

ONION STOCKS

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ONION STOCKS UP 4 PERCENT

ONIONS: Stocks of onions in common storage in the eleven summer onion producing States and in cold storage in all areas of the U.S. on January 1, 1978 are estimated at 5.4 million cwt., 4 percent above 1977. Cold storage holdings comprised 63,000 cwt. of the total, and are 36 percent below a year ago. Six of the eleven States reported increases in common storage holdings. Nationally, shrinkage and loss up to January 1, 1978 was above a year ago. Losses were substantially above the previous year in Colorado, Michigan, New York and Washington.

Sales from the 1977 onion crop prior to January 1, 1978, were 16.5 million cwt., 5 percent more than in 1976. Losses prior to January 1 from shrinkage, waste, and cullage amounted to 3.6 million cwt. compared with 3.5 million cwt. a year earlier.

NOTE: (Stocks estimated in this report relate to quantities of sound onions held by growers and dealers. In estimating stocks, the quantity of onions lost before January 1 through dumping, decay, and sprouting, and the gradeout to January 1 as well as the expected gradeout of onions on hand January 1 is excluded. No attempt is made to predict losses after January 1 as a result of dumping, decay, and sprouting).

ONIONS: JANUARY 1 STOCKS HELD IN COMMON STORAGE BY GROWERS
AND DEALERS, SUMMER AREA, ANNUAL 1976, 1977 AND 1978

STATE AND REGION	JAN 1, 1976	JAN 1, 1977	JAN 1, 1978
	1,000 CWT		
CALIF	111	192	173
COLO	302	533	460
IDAHO & OREG	1,300	1,590	1,315
IND 1/	18		
MICH	589	700	750
MINN	85	85	80
N Y	1,056	1,114	1,210
OHIO	82	53	97
OREG, WEST	498	388	523
UTAH	124	123	231
WASH	165	200	370
WIS	100	148	135
TOTAL	4,430	5,126	5,344

1/ ESTIMATE DISCONTINUED IN 1976.

ONIONS: UTILIZATION AND SUMMER STORAGE CROPS,
1968 TO DATE 1/

YEAR	PRODUCTION	UTILIZATION BEFORE JAN 1		JAN 1 STOCKS			UTILIZATION AFTER JAN 1	
		SOLD	LOSS	IN COMMON STORAGE	IN COLD STORAGE	TOTAL	SOLD	LOSS
		1,000 CWT						
1968	20,220	12,321	2,395	5,301	214	5,515	4,762	742
1969	19,870	13,381	1,955	4,351	185	4,536	4,250	284
1970	21,569	13,320	2,599	5,470	180	5,650	4,691	959
1971	21,430	14,218	2,239	4,810	170	4,980	4,585	388
1972	20,008	13,790	2,184	3,961	77	4,038	3,761	273
1973	21,024	14,202	1,987	4,754	81	4,835	4,495	340
1974	23,863	16,404	2,270	5,109	80	5,189	4,525	664
1975	23,466	16,390	2,558	4,430	88	4,518	4,132	386
1976	24,472	15,761	3,487	5,126	98	5,224	4,777	447
1977	24,517	16,511	3,571	5,344	63	5,407		

1/ UTILIZATION MAY NOT BALANCE WITH THE SUMMER PRODUCTION OR STOCKS BECAUSE:

- (A) COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS INCLUDE ALL ONIONS REGARDLESS OF THE SEASONAL GROUP.
- (B) COLD STORAGE ONIONS STORED OUTSIDE OF SUMMER PRODUCING AREAS.
- (C) CROSS-STATE MOVEMENT OF ONIONS IN SOME YEARS.