDLESS OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE POTATOES WERE PRODUCED. DOES NOT INCLUDE QUANTITIES USED FOR POTATO CHIPS IN MAINE, MICH, MINN, N DAK OR WIS.

2/ INCLUDES MAINE GROWN POTATOES ONLY. 3/ MICH, MINN, N DAK AND WIS.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS, AND LOCAL DEALERS ON MAY 1, 1982 AND MAY 1, 1983

STATE	CROP OF 1981			CROP OF 1982		
	: MAY 1 STOCKS:			: MAY 1 STOCKS:		
	: PRODUC-	: TOTAL STOCKS:	: AS % OF	: PRODUC-	: TOTAL STOCKS:	: AS % OF
	: TION	: MAY 1, 1982	: PRODUCTION	: TION	: MAY 1, 1983	: PRODUCTION
		1,000 CWT	PERCENT		1,000 CWT	PERCENT
CALIF	: 6,919	1,000	14	7,585	1,100	15
COLO	: 11,600	1,900	16	12,600	2,050	16
IDAHO	: 84,540	23,500	28	89,890	23,000	26
MAINE	: 26,520	5,100	19	26,500	4,500	27
MICH	: 7,050	700	10	8,085	1,200	15
MINN	: 13,300	1,900	14	11,520	1,700	15
MONT	: 1,739	30	2	1,924	200	10
NEBR	: 2,252	200	9	2,147	230	11
N Y	:					
L I	: 5,365	30	1	4,995	124	2
UPSTATE	: 6,875	300	4	7,020	225	3
N DAK	: 20,125	1,900	9	17,250	2,600	15
OHIO	: 1,890	-	-	2,328	1/	-
OREG	: 21,710	4,000	18	21,105	4,600	22
PA	: 5,250	330	6	5,758	695	12
WASH	: 52,920	8,300	16	52,800	8,600	16
WIS	: 18,190	1,470	8	22,575	2,080	9
15 STATE	:					
TOTAL	: 286,245	50,660	18	294,082	52,904	18

1/ OHIO COMBINED WITH LONG ISLAND TO PREVENT POSSIBLE DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the May 1, 1983 potato stocks estimate is 8.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 52.9 million hundredweight will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 8.0 percent or approximately 4.23 million hundredweight. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 13.9 percent or approximately 7.35 million hundredweight.

During the past 4 years, the difference between the May 1 preliminary and final estimate averaged 4.20 million hundredweight. The largest deviation was 4.60 and the smallest was 3.62 million hundredweight. The preliminary May 1 estimate was below the final estimate 3 out of the past 4 years.

(Continued from page 1)

Stocks in the six Central States totaled 7.8 million cwt, 27 percent greater than a year ago and double the amount on hand two years ago. Wisconsin stocks at 2.1 million cwt are up 41 percent; Michigan holdings at 1.2 million cwt are up 71 percent. Minnesota potato stocks at 1.7 million cwt are down 11 percent from last year; and North Dakota stocks of 2.6 million cwt are up 37 percent.

The six Western States held an estimated 39.6 million cwt of potatoes on May 1, 1983, 2 percent more than a year ago and 12 percent more than two years ago. Idaho storages, accounting for over two-fifths of the national total, held 23.0 million cwt of potatoes, down 2 percent from a year earlier. The removal of frost damaged potatoes from cellars continued last month. Substantial quantities of potatoes were dumped or sent to feedlots. Farmers indicate that over 2 percent of the potatoes remaining in storage on May 1 may not be marketable due to frost damage. Washington stocks of 8.6 million cwt are up 4 percent; while Oregon holdings of 4.6 million cwt are up 15 percent from last year. Colorado stocks are up 8 percent; while California has 10 percent more potatoes stored than last May.

Disappearance to May 1, 1983 in the 15 major fall States totaled 241 million cwt, 2 percent above the same period a year ago. This includes 30.1 million cwt of potatoes dumped during grading, fed to livestock on potato farms, discarded without grading and lost to shrinkage (moisture loss) compared with 25.4 million cwt a year earlier. Disappearance for the month of April totaled 31.9 million cwt compared with 31.2 million cwt for April 1982.

Potatoes processed to May 1, 1983 in eight major processing States totaled 96.1 million cwt, 3 percent less than in the same period a year earlier. Processing during April totaled 12.0 million cwt compared with 12.1 million cwt for April 1982.

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