

Released April 18, 2017, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Potato Stocks Up 6 Percent From April 2016

The 13 major potato States held 133 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2017, up 6 percent from April 1, 2016. Potatoes in storage accounted for 33 percent of the fall storage States' 2016 production, 1 percent more than last year. Potato disappearance, at 273 million cwt, was down slightly from April 1, 2016. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 20.9 million cwt, was 6 percent higher than the same time last year. Processors in the 8 major States used 145 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 2 percent from April 2016.

Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: April 1, 2016-2017

[Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2016 totaled 29.4 million cwt]

| State | Crop of 2015 | | | Crop of 2016 | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|---|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---|
| | Production | Stocks April 1, 2016 | April stocks as a percent of production | Production | Stocks February 1, 2017 | Stocks April 1, 2017 | April stocks as a percent of production |
| | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (percent) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (percent) |
| California | 3,528 | 1,200 | 34 | 3,516 | 1,200 | (D) | (D) |
| Colorado | 22,575 | 8,300 | 37 | 22,198 | 12,100 | 8,100 | 36 |
| Idaho | 130,400 | 46,000 | 35 | 139,320 | 76,000 | 52,000 | 37 |
| Maine | 16,160 | 5,800 | 36 | 14,880 | 8,000 | 4,900 | 33 |
| Michigan | 17,550 | 3,500 | 20 | 17,020 | 6,000 | 2,500 | 15 |
| Minnesota | 16,200 | 4,700 | 29 | 16,770 | 9,100 | 6,600 | 39 |
| Montana | 3,543 | 1,900 | 54 | 3,808 | 3,500 | 2,800 | 74 |
| Nebraska | 6,885 | 2,200 | 32 | 7,380 | 3,300 | 1,400 | 19 |
| New York | 4,144 | 600 | 14 | 3,626 | 1,200 | (D) | (D) |
| North Dakota | 27,600 | 9,200 | 33 | 20,800 | 11,400 | 7,200 | 35 |
| Oregon | 21,784 | 7,500 | 34 | 22,951 | 12,600 | 7,500 | 33 |
| Washington | 100,300 | 27,000 | 27 | 105,625 | 45,000 | 29,000 | 27 |
| Wisconsin | 27,813 | 7,800 | 28 | 28,058 | 15,300 | 10,000 | 36 |
| Other States | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | 1,340 | (NA) |
| Total | 398,482 | 125,700 | 32 | 405,952 | 204,700 | 133,340 | 33 |
| Klamath Basin ¹ | (NA) | 1,650 | (NA) | (NA) | 2,400 | (D) | (NA) |

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(NA) Not available.

¹ Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Already included in the 13 States total.

Fall Potato Production and Stocks – 13 Major States: 2007-2016

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop year | Stocks | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Production | December 1 | January 1 | February 1 | March 1 | April 1 | May 1 | June 1 |
| | (1,000 cwt) |
| 2007 | 397,753 | 265,500 | 232,300 | 199,300 | 163,400 | 125,500 | 83,960 | 50,420 |
| 2008 | 369,866 | 243,700 | 213,200 | 183,900 | 152,700 | 115,800 | 78,100 | 45,300 |
| 2009 | 383,962 | 265,800 | 234,300 | 203,500 | 169,700 | 128,700 | 89,610 | 55,120 |
| 2010 | 357,467 | 240,200 | 209,400 | 180,300 | 148,500 | 111,000 | 72,000 | 41,320 |
| 2011 | 382,318 | 253,000 | (NA) | 187,500 | (NA) | 115,650 | (NA) | 43,340 |
| 2012 | 410,367 | 271,500 | (NA) | 204,600 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) |
| 2013 | 386,824 | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | (NA) | 119,050 | (NA) | 46,885 |
| 2014 | 396,798 | 265,700 | (NA) | 200,800 | (NA) | 128,700 | (NA) | 56,335 |
| 2015 | 398,482 | 262,700 | (NA) | 198,100 | (NA) | 125,700 | (NA) | 51,310 |
| 2016 | 405,952 | 273,700 | (NA) | 204,700 | (NA) | 133,340 | | |

(NA) Not available.

Quantity of Potatoes Used for Processing – 8 States: 2015-2017

[Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| State | Current year | Following year | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | December 1, 2015 | January 1, 2016 | February 1, 2016 | March 1, 2016 | April 1, 2016 | May 1, 2016 | June 1, 2016 | Season |
| | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) |
| Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon | 26,850 | 33,115 | 39,655 | 46,455 | 53,710 | 61,050 | 68,435 | 86,250 |
| Maine | 1,170 | 1,590 | 2,050 | 2,490 | 2,980 | 3,495 | 4,065 | 5,724 |
| Washington and Oregon | 33,955 | 39,970 | 46,320 | 54,455 | 60,985 | 67,560 | 74,285 | 91,720 |
| Other States ¹ | 8,995 | 12,515 | 16,380 | 20,720 | 24,550 | 28,665 | 33,020 | 38,742 |
| United States | 70,970 | 87,190 | 104,405 | 124,120 | 142,225 | 160,770 | 179,805 | 222,436 |
| Dehydrated ² | 12,155 | 15,885 | 19,620 | 23,560 | 27,605 | 31,585 | 35,645 | 45,735 |

| State | Current year | Following year | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | December 1, 2016 | January 1, 2017 | February 1, 2017 | March 1, 2017 | April 1, 2017 | May 1, 2017 | June 1, 2017 | Season |
| | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) | (1,000 cwt) |
| Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon | 25,720 | 32,650 | 39,475 | 46,880 | 54,635 | | | |
| Maine | 1,340 | 1,770 | 2,310 | 2,820 | 3,270 | | | |
| Washington and Oregon | 36,700 | 42,175 | 47,820 | 55,410 | 62,220 | | | |
| Other States ¹ | 10,035 | 13,570 | 17,500 | 21,000 | 25,085 | | | |
| United States | 73,795 | 90,165 | 107,105 | 126,110 | 145,210 | | | |
| Dehydrated ² | 11,560 | 15,305 | 19,085 | 22,675 | 26,580 | | | |

¹ Other States include Colorado, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.

² Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington.

Accumulated Potato Shrinkage and Loss – 13 Fall Storage States: 2015-2017

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop year | Current year | Following year | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | December 1, 2015 | January 1, 2016 | February 1, 2016 | March 1, 2016 | April 1, 2016 | May 1, 2016 | June 1, 2016 |
| | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) |
| 2015 | 12.4 | 14.5 | 16.3 | 17.9 | 19.7 | 21.5 | 23.4 |

| Crop year | Current year | Following year | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | December 1, 2016 ¹ | January 1, 2017 ¹ | February 1, 2017 ¹ | March 1, 2017 | April 1, 2017 | May 1, 2017 | June 1, 2017 |
| | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) | (million cwt) |
| 2016 | 12.0 | 14.3 | 16.2 | 18.8 | 20.9 | | |

¹ Shrink revised.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: The potato stock estimates in this report are based on a survey conducted in the first week of April in the 13 major fall potato producing States, which account for 92 percent of all potato production. The potato stocks survey includes a sample of approximately 975 growers, processors, and storage facilities that are contacted to obtain the quantity of potatoes stored as of the first of the month, as well as shrinkage and loss information.

Monthly processing data is collected from all known potato processing facilities in eight States (Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin). An effort is made to obtain a report from all facilities. Estimates are made for missing facilities to make the survey complete.

Estimating Procedures: Information obtained from the potato stocks survey, processing survey, and federal administrative data, is used to establish estimates of stocks, shrinkage and loss, and processing usage. These estimates are reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates.

Revision Policy: Stocks, shrink and loss, and processing estimates for the previous estimating period are subject to revision based on late and/or updated information. At the end of the marketing season, all information available, including disposition data, are thoroughly reviewed and any necessary revisions for the entire crop year are published in the *Potatoes Annual Summary*.

Reliability: Reliability of the stocks and processing data must be treated separately because the survey designs for the two surveys are very different. The stocks estimates are subject to sampling variability because all operations holding stocks are not included in the sample. This variability, as measured by the relative standard error at the United States level, is approximately 3.4 percent. This means that chances are approximately 95 out of 100 that survey estimates for stocks will be within plus or minus 5.9 percent of the value that could be developed by averaging the estimates produced from all possible samples selected from the same population and surveyed using the same procedures.

Survey indications are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. Processing, as well as stocks, are subject to these types of errors. These errors cannot be measured directly, but they are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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|--|----------------|
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