

# Potato Stocks

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## Potato Stocks Up 11 Percent From March 2009

The 13 major potato States held 170 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2010, up 11 percent from a year ago and 4 percent above March 1, 2008. Potatoes in storage accounted for 44 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production, 3 percentage points above March 1, 2009. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 2.20 million cwt on March 1, 2010, up 10 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Potato disappearance, at 214 million cwt, was 2 percent below March 1, 2009 and down 9 percent from 2008. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 20.9 million cwt, was up 12 percent from the same date in 2009 and 3 percent above 2008. Processors in the 9 major States have used 108 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 7 percent from the same period last year and down 14 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 19.8 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year and 22 percent below the same period in 2008.

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

State	Crop of 2008			Crop of 2009			
	Prod	Stocks Mar 1, 2009	% of Prod	Prod	Stocks Feb 1, 2010	Stocks Mar 1, 2010 <sup>2</sup>	Mar % 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	1,000	25	4,158	1,300	1,100	26
CO	21,907	11,100	51	22,080	12,200	10,500	48
ID	116,475	56,500	49	131,000	76,500	65,500	50
ME <sup>3</sup>	14,769	7,100	48	15,263	9,300	7,800	51
MI	14,875	3,300	22	15,660	5,200	3,500	22
MN	20,400	8,700	43	20,700			
MT	3,465	3,200	92	3,347	3,100	3,000	90
NE	8,245	3,500	42	8,756	4,200	3,300	38
NY	5,696	1,200	21	4,950			
ND	22,680	8,100	36	19,125	9,000	7,000	37
OR	18,676	9,800	52	21,460	12,900	10,700	50
WA	93,000	31,400	34	88,450	43,300	36,200	41
WI	25,730	7,800	30	28,980	14,900	12,000	41
Other States					11,500	9,500	
13 States	369,866	152,700	41	383,929	203,400	170,100	44
Klamath Basin <sup>4</sup>		2,000			2,800	2,200	

<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> February 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	383,929	265,800	235,300	203,400	170,100			

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

**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	42,050				
<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	3,265				
<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	43,750				
<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 <sup>4</sup>	10,605	13,260	16,225	18,945				
<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 <sup>4</sup>	60,640	75,700	90,565	108,010				
<b>Dehydrated<sup>5</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	19,800				

<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> February 1, 2010 revised.

<sup>5</sup> Dehydrated products except starch and flour. Includes CO, ID, NV, OR, WA, and WI.

**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 <sup>1</sup>	14.3	16.5	18.8	20.9			

<sup>1</sup> February 1, 2010 shrink and loss revised.

**Reliability of March 1 Stocks Estimates**

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the March 1 stocks estimate, the "Root Mean Square Error", a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the March 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 March 1 stocks estimate is 3.5 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 170 million cwt will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.5 percent, or approximately 5.95 million cwt. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 6.1 percent, or approximately 10.4 million cwt.

Changes between the March 1 stocks estimates and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 4.07 million cwt, ranging from 360 cwt to 13.1 million cwt. During the 20 year period, the March 1 estimate has been below the final estimate 12 times and above 8 times.

**Fall Potato Stocks: Preliminary and Final March 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	170,050	100.3	169,620
2000	198,320	100.3	197,670
2001	167,870	105.9	158,590
2002	163,900	99.2	165,210
2003	166,690	100.2	166,280
2004	168,420	100.2	168,020
2005	153,700	98.8	155,500
2006	153,200	96.1	159,500
2007	171,800	105.1	163,400
2008	151,000	98.9	152,700
2009	170,100		

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