

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 26, 1943

MERCHANTABLE POTATO STOCKS
AS OF JANUARY 1, 1943
WITH COMPARISONS

Stocks of merchantable potatoes available for sale in the hands of growers and local buyers on January 1, 1943, are estimated by the Department of Agriculture to have been 2 percent smaller than holdings a year earlier. January 1 holdings this year totalled 101,025,000 bushels compared with 102,997,000 bushels on January 1, 1942 and the 10-year (1931-40) average of 103,191,000 bushels.

Holdings in the 18 surplus late States on January 1, 1943 were 93,515,000 bushels compared with 95,061,000 bushels on January 1, 1942; in the 12 other late States, 6,450,000 bushels compared with 7,036,000 bushels; in the 7 intermediate States, 1,060,000 bushels compared with 900,000 bushels.

Production in the 37 late and intermediate States in 1942, at 317,819,000 bushels, was 3 percent larger than the crop of 308,404,000 bushels produced in 1941. Because of a smaller percentage of waste and culls fed to livestock from the 1942 crop, and the tendency of growers to save smaller quantities for food and seed than from the 1941 crop, the total quantity available for sale from the 1942 crop (sold to January 1 plus available for sale on that date) was 6 percent larger for the 1942-43 marketing season than for the 1941-42 season. Reports from growers indicate that 228,920,000 bushels were available for sale from the 1942 crop compared with 215,774,000 bushels from the 1941 crop.

The estimates of "available for sale" were arrived at by deducting from production, the estimated quantities fed to livestock prior to January 1 or found unfit for food or seed up to that date, potatoes used or saved for consumption in growers' households, and seed saved for planting on growers' farms plus the loss to January 1 from shrinkage, rot, etc. Potatoes lost from shrinkage, fed to livestock or found unfit for food or seed to January 1, totalled 18,408,000 bushels from the crop of 1942 (5.8 percent of production) compared with 19,668,000 bushels (6.4 percent of production) from the crop of 1941. The total quantity saved for food on farms where grown is placed at 46,127,000 bushels from the crop of 1942 and 47,834,000 bushels from the crop of 1941. Growers' own seed saved for planting in 1943 is less than that saved for planting in 1942, or 24,364,000 bushels for 1943 compared with 25,128,000 bushels in 1942. Growers reported on January 1 that 60 percent of the seed to be planted in the 37 late and intermediate States in 1943 would be home grown. Last year the reported figure was 64 percent.

Movement of potatoes into channels of consumption to January 1, 1943 was more rapid than for the corresponding period last season; hence, stocks on hand January 1, 1943 were smaller than a year earlier despite the larger quantity available for sale for the 1942-43 marketing season.

Recorded carlot shipments by rail and boat from the 37 late and intermediate States accounted for 58,045,000 bushels to January 1, 1943, compared with 44,424,000 bushels shipped a year earlier. Estimated sales to January 1, 1943 totaled 127,895,000 bushels compared with 112,777,000 bushels to January 1, 1942. Deducting rail and boat shipments from estimated sales, it appears that shipments by motor-truck and local sales accounted for 69,850,000 bushels to January 1, 1943 compared with 68,353,000 bushels to January 1, 1942. On this basis, rail and boat shipments to January 1, 1943 were 45 percent of all sales to that date compared with 39 percent a year earlier.

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

GROUP AND STATE	10-yr. Average Jan. 1, 1931-40	January 1, 1941	January 1, 1942	January 1, 1943
	Crops of 1930-39	Crop of 1940 2/	Crop of 1941	Crop of 1942
SURPLUS LATE STATES:				
	Thousand bushels			
Maine	24,149	26,053	26,316	24,925
New York	9,117	8,885	9,146	7,680
Pennsylvania	7,092	6,439	6,822	5,210
Michigan	9,756	5,476	7,025	5,000
Wisconsin	6,348	3,210	3,577	1,340
Minnesota	7,114	7,400	4,748	5,830
North Dakota	2,983	6,565	5,800	6,680
South Dakota	271	250	2295	3680
Nebraska	2,736	4,506	3,300	5,400
Montana	500	671	439	650
Idaho	10,956	15,6005	11,600	12,850
Wyoming	790	1,035	950	1,100
Colorado	5,064	5,100	5,000	6,810
Utah	542	842	540	960
Nevada	132	208	200	260
Washington	3,063	2,937	3,150	2,270
Oregon	2,999	3,559	3,046	3,060
California	1,981	3,603	3,177	2,840
TOTAL 18 SURPLUS LATE	95,643	102,339	95,061	93,515
OTHER LATE STATES:				
New Hampshire	480	440	300	350
Vermont	672	580	560	410
Massachusetts	420	618	495	550
Rhode Island	132	202	200	220
Connecticut	643	864	900	900
West Virginia	216	303	360	390
Ohio	1,983	1,588	1,983	1,320
Indiana	820	910	1,400	1,200
Illinois	214	280	231	290
Iowa	344	740	500	690
New Mexico	62	31	46	50
Arizona	42	66	61	80
TOTAL 12 OTHER LATE	6,028	6,592	7,036	6,450
30 LATE STATES	101,671	108,931	102,097	99,965
INTERMEDIATE STATES:				
New Jersey	547	200	200	190
Delaware	62	69	49	60
Maryland	207	171	140	140
Virginia	130	154	111	120
Kentucky	219	80	100	300
Missouri	215	140	200	170
Kansas	140	85	100	80
TOTAL 7 INTERMEDIATE	1,520	889	900	1,060
37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES	103,191	109,820	102,997	101,025

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

1942 CROP

GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION 1/	FARM DISPOSITION TO JANUARY 1, 1942				
		Fed to live- stock, shrink- age, and loss after harvest 2/	Used and saved for use in farm household.	Saved for seed on farms where grown	Balance of crop (Sold and for sale)	
					Quantity 3/	Percent of crop
SURPLUS LATE STATES:		Thousand bushels				
Maine	43,035	1,721	910	2,265	38,139	89
New York	27,676	1,384	3,675	2,224	20,393	74
Pennsylvania	21,450	858	3,740	2,030	14,822	69
Michigan	20,020	1,802	3,672	2,643	11,903	59
Wisconsin	14,378	1,869	4,608	1,807	6,094	42
Minnesota	16,068	1,446	4,356	2,484	7,782	48
North Dakota	15,015	750	1,496	1,940	10,829	72
South Dakota	1,740	121	572	305	742	43
Nebraska	9,620	577	1,540	541	6,962	72
Montana	1,540	154	429	188	769	50
Idaho	27,450	2,196	434	2,185	22,635	82
Wyoming	2,250	158	87	133	1,872	83
Colorado	12,529	1,127	211	1,154	10,037	80
Utah	1,904	133	157	127	1,487	78
Nevada	432	34	21	19	358	83
Washington	8,820	882	700	443	6,795	77
Oregon	7,175	718	390	471	5,596	78
California (late crop)	9,440	566	78	299	8,497	90
18 SURPLUS LATE	240,542	16,496	27,076	21,258	175,712	73.0
OTHER LATE STATES:						
New Hampshire	1,023	30	285	43	665	65
Vermont	1,740	122	528	102	988	57
Massachusetts	2,492	50	331	67	2,044	82
Rhode Island	920	27	36	13	844	92
Connecticut	2,772	56	270	44	2,402	87
West Virginia	3,584	215	1,872	356	1,141	32
Ohio	10,614	530	3,024	842	6,218	59
Indiana	5,750	287	1,944	517	3,002	52
Illinois	3,240	227	1,900	199	914	28
Iowa	5,508	440	2,950	432	1,686	31
New Mexico	288	15	26	29	218	76
Arizona	273	13	8	21	231	85
12 OTHER LATE	38,204	2,012	13,174	2,665	20,353	53.3
30 LATE STATES	278,746	18,508	40,250	23,923	196,065	70.3
INTERMEDIATE STATES:						
New Jersey	10,340	206	172	246	9,716	94
Delaware	300	9	96	22	173	58
Maryland	1,920	57	546	147	1,170	61
Virginia	6,808	272	1,620	305	4,611	68
Kentucky	3,080	184	2,016	308	572	19
Missouri	4,680	280	2,584	104	1,712	37
Kansas	2,530	152	550	73	1,755	69
7 INTERMEDIATE	29,658	1,160	7,584	1,205	19,709	66.5
37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES	308,404	19,668	47,834	25,128	215,774	70.0

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

2/ Fed to livestock and loss to January 1, 1942. Includes shrinkage, waste and decay to that date and quantities unfit for food or seed which are still on hand.

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

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

1942 CROP

GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION 1/	FARM DISPOSITION TO JANUARY 1, 1943				Balance of crop (Sold and for sale)	
		Fed to live- stock, shrink- age, and loss after harvest 2/	Used and saved for use in farm household	Saved for seed on farms where grown	Quantity 3/	Percent of crop	
SURPLUS LATE STATES:							Thousand bushels
Maine	42,120	1,475	920	1,960	37,765	90	
New York	27,405	1,096	3,456	2,093	20,760	76	
Pennsylvania	17,584	704	3,240	1,797	11,843	67	
Michigan	16,562	1,325	3,150	2,278	9,809	59	
Wisconsin	10,050	1,105	3,834	1,582	3,529	35	
Minnesota	19,380	1,938	4,224	2,621	10,597	55	
North Dakota	17,955	1,616	1,462	2,021	12,856	72	
South Dakota	2,816	197	648	450	1,521	54	
Nebraska	12,876	902	1,540	618	9,816	76	
Montana	1,725	120	418	185	1,002	58	
Idaho	30,590	1,683	375	2,156	26,376	86	
Wyoming	2,470	223	68	142	2,037	82	
Colorado	17,020	1,191	208	924	14,697	86	
Utah	2,312	115	154	124	1,919	83	
Nevada	483	24	26	45	388	80	
Washington	7,800	702	648	476	5,974	77	
Oregon	7,200	576	365	591	5,668	79	
California (late crop)	10,880	381	70	270	10,159	93	
18 SURPLUS LATE	247,228	15,373	24,806	20,333	186,716	75.5	
OTHER LATE STATES:							
New Hampshire	1,088	44	288	35	721	66	
Vermont	1,473	103	521	107	742	50	
Massachusetts	2,850	85	325	75	2,365	83	
Rhode Island	975	40	38	10	887	91	
Connecticut	2,942	88	252	31	2,571	87	
West Virginia	3,808	190	2,028	382	1,208	32	
Ohio	9,180	368	2,889	832	5,091	55	
Indiana	6,480	227	2,000	494	3,759	58	
Illinois	3,528	177	1,900	176	1,275	36	
Iowa	6,600	528	3,132	549	2,391	36	
New Mexico	340	12	30	30	268	79	
Arizona	562	17	8	20	517	92	
12 OTHER LATE	39,826	1,879	13,411	2,741	21,795	54.7	
30 LATE STATES	287,054	17,252	38,217	23,074	208,511	72.6	
INTERMEDIATE STATES:							
New Jersey	10,136	202	162	321	9,451	93	
Delaware	335	20	106	14	195	58	
Maryland	2,019	122	567	152	1,178	58	
Virginia	7,242	362	1,605	371	4,904	68	
Kentucky	4,560	274	2,336	297	1,653	36	
Missouri	4,173	84	2,584	92	1,413	34	
Kansas	2,300	92	550	43	1,615	70	
7 INTERMEDIATE	30,765	1,156	7,910	1,290	20,409	66.3	
37 LATE AND INTERMEDIATE STATES	317,819	18,408	46,127	24,364	228,920	72.0	

1/ Production is for the total crop grown in each State except in California where only the late crop is shown.
 2/ Fed to livestock and loss to January 1, 1942. Includes shrinkage, waste and decay to that date and quantities unfit for food or seed which are still on hand.
 3/ Includes potatoes sold and to be sold to starch factories.