

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
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MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS AS OF
MARCH 1, 1944 WITH COMPARISONS

Stocks of merchantable potatoes in hands of growers and local dealers on March 1, 1944 were 70 percent larger than stocks on hand March 1, 1943. Estimates of the Crop Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture show holdings of 77,000,000 bushels on March 1 this year, compared with 45,300,000 bushels on March 1, 1943. These holdings comprise potatoes that are available for marketing for food, seed, processing, etc. on and after March 1. They exclude potatoes held on farms for consumption and for planting on producers' own farms. Most of the March 1 holdings were in the 18 surplus late potato States.

Apparent marketings to March 1 in the 37 late and intermediate States totaled nearly 220,000,000 bushels from the crop of 1943 compared with about 178,000,000 bushels from the crop of 1942 to March 1, 1943, an increase of 24 percent this season over last season. Since January 1, 1944 the 1943 crop has moved to market at a much slower rate than prior to that date. Marketings from January 1 to March 1 were only 10 percent larger than during the corresponding period in 1943. Prior to January 1, 1944 marketings were 30 percent greater than they were for the corresponding period the previous season, with an apparent movement of nearly 159,000,000 bushels from the crop of 1943 compared with 122,000,000 bushels prior to January 1, 1943.

During January and February of 1944 the apparent disappearance of merchantable potatoes was 61,000,000 bushels. In January and February of 1943 disappearance was 55,480,000 bushels. For these two months carlot shipments by rail and boat accounted for 35,751,000 bushels in 1944, compared with 31,496,000 bushels in 1943. Truck shipments and local sales accounted for a smaller portion of January and February marketings this year than last, although actual quantities transported by truck were slightly larger in 1944 than in 1943.

POTATOES (IRISH): PRODUCTION, SALES, AND MERCHANTABLE STOCKS ON HAND
 JANUARY 1 AND MARCH 1 IN 37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE
 STATES, CROPS OF 1942 AND 1943.

GROUP AND STATE	Production		Available for Sale (entire season)		Merchantable Stocks in Hands of Growers and Local Dealers	
	Crop of 1942	Crop of 1943	From Crop of 1942	From Crop of 1943	January 1, 1943	January 1, 1944
SURPLUS LATE STATES:						
Me.....	42,660	73,485	38,090	63,184	38,900	14,200
N.Y.....	27,676	29,678	21,252	23,304	8,160	2,000
Penna.....	17,584	18,656	12,098	12,586	6,320	2,500
Mich.....	16,562	22,365	8,867	13,833	8,150	3,000
Wis.....	10,050	16,368	3,679	8,913	4,100	900
Minn.....	18,050	23,571	9,753	14,838	8,900	2,900
N.D.....	17,955	22,100	12,463	17,896	10,700	3,200
S.D.....	2,816	3,630	1,263	2,045	1,050	300
Nebr.....	12,876	12,090	9,621	9,493	5,310	1,700
Mont.....	1,725	2,645	942	1,735	990	400
Ida.....	30,590	43,470	25,186	35,655	17,850	5,000
Wyo.....	2,240	2,175	1,752	1,848	1,160	300
Colo.....	17,020	18,705	14,700	16,263	6,920	2,800
Utah.....	2,312	3,430	1,890	2,885	1,420	600
Nev.....	483	680	375	588	400	100
Wash.....	7,800	13,200	5,772	11,531	3,220	1,200
Ore.....	6,825	10,335	5,242	8,927	4,640	1,200
Calif. (Late).....	10,830	11,480	9,974	10,764	2,530	800
TOTAL 15	246,104	328,113	182,919	256,288	130,770	43,100
SURPLUS LATE						
TOTAL 12	39,995	35,430	21,268	18,466	6,260	2,000
OTHER LATE						
TOTAL 7	31,165	34,774	18,689	21,943	970	200
INTERMEDIATE						
TOTAL 37 LATE AND INTER-MEDIATE STATES	317,264	398,317	222,876	296,697	138,000	45,300
1/1. March 1, 1943 stocks based on Jan. 1 stocks, Jan. and Feb. carlot shipments and allowance for truck shipments.						