September 1 Hop Stocks up 2 Percent from a Year Ago

The inventory of hops held by growers, dealers, and brewers on September 1, 2016, totaled 85.0 million pounds, 2 percent more than the September 1, 2015 stocks of 83.0 million pounds.

Stocks held by brewers, at 36.0 million pounds, were down 3 percent from last year. Stocks held by dealers and growers on September 1, 2016 totaled 49.0 million pounds, up 7 percent from the stocks on hand at the same time in 2015.

Hops: Stocks Held by Growers, Dealers, and Brewers, United States, 2014-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stocks 1</th>
<th>September 1</th>
<th>March 1</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2014 (1,000 pounds)</td>
<td>2015 (1,000 pounds)</td>
<td>2016 (1,000 pounds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealers/growers</td>
<td>47,000</td>
<td>46,000</td>
<td>49,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewers</td>
<td>43,000</td>
<td>37,000</td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total stocks</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>83,000</td>
<td>85,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Includes equivalent pounds of dry hops held in form of extract or pellets.
Statistical Methodology

Survey procedures: Grower surveys are conducted in the three estimating States (Washington, Idaho, and Oregon) to collect stocks of hops held by growers. Additionally, contacts are made to collect stocks held by brewers and dealers. Telephone follow-up of mail survey non-respondents is used to ensure adequate coverage.

Estimating procedures: Information obtained from the hops stocks grower, dealer, and brewers surveys are used to establish estimates of hops stocks. These estimates are reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates.

Revision policy: Hop stocks are subject to revision the following estimating period following initial publication and again in the following March Hop Stocks report. Revisions can be made when late reports are received, errors are detected in reporting and calculations, or production estimates are revised. Estimates will also be reviewed following the 5-Year Census of Agriculture. No revisions to these years will be made after that date.

Reliability: Survey indications are subject to sampling variability because all operations storing hops are not included in the sample. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors cannot be measured directly, but are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch ................................................................. (202) 720-2127

Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section ............................................. (202) 720-2127
   Vincent Davis – Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries,
   Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Cherries ............................................................... (202) 720-2157
   Fleming Gibson – Citrus, Coffee, Tropical Fruits .............................................. (202) 720-5412
   Greg Lemmons – Berries, Cranberries, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes ..................... (202) 720-4285
   Jorge Garcia-Pratts – Hops ........................................................................... (202) 720-2127
   Dan Norris – Austrian Winter Peas, Dry Edible Peas, Lentils, Mint,
   Mushrooms, Peaches, Pears, Wrinkled Seed Peas, Dry Beans ............................. (202) 720-3250
   Daphne Schauber – Floriculture, Grapes, Maple Syrup, Nursery, Tree Nuts ............ (202) 720-4215
   Chris Singh – Apples, Apricots, Plums, Prunes, Tobacco ................................... (202) 720-4288
Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.
USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2016 Data Users’ Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau’s Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users’ Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php). Or contact Tina Hall (NASS) at 202-720-3896 or at tina.hall@nass.usda.gov.

The Data Users’ Meeting precedes the Industry Outlook Conference at the same location on Wednesday, October 19, 2016. The outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss developments and trends. For registration details or additional information about the Industry Outlook Conference, see the conference page on the LMIC website (http://lmic.info/page/meetings). Or contact James Robb at (303) 716-9933.