

# Potato Stocks

Released February 17, 2010, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Potato Stocks* call Tierra Mobley at (202) 720-4285, office hours 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

**Update Alert**

The 13 state total stocks estimate for Feb 1, 2010 was corrected on pages 1, 2, and 4.

## Potato Stocks Up 11 Percent From February 2009

The 13 major potato States held 203 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2010, up 11 percent from a year ago and 2 percent above February 1, 2008. Potatoes in storage accounted for 53 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production, 3 percentage points above February 1, 2009. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 2.80 million cwt on February 1, 2010, unchanged from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 181 million cwt, was 3 percent below February 1, 2009 and down 9 percent from 2008. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 18.7 million cwt, was up 11 percent from the same date in 2009 and 2 percent above 2008. Processors in the 9 major States have used 90.4 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 9 percent from the same period last year and down 15 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 17.1 million cwt of the total processing, down 7 percent from last year and 19 percent below the same period in 2008.

### Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States, February 1, 2009-2010 <sup>1</sup>

State	Crop of 2008			Crop of 2009			
	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 2009	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Jan 1, 2010	Stocks Feb 1, 2010 <sup>2</sup>	Feb % of Prod
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA <sup>3</sup>	3,948	1,300	33	4,158	1,600	1,200	29
CO	21,907	12,700	58	22,080	13,900	12,200	55
ID	116,475	66,000	57	131,000	87,000	76,500	58
ME	14,769	8,500	58	15,263	10,800	9,400	62
MI	14,875	4,800	32	15,660	7,000	5,200	33
MN	20,400	10,200	50	20,700	12,300		
MT	3,465	3,400	98	3,347	3,200	3,100	93
NE <sup>3</sup>	8,245	4,100	50	8,756	4,900	4,200	48
NY <sup>3</sup>	5,696	1,600	28	4,950	1,900		
ND	22,680	10,400	46	19,125	10,800	9,000	47
OR	18,676	12,000	64	21,460	15,000	12,900	60
WA	93,000	38,600	42	88,450	48,900	43,300	49
WI	25,730	10,300	40	28,980	18,000	14,900	51
Other States						11,500	
13 States <sup>3</sup>	369,866	183,900	50	383,929	235,300	203,400	53
Klamath Basin <sup>4</sup>		2,800			3,500	2,800	

<sup>1</sup> Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2009 totaled 24.5 million cwt.

<sup>2</sup> Missing stocks combined into "Other States".

<sup>3</sup> January 1, 2010 stocks revised.

<sup>4</sup> Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath Co., OR. Included in the 13 State total.

**Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks, 13 Major States, 2000-2009**

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>							
2000 <sup>1</sup>	458,827	310,300	275,270	234,260	197,670	153,520	109,160	61,270
2001 <sup>1</sup>	387,033	258,750	224,680	192,090	158,590	119,950	81,200	42,990
2002 <sup>1</sup>	407,085	264,485	231,490	199,020	165,210	125,770	83,040	45,880
2003 <sup>1</sup>	403,566	267,900	233,590	200,230	166,280	126,110	85,000	46,020
2004 <sup>1</sup>	404,017	271,100	236,700	203,490	168,020	128,900	88,550	51,700
2005	375,118	253,800	220,500	189,100	155,500	115,700	75,900	41,560
2006	389,527	258,900	225,800	192,200	159,500	120,900	79,050	44,460
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 <sup>2</sup>	383,929	265,800	235,300	203,400				

<sup>1</sup> 15 major States.

<sup>2</sup> January 1, 2010 stocks revised.

**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks,  
10 Selected States, February 1, 2009-2010**

State	Potato Types														
	Reds			Round Whites			Long Whites			Yellows			Russets		
	Feb 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Feb 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Feb 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Feb 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Feb 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010
	<i>Percent</i>														
CO	3	3	3	1	2	2				11	11	11	85	84	84
ID <sup>1</sup>	2	2	2	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	95	96	96
ME	2	3	3	37	38	38				2	3	3	59	56	56
MI	1	2	1	85	88	89				1			13	10	10
MN	7	11	9	2	4	4				1	1	1	90	84	86
NY	4	4	3	93	94	96				3	2	1			
ND	13	14	14	6	9	9	7	5	5	1	1	1	73	71	71
OR	2	1	1	5	7	6				1	1	1	92	91	92
WA	3	3	3	5	4	4	11	5	5	1	1	1	80	87	87
WI	5	5	3	15	28	15							80	67	82
10 St Avg	3	4	3	8	10	8	3	1	1	2	2	2	83	83	86

<sup>1</sup> January 1, 2010 revised.

**Potatoes: Shrinkage and Loss, 13 Fall Storage States, 2006-2009**

Crop Year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1
	<i>Million Cwt</i>						
2006	13.2	16.1	18.4	20.4	22.3	24.0	25.5
2007	14.2	16.4	18.4	20.2	22.1	24.0	25.3
2008	12.7	14.9	16.8	18.7	20.6	22.3	23.8
2009	14.3	16.5	18.7				

**Potatoes: Quantity Used for Processing, 9 States, 2007-2009 <sup>1</sup>**

State and Crop Year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1	Season
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>							
<b>ID &amp; OR-Mal</b>								
2007	26,230	33,250	40,310	48,660	55,460	63,000	70,700	88,030
2008	22,380	28,980	35,430	42,150	49,030	55,570	62,940	77,340
2009	23,110	29,180	35,170					
<b>ME <sup>2</sup></b>								
2007	1,700	2,170	2,815	3,440	3,990	4,670	5,240	7,550
2008	1,635	2,240	2,895	3,515	4,005	4,795	5,540	7,545
2009	1,575	2,060	2,680					
<b>WA &amp; OR-Oth</b>								
2007	30,595	36,940	42,350	50,165	57,160	67,690	72,380	82,770
2008	32,560	38,050	42,795	49,865	56,350	62,635	70,625	81,260
2009	25,350	31,200	36,490					
<b>Other Sts <sup>3</sup></b>								
2007	15,040	17,535	20,755	23,900	26,650	29,710	32,600	39,430
2008	12,480	15,120	18,165	21,030	24,025	26,515	29,590	37,285
2009	10,605	13,260	16,015					
<b>Total</b>								
2007	73,565	89,895	106,230	126,165	143,260	165,070	180,920	217,780
2008	69,055	84,390	99,285	116,560	133,410	149,515	168,695	203,430
2009	60,640	75,700	90,355					
<b>Dehydrated <sup>4</sup></b>								
2007	12,815	16,785	21,040	25,350	29,500	33,650	37,975	46,660
2008	10,675	14,490	18,335	21,465	24,875	28,195	31,870	39,345
2009	10,945	13,950	17,065					

<sup>1</sup> Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Maine grown potatoes only. Amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips.

<sup>3</sup> CO, MN, NV, ND, and WI. Monthly amounts exclude quantities used for potato chips in WI.

<sup>4</sup> Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes CO, ID, NV, OR, WA, and WI.

## Reliability of February 1 Stocks Estimates

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the February 1 stocks estimate, the "Root Mean Square Error", a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the February 1 stocks estimate and the final estimate is expressed as a percentage of the final estimate. The average of squared percentage deviations for the latest 20 year period is computed. The square root of the average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error". Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current estimate relative to the final end-of-season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year's estimate are not different from those influencing recent years.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the February 1 stocks estimate is 3.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 203 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.0 percent, or approximately 6.10 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.2 percent, or approximately 10.6 million cwt.

Changes between the February 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 4.22 million cwt, ranging from 300 cwt to 14.2 million cwt. During the 20 year period, the February 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 13 times and above 7 times.

**Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final February 1 Stocks,  
United States, Crop of 1999-2009**

Crop Year	Preliminary Stocks	% of Final	Final Stocks
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
1999	205,780	99.3	207,150
2000	235,050	100.3	234,260
2001	201,750	105.0	192,090
2002	197,470	99.2	199,020
2003	200,530	100.1	200,230
2004	204,190	100.3	203,490
2005	187,600	99.2	189,100
2006	187,800	97.7	192,200
2007	206,200	103.5	199,300
2008	183,200	99.6	183,900
2009	203,400		

## ACCESS TO REPORTS!!

---

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

### INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are available free of charge. For free access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

### E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Starting with the NASS Home Page at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov), under the right navigation, *Receive reports by Email*, click on **National** or **State**. Follow the instructions on the screen.

-----

### PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

**CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)**  
**Other areas, please call 703-605-6220      FAX: 703-605-6880**  
**(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)**

-----

### ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.