



# Commercial Vegetables

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
 CROP REPORTING BOARD



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## ONION STOCKS IN STORAGE -- JANUARY 1, 1955

Stocks of onions held in common storage in the United States on January 1, 1955 are estimated at 8,942,000 sacks (50 pounds), according to the Crop Reporting Board. These holdings are 20 percent smaller than the 11,213,000 sacks in common storage a year ago but are 20 percent larger than the 1946-53 average January 1 stocks of 7,460,000 sacks. Cold storage holdings of onions on January 1, reported to be an equivalent 1,032,000 sacks, were 12 percent less than last year and 32 percent below the 1946-53 average. Combined common and cold storage holdings on January 1, 1955 of 9,974,000 sacks were 20 percent below those on hand a year ago and 11 percent above the average combined stocks on January 1.

The Crop Reporting Board has used the same definition of onion stocks as in the past in preparing this report. Common storage stocks relate to quantities of sound onions held by growers and dealers on January 1. The estimated quantity of onions lost before January 1 through grading, dumping, shrinkage and decay is deducted in estimating stocks on hand January 1, but no attempt is made to estimate additional shrinkage and loss that will occur after January 1.

The percentage of 1954 crop onions lost prior to January 1 from grading, dumping, shrinkage, and decay was greater than last year and average. Heaviest rate of loss has occurred in Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Idaho, Eastern Oregon (Malheur Co.), and Washington but increases in losses in these States were partially offset by reduced losses compared with last year in Minnesota, Colorado and Western Oregon (Williamette Valley). Because of the poor keeping quality of onions on hand January 1 in some areas, it is expected that the percentage lost after January 1 from shrinkage and decay will be greater than usual.

ONIONS: January 1 stocks held in common storage by growers and dealers in Late Summer States, and January 1 stocks in cold storage in all States, by regions, average 1946-53, annual 1954 and 1955

REGION	In Common Storage		In Cold Storage		Total				
	8-Yr. Av.		8-Yr. Av.		8-Yr. Av.				
	Jan. 1 1946-53	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1946-53	Jan. 1 1954	Jan. 1 1946-53	Jan. 1 1954			
Eastern	1,148	3,033	1,745	854	837	684	2,002	3,870	2,429
Central	3,217	3,615	3,361	286	30	81	3,503	3,645	3,442
Western	3,095	4,565	3,836	351	308	263	3,446	4,873	4,099
Southern	---	---	---	25	4	4	25	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,460</b>	<b>11,213</b>	<b>8,942</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,179</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>8,976</b>	<b>12,392</b>	<b>9,974</b>

ONIONS: January 1 stocks held in common storage by growers and dealers in 18 Late Summer States, by States, average 1946-53, annual 1954 and 1955

STATE AND REGION	8-Year average	Jan. 1, 1954	Jan. 1, 1955	STATE AND REGION	8-Year average	Jan. 1, 1954	Jan. 1, 1955
	1946-53				1946-53		
	- 1,000 sacks 2/ -				- 1,000 sacks 2/ -		
Massachusetts	23	20	28	Colorado	1,124	850	665
New York	1,125	3,013	1,717	Utah	200	190	100
<u>EASTERN</u>	<u>1,148</u>	<u>3,033</u>	<u>1,745</u>	Nevado	65	130	50
Ohio	112	118	97	California	170	320	166
Indiana	242	196	261	Idaho	675	1,476	1,020
Illinois	186	116	22	Oregon	797	1,489	1,665
Michigan	1,599	2,150	1,730	Malheur Co.	332	1,074	920
Wisconsin	491	470	480	Other	465	415	745
Minnesota	534	500	732	Washington	62	110	170
Iowa	51	65	39	Arizona	2		
Kansas	3			<u>WESTERN</u>	<u>3,095</u>	<u>7,565</u>	<u>3,836</u>
<u>CENTRAL</u>	<u>3,217</u>	<u>3,615</u>	<u>3,361</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>7,460</u>	<u>11,213</u>	<u>8,942</u>

ONIONS: Production of the Late Summer Crop and stocks in storage on January 1, by crop years, 1945-46 through 1954-55

CROP YEAR	PRODUCTION			JANUARY 1 STOCKS		
	Total	Not Harvested	Harvested	In common storage	In cold storage 1/	Total
		3/				
				- 1,000 sacks 2/ -		
1945-46	28,517	---	28,517	4,937	1,205	6,142
1946-47	38,177	2,305	35,872	9,919	1,195	11,114
1947-48	27,140	---	27,140	5,396	1,443	6,839
1948-49	32,929	368	32,561	8,945	2,049	10,994
1949-50	30,959	---	30,959	7,261	2,291	9,552
1950-51	35,308	962	34,346	10,131	1,323	11,454
1951-52	31,078	---	31,078	6,780	1,389	8,169
1952-53	29,678	---	29,678	6,309	1,239	7,548
1953-54	36,518	100	36,418	11,213	1,179	12,392
1954-55	32,203	---	32,203	8,942	1,032	9,974

1/ From U.S.D.A. Cold Storage Reports. 1955 data revised based on reports received after January 15.

2/ Sacks containing 50 pounds.

3/ Not harvested because of low prices or other economic factors.