

January 25, 1944

MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS  
AS OF JANUARY 1, 1944  
WITH COMPARISONS

POTATO STOCKS A RECORD

Stocks of merchantable potatoes available for sale in the hands of growers and local buyers on January 1, 1944 were a record and 38 percent larger than a year earlier. The estimates of the Department of Agriculture show holdings this year of 138,000,000 bushels compared with 100,780,000 bushels on January 1, 1943 and the 10-year (1931-40) average of 103,601,000 bushels.

Stocks in the 18 surplus late States on January 1, 1944 were 130,770,000 bushels compared with 93,508,000 bushels on January 1, 1943; in the 12 other late States 6,260,000 bushels compared with 6,340,000 bushels; in the 7 intermediate States 970,000 bushels compared with 930,000 bushels.

Production in the 37 late and intermediate States in 1943, at 398,317,000 bushels, was 26 percent larger than the crop of 317,264,000 bushels produced in 1942. The total quantity available for sale -- 296,697,000 bushels from the 1943 crop was 33 percent more than the 222,876,000 bushels from the 1942 production. The percentage loss from shrinkage, decay, etc. is expected to be larger from the crop of 1943 than from that of 1942, especially in the heavy producing States of Maine and Idaho, and in some of the middle western States. Frost damage was considerable on late harvested acreage in Maine and Idaho. Many growers in these two States reported that large losses have occurred since potatoes were placed in storage last fall.

The estimates of "available for sale" were arrived at by deducting from production the estimated quantities fed to livestock, potatoes used and to be used for consumption in growers' households, seed saved for planting on growers' own farms and the estimated loss from shrinkage, decay, etc. The estimated quantities for livestock feeding and loss from shrinkage, decay, etc. total 29,065,000 bushels from the crop of 1943 (7.3 percent of production) compared with 21,696,000 bushels (6.8 percent of production) from the crop of 1942. The total quantity saved for food on farms where grown is placed at 48,635,000 bushels from the crop of 1943 and 46,495,000 bushels from the crop of 1942. Growers' own seed saved for planting in 1944 is 2,277,000 bushels less than that saved for planting in 1943, or 23,920,000 bushels for 1944 compared with 26,197,000 bushels in 1943. Growers reported on January 1 that 58 percent of the seed to be planted in the 37 late and intermediate States in 1944 would be home grown compared with 60 percent in 1943.

Recorded carlot shipments by rail and boat from the 37 late and intermediate States accounted for 85,143,000 bushels to January 1, 1944, compared with 58,499,000 bushels to January 1, 1943. Estimated marketings to January 1, 1944 totalled 158,697,000 bushels compared with 122,096,000 bushels to January 1, 1943. Deducting rail and boat shipments from estimated marketings, it appears that shipments by motor-truck and local sales accounted for 73,554,000 bushels to January 1, 1944 compared with 63,597,000 bushels to January 1, 1943. On this basis, rail and boat shipments to January 1, 1944 were 54 percent of all marketings to that date compared with 48 percent a year earlier.

1944 Acreage Intentions: Growers who reported their potato stocks on January 1 were asked to indicate their acreage plans for 1944. These plans, which are of a very preliminary nature at this early date, point to a 7 percent smaller acreage of potatoes to be planted in 1944 than was planted in 1943 in the 37 late and intermediate States. The comparison for the 18 surplus late States indicates a reduction of 9 percent. In the 12 other late States reports point to a 4 percent reduction in 1944. For the 7 intermediate States growers indicate an

increase of 2 percent in 1944 over the 1943 planted acreage. In 1943, the 37 surplus late and intermediate States had 81 percent of the United States acreage planted, the 18 surplus late States 61 percent, the 12 other late States about 11 percent and the 7 intermediate States 9 percent of the United States total.

POTATOES (IRISH): MERCHANTABLE STOCKS ON HAND ON JANUARY 1 IN THE 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES, CROPS OF 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, AND 10-YEAR AVERAGE JANUARY 1 STOCKS FOR CROPS OF 1930-1939, INCLUSIVE 1/

GROUP AND STATE	10-yr. Average	Jan. 1, 1941	Jan. 1, 1942	Jan. 1, 1943	Jan. 1, 1944
	Jan. 1, 1931-40	Crop of 1940	Crop of 1941	Crop of 1942	Crop of 1943
Crops of 1930-39					
Thousand bushels					
<b>SURPLUS LATE STATES:</b>					
Maine	24,559	27,505	27,607	26,530	38,900
New York	9,117	8,885	9,146	7,680	8,160
Pennsylvania	7,092	6,439	6,822	5,200	6,320
Michigan	9,756	5,476	7,025	4,500	8,150
Wisconsin	6,348	3,210	3,577	1,600	4,100
Minnesota	7,114	7,400	4,748	5,500	8,900
North Dakota	2,983	6,565	5,800	6,200	10,700
South Dakota	271	250	225	520	1,050
Nebraska	2,736	4,506	3,300	5,400	5,310
Montana	500	671	439	600	990
Idaho	10,956	15,600	11,600	12,850	17,850
Wyoming	790	1,035	950	1,100	1,160
Colorado	5,064	5,100	5,000	6,810	6,920
Utah	542	842	540	960	1,420
Nevada	182	208	200	260	400
Washington	3,063	2,937	3,150	2,300	3,220
Oregon	2,999	3,559	3,046	2,800	4,640
California (Late)	1,981	3,603	3,177	2,700	2,580
<b>TOTAL 18 SURPLUS LATE</b>	<b>96,053</b>	<b>103,791</b>	<b>96,352</b>	<b>93,510</b>	<b>130,770</b>
<b>OTHER LATE STATES:</b>					
New Hampshire	480	440	300	350	540
Vermont	672	580	560	410	620
Massachusetts	420	618	495	550	600
Rhode Island	132	202	200	220	230
Connecticut	643	864	900	900	1,510
West Virginia	216	303	360	420	130
Ohio	1,983	1,588	1,983	1,320	1,200
Indiana	820	910	1,400	1,200	680
Illinois	214	250	231	180	90
Iowa	344	740	500	690	500
New Mexico	62	31	46	50	70
Arizona	42	66	61	50	90
<b>TOTAL 12 OTHER LATE</b>	<b>6,028</b>	<b>6,592</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>6,260</b>
<b>30 LATE STATES</b>	<b>102,081</b>	<b>110,383</b>	<b>103,388</b>	<b>99,850</b>	<b>137,030</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATE STATES:</b>					
New Jersey	547	200	200	190	240
Delaware	62	69	49	60	50
Maryland	207	171	140	140	140
Virginia	130	154	111	120	130
Kentucky	219	80	100	200	210
Missouri	215	140	200	150	80
Kansas	140	75	100	70	120
<b>TOTAL 7 INTERMEDIATE</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>970</b>
<b>LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES</b>	<b>103,601</b>	<b>111,272</b>	<b>104,288</b>	<b>100,780</b>	<b>138,000</b>

1/ Merchantable potatoes held by growers and local dealers and buyers. Includes potatoes for sale to starch factories after January 1.

2/ Includes 5,263,000 bushels of U.S. No. 2 grade or better diverted to livestock feed after January 1, under Government Diversion Program, for which growers received approximately 15 cents per bushel.

POTATOES (IRISH): PRODUCTION AND FARM DISPOSITION IN THE 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES  
CROP OF 1942

GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION 1/	FARM DISPOSITION					Balance of crop (Sold)	Percent 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	Quantity 2/	Percent of crop		
SURPLUS LATE STATES:		Thousand bushels						
Maine .....	42,660	1,493	850	2,227	38,090	89		
New York .....	27,676	1,384	2,940	2,100	21,252	77		
Pennsylvania .....	17,584	879	2,835	1,772	12,098	69		
Michigan .....	16,562	1,821	3,300	2,574	8,867	54		
Wisconsin .....	10,050	1,106	3,536	1,729	3,679	37		
Minnesota .....	18,050	1,895	3,625	2,777	9,753	54		
North Dakota .....	17,955	1,975	1,428	2,089	12,463	69		
South Dakota .....	2,816	310	702	541	1,263	45		
Nebraska .....	12,876	1,031	1,540	684	9,621	75		
Montana .....	1,725	208	338	237	942	55		
Idaho .....	30,590	2,295	390	2,719	25,186	82		
Wyoming .....	2,240	291	68	129	1,752	78		
Colorado .....	17,020	1,107	205	1,008	14,700	86		
Utah .....	2,312	138	132	152	1,890	82		
Nevada .....	483	29	30	49	375	78		
Washington .....	7,800	741	672	615	5,772	74		
Oregon .....	6,825	512	377	694	5,242	77		
California (Late) .	10,880	544	67	295	9,974	92		
18 SURPLUS LATE	246,104	17,759	23,035	22,391	182,919	74.3		
OTHER LATE STATES:								
New Hampshire .....	1,088	66	288	44	690	63		
Vermont .....	1,473	118	521	125	709	48		
Massachusetts .....	2,945	117	325	85	2,418	82		
Rhode Island .....	975	40	40	10	885	91		
Connecticut .....	3,016	151	252	35	2,578	85		
West Virginia .....	3,808	266	1,872	347	1,323	35		
Ohio .....	9,180	459	2,354	808	5,559	61		
Indiana .....	6,480	388	2,116	414	3,562	55		
Illinois .....	3,528	282	2,484	151	611	17		
Iowa .....	6,600	594	3,402	456	2,148	33		
New Mexico .....	340	20	22	32	266	78		
Arizona .....	562	17	6	20	519	92		
12 OTHER LATE	39,995	2,518	13,682	2,527	21,268	53.2		
30 LATE STATES	286,099	20,277	36,717	24,918	204,187	71.3		
INTERMEDIATE STATES:								
New Jersey .....	10,136	203	195	329	9,409	93		
Delaware .....	335	23	117	13	182	54		
Maryland .....	2,019	141	546	138	1,194	59		
Virginia .....	7,242	290	2,140	365	4,447	61		
Kentucky .....	4,560	319	2,920	286	1,035	23		
Missouri .....	4,173	146	2,720	90	1,217	29		
Kansas .....	2,700	297	1,140	58	1,205	45		
7 INTERMEDIATE	31,165	1,419	9,778	1,279	18,689	60.0		
37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES	317,264	21,696	46,495	26,197	222,876	70.2		

1/ Production is for the total crop grown in each State except in California where only the late crop is shown.  
2/ Includes potatoes sold to starch factories.

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

CROP OF 1943

GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION 1/	INDICATED FARM DISPOSITION				
		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	Balance of crop (Sold and for sale) Quantity 2/	Percent of crop
SURPLUS LATE STATES:		Thousand bushels				
Maine	73,485	7,349	952	2,000	63,184	86
New York	29,678	1,484	3,080	1,810	23,304	79
Pennsylvania	18,656	802	3,410	1,858	12,586	67
Michigan	22,365	2,237	3,720	2,575	13,833	62
Wisconsin	16,368	1,605	4,050	1,800	8,913	54
Minnesota	23,571	2,122	4,185	2,426	14,838	63
North Dakota	22,100	1,326	1,334	1,544	17,896	81
South Dakota	3,680	331	780	524	2,045	56
Nebraska	12,090	665	1,320	612	9,493	79
Montana	2,645	233	448	229	1,735	66
Idaho	43,470	4,912	527	2,376	35,655	82
Wyoming	2,175	109	70	148	1,848	85
Colorado	18,705	1,122	218	1,102	16,263	87
Utah	3,430	257	144	144	2,885	84
Nevada	680	41	27	24	588	86
Washington	13,200	528	702	439	11,531	87
Oregon	10,335	413	432	563	8,927	86
California (Late)	11,480	345	70	301	10,764	94
<b>18 SURPLUS LATE</b>	<b>328,113</b>	<b>25,881</b>	<b>25,469</b>	<b>20,475</b>	<b>256,288</b>	<b>78.1</b>
<b>OTHER LATE STATES:</b>						
New Hampshire	1,472	73	310	51	1,038	71
Vermont	1,825	110	561	123	1,031	56
Massachusetts	3,375	135	394	85	2,761	82
Rhode Island	1,085	44	46	10	985	91
Connecticut	3,190	96	313	35	2,746	86
West Virginia	2,775	167	1,920	290	398	14
Ohio	8,550	342	2,442	751	5,015	59
Indiana	4,100	205	2,208	394	1,293	32
Illinois	2,170	151	1,620	91	308	14
Iowa	5,238	341	3,024	393	1,480	28
New Mexico	480	53	24	29	374	78
Arizona	1,170	106	6	21	1,037	89
<b>12 OTHER LATE</b>	<b>35,430</b>	<b>1,823</b>	<b>12,868</b>	<b>2,273</b>	<b>18,466</b>	<b>52.1</b>
<b>30 LATE STATES</b>	<b>363,543</b>	<b>27,704</b>	<b>38,337</b>	<b>22,748</b>	<b>274,754</b>	<b>75.6</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATE STATES:</b>						
New Jersey	11,431	228	210	239	10,754	94
Delaware	308	18	121	24	145	47
Maryland	1,980	90	585	154	1,151	58
Virginia	9,594	384	2,240	277	6,693	70
Kentucky	4,664	280	3,000	290	1,094	23
Missouri	3,827	153	2,840	92	742	19
Kansas	2,970	208	1,302	96	1,364	46
<b>7 INTERMEDIATE</b>	<b>34,774</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>10,298</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>21,943</b>	<b>63.1</b>
<b>37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES</b>	<b>398,317</b>	<b>29,065</b>	<b>48,635</b>	<b>23,920</b>	<b>296,697</b>	<b>74.5</b>

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

2/ Includes potatoes sold and to be sold to starch factories.