

January 21, 1946

MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS
AS OF JANUARY 1, 1946
WITH COMPARISONS

JANUARY 1 MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS
13.4 MILLION BUSHELS ABOVE AVERAGE

Stocks of merchantable potatoes held by growers and local dealers in or near areas of production on January 1, 1946 are estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture at 119,080,000 bushels. The revised estimate of stocks held January 1, 1945 is 103,880,000 bushels and the 10-year (1932-41) January 1 average is 105,686,000 bushels. Even though January 1, 1946 stocks are 13 percent larger than average, they are 11 percent smaller than the record stocks of 134,020,000 bushels held on January 1, 1944.

Merchantable stocks in the 18 surplus late States on January 1, 1946 are estimated at 112,310,000 bushels, compared with 98,000,000 bushels held January 1, 1945 and 126,410,000 bushels in these States on January 1, 1944. Stocks in the 12 "other late" States are indicated to be 5,900,000 bushels on January 1, 1946. Comparable stocks for January 1, 1945 and 1944 were 5,220,000 and 6,560,000 bushels, respectively. For the 7 intermediate States, January 1 stocks are 870,000, 660,000, and 1,050,000 bushels respectively for 1946, 1945 and 1944.

Of the 361,032,000 bushels of potatoes produced in the 37 late and intermediate States in 1945, 273,394,000 bushels -- 75.7 percent of production -- are estimated to be sold or held for sale. Sales from the 1944 crop amounted to 243,528,000 -- 74.8 percent of production. Only 72.1 percent of the 1943 record crop was sold but total sales were 287,516,000 bushels.

On the basis of January 1 indications, a total of 26,694,000 bushels, or 7.4 percent of production, will be fed to livestock or lost through shrinkage and waste after harvest. Estimated quantities fed to livestock and lost through shrinkage and waste from the crops of 1944 and 1943 are 7.1 and 10.2 percent of production, respectively. The estimate of potatoes from the 1945 crop used and saved for food on farms where grown in these 37 States is 41,396,000 bushels, compared with 38,934,000 bushels in 1944 and 48,854,000 bushels in 1943. Growers' own seed saved for planting in 1946 is estimated at 19,548,000 bushels, compared with 19,885,000 bushels used from the 1944 crop and 21,677,000 bushels from the crop of 1943.

For the 37 late and intermediate States, marketings of the 1945 crop prior to January 1, 1946 were 154,314,000 bushels. A total of 139,648,000 bushels were marketed to January 1, 1945 and 153,496,000 bushels were marketed to January 1, 1944. Shipments by rail and boat from these States to January 1, 1946 were 89,206,000 bushels, compared with rail and boat shipments of 82,094,000 and 86,306,000 bushels respectively to January 1, 1945 and 1944. Deducting rail and boat shipments from total marketings to January 1, shipments by motor truck and local sales apparently were 65,108,000 bushels from the 1945 crop, 57,554,000 bushels from the 1944 crop and 67,190,000 bushels from the crop of 1943. Fifty-eight percent of marketings prior to January 1, 1946 are accounted for in recorded rail and boat movement, while 59 and 56 percent of marketings prior to January 1, 1945 and January 1, 1944 respectively moved by rail and boat.

1946 Acreage Intentions: Growers' 1946 planting intentions were reported along with their January 1 stocks. It is a long time until plantings will be completed, and the January 1 intentions must be considered to be of a very preliminary nature. However, on the basis of the relationship between growers' January 1 intentions and acreages planted in past years, the January 1, 1946 "intentions" reports indicate that 1946 plantings in the 37 late and intermediate States will be about 2,254,300 acres -- a decrease of 5 percent from the 2,376,700 acres planted in these States in 1945. Reduced plantings are indicated for the 18 surplus late States, the 12 "other late" States and the 7 intermediate States with the indicated reductions amounting to 5, 7, and 4 percent respectively for the different groups of States.

POTATOES (IRISH): MERCHANTABLE STOCKS IN HANDS OF GROWERS AND LOCAL DEALERS ON JANUARY 1 IN 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES 1/

GROUP AND STATE	: 10-yr. average:	Jan. 1,				
	: Jan. 1, 1932-41:	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
	: Crops of	: Crop of	: Crop of	: Crop of	: Crop of	: Crop of
	: 1931-40	: 1941	: 1942	: 1943 2/	: 1944 3/	: 1945
SURPLUS LATE STATES:						
	Thousand bushels					
Maine	25,041	27,607	26,530	35,200	29,800	29,780
New York	9,269	9,146	7,680	8,600	7,100	5,500
Pennsylvania	7,184	6,822	5,200	6,300	6,350	4,800
Michigan	9,926	7,025	4,500	8,500	6,250	5,860
Wisconsin	6,160	3,577	1,600	4,260	2,060	2,990
Minnesota	7,250	4,748	5,500	8,590	4,600	8,300
North Dakota	3,530	5,800	6,200	10,300	7,550	10,900
South Dakota	267	225	520	960	600	800
Nebraska	2,926	3,300	5,400	4,800	3,050	5,500
Montana	523	439	600	820	900	600
Idaho	11,224	11,600	12,850	18,500	14,600	19,500
Wyoming	793	950	1,100	1,160	1,010	1,500
Colorado	4,886	5,000	6,810	6,500	6,300	6,700
Utah	581	540	960	1,300	990	1,410
Nevada	171	200	260	320	260	420
Washington	2,981	3,150	2,300	3,220	1,500	1,900
Oregon	3,087	3,046	2,800	4,500	3,100	3,750
California (Late)	2,202	3,177	2,700	2,580	1,980	2,100
18 SURPLUS LATE	98,001	96,352	93,510	126,410	98,000	112,310
OTHER LATE STATES:						
New Hampshire	469	300	350	520	400	380
Vermont	652	560	410	580	540	420
Massachusetts	443	495	550	600	540	450
Rhode Island	145	200	220	230	280	290
Connecticut	677	900	900	1,600	1,650	1,630
West Virginia	242	360	420	160	60	200
Ohio	2,018	1,983	1,320	1,250	850	1,100
Indiana	859	1,400	1,200	760	580	820
Illinois	225	231	180	90	50	110
Iowa	406	500	690	600	120	400
New Mexico	62	46	50	70	60	50
Arizona	44	61	50	100	90	50
12 OTHER LATE	6,242	7,036	6,340	6,560	5,220	5,900
30 LATE STATES	104,243	103,388	99,850	132,970	103,220	118,210
INTERMEDIATE STATES:						
New Jersey	501	200	190	280	250	250
Delaware	68	49	60	40	30	40
Maryland	209	140	140	140	130	160
Virginia	134	111	120	130	110	140
Kentucky	213	100	200	250	60	150
Missouri	196	200	150	90	40	70
Kansas	122	100	70	120	40	60
7 INTERMEDIATE	1,443	900	930	1,050	660	870
37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES	105,686	104,288	100,780	134,020	103,880	119,080

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. They include potatoes held for sale or delivery to starch factories and other processors.

2/ For the crop of 1943, stocks include quantities purchased after January 1, 1944 by the Government for starch, dehydration for livestock feed and manufacture of industrial alcohol, for feeding in the raw to livestock, etc.

3/ Revised.

POTATOES (IRISH): PRODUCTION AND FARM DISPOSITION IN THE 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES

CROP OF 1944

GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION 1/	FARM DISPOSITION				Balance of crop	
		Fed to live- stock, shrink- age, and loss- after harvest:	Used in farm household	Used for seed on farms where grown	Quantity 2/	Percent (Sold) of crop	
SURPLUS LATE STATES:		Thousand bushels					
Maine	52,260	2,613	884	1,987	46,776	90	
New York	26,445	1,719	3,224	1,330	20,172	76	
Pennsylvania	19,140	1,244	3,392	1,348	13,156	69	
Michigan	19,548	2,346	3,120	2,083	11,999	61	
Wisconsin	11,844	1,481	3,625	1,016	5,722	48	
Minnesota	15,334	1,687	3,472	1,836	8,339	54	
North Dakota	20,875	2,296	1,290	1,876	15,413	74	
South Dakota	2,550	243	624	300	1,383	54	
Nebraska	8,400	462	900	410	6,628	79	
Montana	2,520	277	362	182	1,699	67	
Idaho	39,100	2,346	360	2,277	34,117	87	
Wyoming	2,325	232	55	134	1,904	82	
Colorado	20,025	1,402	190	1,279	17,154	86	
Utah	2,765	166	124	124	2,351	85	
Nevada	578	52	29	27	470	81	
Washington	9,870	888	700	396	7,886	80	
Oregon	10,340	827	425	644	8,444	82	
California (Late)	11,310	452	68	360	10,430	92	
18 SURPLUS LATE	275,229	20,733	22,844	17,609	214,043	77.8	
OTHER LATE STATES:							
New Hampshire	1,064	70	264	33	697	66	
Vermont	1,656	116	510	108	922	56	
Massachusetts	3,120	124	358	60	2,578	83	
Rhode Island	1,235	44	44	12	1,135	92	
Connecticut	3,408	136	297	36	2,939	86	
West Virginia	2,040	143	1,500	231	166	8	
Ohio	5,810	348	1,995	435	3,032	52	
Indiana	3,115	155	1,476	233	1,251	40	
Illinois	1,800	108	1,335	87	270	15	
Iowa	2,470	185	1,666	187	432	17	
New Mexico	425	25	26	23	351	83	
Arizona	1,342	47	7	19	1,269	95	
12 OTHER LATE	27,485	1,501	9,478	1,464	15,042	54.7	
30 LATE STATES	302,714	22,234	32,322	19,073	229,085	75.7	
INTERMEDIATE STATES:							
New Jersey	8,804	141	210	193	8,260	94	
Delaware	273	18	121	22	112	41	
Maryland	1,824	92	538	113	1,081	59	
Virginia	5,976	269	1,854	228	3,625	61	
Kentucky	2,494	175	1,784	189	346	14	
Missouri	2,232	67	1,610	46	509	23	
Kansas	1,092	66	495	21	510	47	
7 INTERMEDIATE	22,695	828	6,612	812	14,443	63.6	
37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES	325,409	23,062	38,934	19,885	243,528	74.8	

1/ Production is for the total crop grown in each State except in California where only the late crop is shown.

2/ Consists of potatoes sold for food, seed, processing, etc.

POTATOES (IRISH): PRODUCTION AND FARM DISPOSITION IN THE 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES

CROP OF 1945

GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION: 1/	INDICATED FARM DISPOSITION				Balance of crop	
		Fed to live- stock, shrink- age, and loss after harvest	Used and saved for use in farm- household	Saved for seed on farms where grown	Saved for seed on farms where grown	Quantity 2/ of crop	Percent of crop
SURPLUS LATE STATES:		Thousand bushels					
Maine	52,785	2,112	884	1,910	47,879	91	
New York	28,970	1,450	2,914	1,323	23,283	80	
Pennsylvania	16,724	1,087	2,790	1,199	11,648	70	
Michigan	18,700	1,776	3,038	2,104	11,782	63	
Wisconsin	12,160	1,094	3,410	1,117	6,539	54	
Minnesota	19,360	1,936	3,465	1,602	12,357	64	
North Dakota	23,660	2,011	1,408	1,758	18,483	78	
South Dakota	2,912	292	675	362	1,583	54	
Nebraska	12,075	1,026	1,200	435	9,414	78	
Montana	2,016	242	414	152	1,208	60	
Idaho	44,220	5,307	480	2,363	36,070	82	
Wyoming	2,625	288	58	115	2,164	82	
Colorado	19,110	1,625	224	1,459	15,802	83	
Utah	3,366	269	126	165	2,806	83	
Nevada	780	70	36	43	631	81	
Washington	11,880	950	675	318	9,937	84	
Oregon	11,340	1,134	432	632	9,142	81	
California (Late)	13,920	557	73	360	12,930	93	
18 SURPLUS LATE	296,603	23,226	22,302	17,417	233,658	78.8	
OTHER LATE STATES:							
New Hampshire	986	60	240	28	658	67	
Vermont	1,375	124	493	76	682	50	
Massachusetts	2,788	126	342	42	2,278	82	
Rhode Island	1,296	38	46	12	1,200	93	
Connecticut	3,344	150	273	28	2,893	87	
West Virginia	2,880	230	1,776	202	672	23	
Ohio	7,130	499	2,125	345	4,161	58	
Indiana	3,915	274	1,628	240	1,773	45	
Illinois	2,604	208	1,743	101	552	21	
Iowa	3,960	356	2,232	262	1,110	28	
New Mexico	450	40	24	43	343	76	
Arizona	1,658	67	10	15	1,566	94	
12 OTHER LATE	32,386	2,172	10,932	1,394	17,888	55.2	
30 LATE STATES	328,989	25,398	33,234	18,811	251,546	76.5	
INTERMEDIATE STATES:							
New Jersey	12,567	377	245	139	11,806	94	
Delaware	333	30	120	22	161	48	
Maryland	2,108	126	556	106	1,320	63	
Virginia	8,568	257	2,000	172	6,139	72	
Kentucky	3,999	320	2,625	221	833	21	
Missouri	2,992	105	2,016	36	835	28	
Kansas	1,476	81	600	41	754	51	
7 INTERMEDIATE	32,043	1,296	8,162	737	21,848	68.2	
37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES	361,032	26,694	41,396	19,548	273,394	75.7	

1/ Production is for the total crop grown in each State except California where only the late crop is shown.

2/ Consists of potatoes sold and to be sold for food, seed, processing, and all purchases by the Government under support programs.