

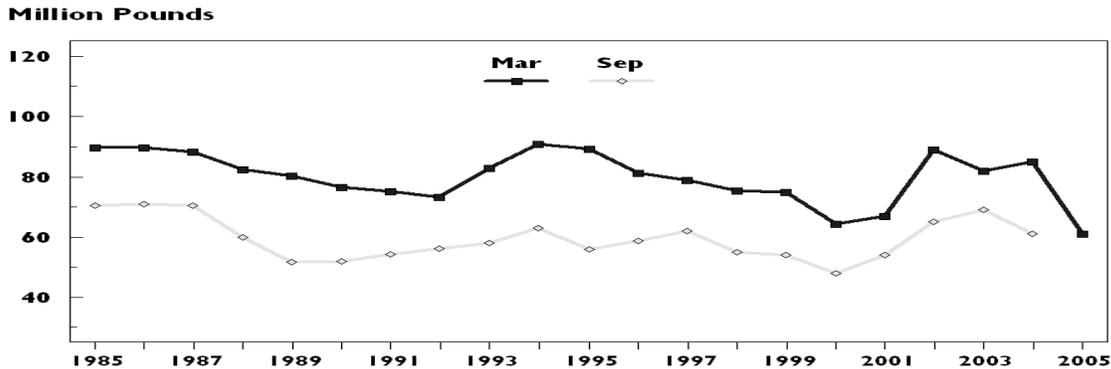
Released March 18, 2005, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Hop Stocks* call Kim Ritchie at (360) 902-1940, office hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. PT.

## March 1 Hop Stocks Drop From Last Year

The inventory of hops held by growers, dealers, and brewers on March 1, 2005, totaled 61.0 million pounds, 28 percent less than March 1, 2004, and 26 percent less than March 1, 2003. This is the lowest March 1 stocks since 1974 when 58.64 million pounds were held. The record high March 1 stocks was 100.3 million pounds held in 1984.

Stocks held by brewers, at 28.0 million pounds, were down 24 percent from a year ago, and 32 percent less than March 1, 2003. Stocks held by growers and dealers on March 1, 2005, totaled 33.0 million pounds, 31 percent less than March 1, 2004, and 20 percent less than March 1, 2003.

## Hop Stocks, March 1 and September 1 United States, 1985-2005



**Hops: Stocks Held by Growers, Dealers, and Brewers,  
United States, 2002-2005**

| Stocks <sup>1</sup> | September 1         |                     |                     | March 1             |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                     | 2002                | 2003                | 2004                | 2003                | 2004                | 2005                |
|                     | <i>1,000 Pounds</i> |
| Stocks Held by:     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Dealers/Growers     | 30,000              | 34,000              | 31,000              | 41,000              | 48,000              | 33,000              |
| Brewers             | 35,000              | 35,000              | 30,000              | 41,000              | 37,000              | 28,000              |
| Total Stocks        | 65,000              | 69,000              | 61,000              | 82,000              | 85,000              | 61,000              |

<sup>1</sup> Includes equivalent pounds of dry hops held in form of extract or pellets.

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