



# Commercial Truck Crops

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.



March 9, 1944

## COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATO ACREAGE IN 1944

INDICATED TO BE INCREASED 6 PERCENT OVER 1943

Present prospects are that 1944 plantings of commercial early Irish potatoes will total 396,700 acres, exceeding last year's harvested acreage by about 6 percent and the 10-year (1933-42) average by about 26 percent.

In the winter sections of Texas and south Florida, acreage was increased from 12,500 acres in 1943 to 15,500 this year with both States showing significant increases. In the early spring sections of north Florida and the Texas Lower Valley the preliminary estimate of acreage for harvest is the same as the 1943 harvested acreage - 26,100 acres - but is about 10 percent above the 10-year average.

Revised estimates of intended acreage in the late spring areas of California, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Texas other, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina, based on information received after the February 9 release, show prospective plantings of 218,000 acres for 1944 compared with 207,700 harvested in 1943 and the 10-year (1933-42) average of 147,660 acres. This seasonal group, from which shipments are most active in May and June, shows the largest increase of any group over 1943, with particularly heavy increases in California and Alabama. More moderate increases are indicated for Louisiana and Mississippi. Decreases compared with last year are shown for south Georgia, South Carolina, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and North Carolina.

No change from the February 9 report is indicated for the summer States of Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Texas Panhandle, north Georgia, and New Jersey. The intended acreage, 137,100, exceeds the 1943 harvested acreage by 2,000 and the 10-year average by 5,250 acres.

Should yields in each producing area this year approximate the 5-year (1939-1943) averages, total production of commercial early Irish potatoes on the indicated acreage for 1944 would total 63,367,000 bushels. A crop of this size would exceed 1943 production by nearly 1,600,000 bushels and the 10-year (1933-42) average by about 17,500,000 bushels. An increase over last year of approximately 2,000,000 bushels would be obtained in the late spring States, and about 400,000 more in the early spring States. These increases are partially offset by decreases of about 200,000 bushels in the winter group and 666,000 bushels in the summer States.

EARLY IRISH POTATOES, Cont'd.

CROP AND STATE	ACREAGE			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	10-year average 1933-42	1943	Prelim. 1944	10-yr av. 33-42	1943	Ind. 1944	10-year average 1933-42	1943	Indicated 1944
	- Acres -			- Bushel -			- 1,000 bushels -		
<b>Winter:</b>									
Texas .....	2,570	1,000	1,500	44	65	63	110	65	94
Florida, South	9,290	11,500	14,000	128	140	100	1,203	1,610	1,400
Group total.	11,860	12,500	15,500	111	134	96	1,313	1,675	1,494
<b>Early Spring:</b>									
Florida, North	16,370	15,100	15,300	128	121		2,101	1,832	April
Hastings ..	13,830	12,000	12,500	132	125		1,795	1,500	
LaCrosse ..	1,720	2,200	1,800	122	100		209	220	
West .....	820	900	1,000	118	125		97	112	
Texas, Lower Vy.	7,300	11,000	10,800	89	90		641	990	
Group total	23,670	26,100	26,100	116	108		2,742	2,322	
<b>Late Spring:</b>			Intended						
California .	27,100	47,000	61,000	286	350		7,944	16,450	May 9
Louisiana ..	23,400	30,000	33,000	74	75		1,719	2,250	
Mississippi .	2,990	5,700	6,500	90	80		262	456	
Alabama.....	19,500	20,000	30,000	127	140		2,431	2,800	
Georgia .....	2,480	4,000	3,400	126	85		293	340	
S. Carolina.	12,580	17,500	16,500	146	125		1,834	2,188	
Texas, other	10,290	9,400	9,000	58	70		595	658	
Eagle Lake									
Sugarland.									
& Wharton .	4,420	1,000	1,000	55	70		237	70	
Other Counties	5,870	8,400	8,000	61	70		358	588	
Oklahoma ...	6,310	7,500	7,500	98	70		605	525	
Arkansas ...	4,790	13,500	10,100	88	87		417	1,174	
Tennessee ..	3,630	6,100	5,800	106	106		389	647	
N. Carolina.	34,590	40,000	35,200	137	165		4,743	6,500	
Group total	147,660	200,700	218,000	144	170		21,232	34,088	
<b>Summer:</b>									
Virginia ...	48,650	37,900	36,000	141	170		6,868	6,442	June 9
Norfolk Dist.	9,530	8,700	7,700	149	180		1,428	1,566	
Eastern Shore	36,990	27,700	27,200	138	168		5,180	4,654	
Other .....	2,130	1,500	1,100	120	148		260	222	
Maryland ...	6,120	6,000	5,400	142	110		874	560	
Kentucky ...	5,190	4,500	4,500	109	125		534	562	
Missouri ...	5,870	3,600	5,000	142	165		816	594	
Kansas .....	10,700	6,500	8,200	128	150		1,319	975	
Nebraska ...	3,280	6,600	6,600	227	260		750	1,716	
Texas, Panhandle	1/6,000	8,000	7,400	1/200	225		1/1,174	1,800	
Georgia, North	1/1,350	2,000	2,000	1/111	118		1/151	236	
New Jersey .	44,690	60,000	62,000	179	170		8,036	10,200	
Group total	131,850	135,100	137,100	156	172		20,522	23,185	
<b>TOTAL ALL STATES</b>	<b>315,040</b>	<b>374,400</b>	<b>396,700</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>165</b>		<b>45,809</b>	<b>61,770</b>	

1/ Short-time average.