



Commercial Vegetables

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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BAC

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ONION STOCKS IN STORAGE -- JANUARY 1, 1953

SPECIAL NOTICE

Effective with this report, the January 1 onion stocks reports of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics are placed on a new basis. The stocks reported by the Bureau now cover only those held in common storage by growers and dealers in the 19 Late Summer (storage-crop) States. The estimates for past years have been revised to this basis in conjunction with the 1950 Census revisions of production. In addition the report gives stocks in cold storage in all States, as reported on a regional basis by the Transportation and Warehousing Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration, together with the indicated total stocks in both common and cold storage.

In the past the January 1 reports of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics covered all onion stocks held by growers and dealers in or near areas of production in the 19 Late Summer States. Hence, the former figures included onions in both common and cold storages where the cold storages were located in or near areas of production. Since many of the cold storages handling onions are located in onion-producing areas, this resulted in an unknown amount of duplication between the stocks formerly reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the cold storage stocks reported by the Production and Marketing Administration. Under the new plan of reporting this duplication is eliminated.

January 1, 1953 stocks of onions held in common storage by growers and dealers in the 19 Late Summer States totaled 6,007,000 fifty-pound sacks, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. This is 11 percent less than the 6,780,000 in common storage on January 1, 1952 and 23 percent below the 6-year (1946-51) average January 1 common storage stocks of 7,765,000 sacks. These January 1 estimates of stocks in common storage cover total quantities of marketable quality on January 1. Allowance has been made for shrinkage, waste and other losses from harvest to January 1, but no allowance is made for shrinkage, waste and other losses expected to occur after January 1. Cold storage holdings in all States, as reported by the Production and Marketing Administration, totaled 61,161,000 pounds (1,223,000 equivalent sacks) for January 1, 1953, 69,432,000 pounds (1,389,000 equivalent sacks) for January 1, 1952, and 1,584,000 equivalent sacks for the 6-year average. The indicated total stocks in both common and cold storage on January 1, 1953 are, therefore, 7,230,000 sacks or 11 percent less than total holdings of 8,169,000 sacks for January 1 last year and 23 percent below the 6-year average total stocks of 9,349,000 sacks.

Total stocks (in both common and cold storage) on January 1, 1953 were 16 percent below the same date last year in the Eastern area, 19 percent below in the Central but 1 percent more in the Western. Compared with the 6-year average January 1 holdings, total January 1, 1953 stocks were 30 percent below in the Eastern area, 20 percent below in the Central and 21 percent below in the Western.

For the 19 Late Summer States, loss from shrinkage and waste to January 1 was the smallest since the 1943 crop. Although rail and boat shipments of late summer onions during the fall months decreased from last year, the indicated movement by truck continued the upward trend of recent years.

ONIONS: Stocks held in common storage by growers and dealers in 19 Late Summer States, and stocks in cold storage in all States, by regions, January 1, 1953, with comparisons

REGION	In common storage			In Cold Storage 1/			Total		
	6-Yr. Av.	Jan. 1	Jan. 1	6-Yr. Av.	Jan. 1	Jan. 1	6-Yr. Av.	Jan. 1	Jan. 1
	Jan. 1	1952	1953	Jan. 1	1952	1953	Jan. 1	1952	1953
	1946-51			1946-51			1946-51		
				1,000 Sacks 2/					
Eastern	1,226	1,016	811	899	761	682	2,125	1,777	1,493
Central	3,256	3,252	2,641	302	275	200	3,558	3,527	2,841
Western	3,283	2,512	2,555	355	333	330	3,638	2,845	2,885
Southern				28	20	11	28	20	11
Total	7,765	6,780	6,007	1,584	1,389	1,223	9,349	8,169	7,230

ONIONS: Stocks held in common storage by growers and dealers in 19 Late Summer States, by States, January 1, 1953, with comparisons

STATE AND REGION	6-Year			STATE AND REGION	6-Year		
	average	Jan. 1	Jan. 1		average	Jan. 1	Jan. 1
	Jan. 1	1952	1953		Jan. 1	1952	1953
	1946-51				1946-51		
					1,000 sacks 2/		
Massachusetts	26	16	11	Colorado	1,289	677	580
New York	1,200	1,000	800	Utah	222	148	150
Pennsylvania				Nevada	65	41	56
EASTERN	1,226	1,016	811	California	195	125	65
Ohio	120	80	89	Idaho	680	690	540
Indiana	261	176	192	Oregon	761	780	1,124
Illinois	201	160	148	Malheur Co.	300	365	598
Michigan	1,599	1,713	1,265	Other	461	415	520
Wisconsin	484	530	424	Washington	68	50	40
Minnesota	540	539	470	Arizona	3	1	
Iowa	47	54	53	WESTERN	3,283	2,512	2,555
Kansas	4			TOTAL			
CENTRAL	3,256	3,252	2,641	19 STATES	7,765	6,780	6,007

ONIONS: Production and stocks January 1 following year held in common storage by growers and dealers in 19 Late Summer States, and cold storage stocks in all States, crop years of 1939 to 1952.

CROP YEAR	January 1 Stocks			CROP YEAR	January 1 Stocks		
	Pro- duction	In common	In cold		Pro- duction	In common	In cold
	3/	storage	storage 4/		3/	storage	storage 4/
	1,000 sacks 2/				1,000 sacks 2/		
1939	28,796	7,993		1946	38,177	9,919	1,195
1940	26,432	7,613		1947	27,140	5,396	1,443
1941	25,181	6,195		1948	32,929	8,945	2,049
1942	28,592	6,853		1949	30,959	7,261	2,291
1943	23,983	4,309		1950	35,308	10,131	1,323
1944	36,737	9,974		1951	31,078	6,780	1,389
1945	28,517	4,937	1,205	1952	29,665	6,007	1,223
			6,142				

- 1/ As reported by the PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION. Converted to equivalent sacks (50 lb.) Geographic divisions included in each region are: EASTERN-New England and Middle Atlantic; CENTRAL-East North Central and West North Central; WESTERN-Mountain and Pacific; SOUTHERN-South Atlantic, East South Central and West South Central.
- 2/ Sacks containing 50 lbs.
- 3/ In 19 Late Summer States. Includes in some years quantities not harvested because of low prices or other economic factors. Revised basis 1950 Census of Agriculture.
- 4/ As reported by the Production and Marketing Administration, converted to equivalent sacks (50 lb.). Not available prior to 1945.