

# Agricultural Review

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A special "Thank you" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped by completing surveys via mail, telephone or personal interviews.

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

**Potatoes:** Acreage, Production Disposition, Stocks  
**Dairy Products:** Butter, Cheese, Creams

**Milk:** Number of Cows, Production, and Price  
**Chickens:** Layers and Eggs

**POTATOES: Maine** was the eighth largest producer of fall potatoes in the nation in 2006. The state's 2006 potato crop was finalized at 18.0 million cwt (hundredweight), 16 percent above 2005's near record low output, and six percent below 2004 production. Maine farmers planted 58,500 acres in 2006, an increase of 1,000 acres from the previous year. Growers harvested 58,000 acres, 500 fewer acres than planted due to losses from washouts and early June storms. Frequent shower activity and warm temperatures in July and August provided excellent growing conditions, and yields averaged 310 cwt per acre. With sales at \$126.9 million, Maine ranked sixth in the nation based on the value of 2006 fall potato sales. The price received for Maine grown potatoes averaged \$7.80 per cwt, off \$0.45 per cwt from a year earlier but above the national fall potato average of \$6.68 per cwt.

**Massachusetts** potato farmers planted 3,100 acres in 2006, an increase of 600 acres from the previous year, and the largest acreage planted in the state since 2002. Growers harvested 744,000 cwt of potatoes in 2006, up 19 percent from 2005. Increased acreage and improved prices placed the value of 2006 crop sales at \$7.4 million, compared with \$5.4 million generated from sales of the 2005 crop. The price received for the 2006 crop of Massachusetts grown potatoes averaged \$10.10 per cwt, up \$1.30/cwt from a year earlier.

**Rhode Island** potato farmers harvested 500 acres and yields averaged 260 cwt per acre in 2006. Growers received \$10.40/cwt on average for the 2006 crop, and value of sales exceeded \$1.3 million, the largest value of sales in the state since 1997.

**United States** fall potatoes are finalized at 399 million cwt for 2006, up four percent from the 2005 crop. Area harvested in 2006 is estimated at 983,000 acres, up four percent from a year earlier. The average yield, at 406 cwt per acre, is a record high, three cwt above the previous record high set in 2005. The value of all potatoes sold (all seasons) in 2006 in the United States is estimated at \$2.98 billion, up eight percent from the previous year. The average price, at \$7.33 per cwt, is up \$0.27 from a year earlier. Sales from the 2006 potato crop totaled 407 million cwt, up four percent from 2005. Sales account for 92 percent of 2006 production. Non-sales accounted for 34.6 million cwt, four percent above the previous year. Over the past five years, 92 percent of the potatoes grown have been sold. The other eight percent were either lost (shrinkage

and loss) or used on farms where grown (seed, home use, and livestock feed).

Processors used 280 million cwt of raw potatoes from the 2006 crop, up 14 percent from a year earlier. Table stock sales totaled 101 million cwt, 16 percent below the previous year. Seed sales of 23.7 million cwt are up six percent from 2005. Sales for livestock feed, at 1.66 million cwt, are down 17 percent from a year earlier.

Potatoes used for chips and shoestrings totaled 67.0 million cwt in 2006, up 31 percent from the previous year. Frozen French fries and other frozen products utilized 154 million cwt of raw potatoes, up four percent. Potatoes used for dehydrating totaled 54.6 million cwt, 29 percent above 2005. Canning use, at 3.00 million cwt, dropped two percent. Starch, flour, and other products were made from 1.10 million cwt of potatoes, 31 percent below the previous year.

Shrinkage and loss is estimated at 29.9 million cwt for 2006, up five percent from 2005. Potatoes used for livestock feed on farms where grown and home use totaled 1.24 million cwt, three percent above the previous season. Growers kept 3.50 million cwt for seed on their own farms, down three percent from a year earlier.

**MILK PRODUCTION:** Milk production in **Vermont** during August 2007 totaled 214 million pounds, an increase of one million pounds from August 2006. There were an estimated 139,000 milk cows on Vermont farms during August, unchanged from the previous month, and a decrease of 2,000 head from the same month the previous year. Milk production per cow during August averaged 1,540 pounds, an increase of 30 pounds per cow from August 2006 and decreased 15 pounds from July 2007.

**LAYER AND EGG PRODUCTION:** **Connecticut** and **Maine** layer inventories in August 2007 totaled 6.4 million birds, down three percent from the combined total in August 2006. Maine is the leading producer of eggs in New England, laying 87 million eggs in August 2007. Connecticut layers produced 66 million eggs.

The **United States** layer inventory during August 2007 totaled 275 million, down 1.3 percent from a year earlier. United States egg production totaled 7.57 billion eggs during August 2007, a decrease of 0.9 percent from August 2006.

## MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Acres Planted by Variety, 2002 – 2007

Variety and Type	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>By Variety:</b>	Percent					
Russet Burbank	36.4	33.2	36.7	42.5	42.5	39.4
Frito-Lay, All	10.9	11.9	11.5	17.1	17.1	18.3
Superior	7.2	6.1	3.0	3.4	4.5	4.8
Shepody	9.2	9.8	9.3	7.2	5.2	4.7
Snowden	1.4	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.1	3.7
Yukon Gold	1.4	2.0	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.4
Goldrush	1.1	1.6	1.9	2.7	1.0	2.9
Katahdin	1.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	3.1	2.8
Russet Norkotah	4.7	4.4	3.0	1.6	2.1	2.7
Norland	1.6	1.9	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6
Ontario	9.7	8.3	5.5	2.8	2.9	2.0
Atlantic	3.4	3.5	3.0	3.5	1.5	2.0
Monona	1/	1/	1.7	1.0	1.9	2.0
Norwis	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.3	1.8
Reba(NY87)	1/	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.1	1.4
Andover	1/	1/	1/	1/	1.0	1/
Mainstay	1/	1/	1.0	1/	1/	1/
Chieftain	1.8	1.4	1.3	1/	1/	1/
Centennial Russet	1/	1/	1.2	1/	1/	1/
Other Varieties	7.4	7.1	6.4	4.7	5.3	5.5
Total Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>By Type:</b>						
Whites (Long and Round)	53.0	56.0	51.0	49.5	50.6	45.5
Russets	43.0	40.0	43.5	47.0	45.8	45.3
Yellows <sup>2/</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	5.5
Reds	4.0	4.0	5.5	3.5	3.6	3.7
Total Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

<sup>1/</sup> Included with other varieties.<sup>2/</sup> Not available Prior to November 2007.SOURCE: **Crop Production**, 3:00 p.m., September 12, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.FALL POTATOES: Stocks Held By Growers, Local Dealers, and Processors, 13 Fall States 2006 Crop <sup>1/2/</sup>

State	December 1 2006	January 1 2007	February 1 2007	March 1 2007	April 1 2007	May 1 2007	June 1 2007
	1,000 Cwt						
California	1,800	1,500	1,300	1,200	800	450	290
Colorado	17,200	15,200	13,100	11,300	9,000	5,800	3,700
Idaho	90,000	80,000	70,000	59,500	46,500	33,000	21,000
<b>Maine</b>	<b>14,400</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>7,700</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>3,000</b>
Michigan	8,100	6,300	4,600	3,300	1,800	700	*
Minnesota	13,300	11,600	10,000	8,300	6,100	4,100	2,000
Montana	3,300	3,300	3,200	3,100	2,300	*	*
Nebraska	5,800	4,900	4,000	3,400	2,400	1,400	700
New York	3,000	2,200	1,400	1,000	500	*	*
North Dakota	17,300	15,000	12,000	9,900	7,900	4,800	2,100
Oregon	16,000	13,900	11,700	9,700	7,600	4,800	2,300
Washington	49,000	42,500	36,500	28,500	21,000	14,000	7,500
Wisconsin	20,100	16,900	13,500	10,700	7,400	4,000	1,700
Other States <sup>3/</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	700	170
<b>Total 13 States</b>	<b>259,300</b>	<b>226,100</b>	<b>192,600</b>	<b>159,700</b>	<b>121,000</b>	<b>79,050</b>	<b>44,460</b>
Klamath Basin <sup>3/</sup>	4,000	3,400	2,600	2,200	1,400	600	4/

\* Combined into 'Other States' to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>1/</sup> Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes that are not yet moved, and shrinkage, waste, and other losses that occur after the date of each estimate.<sup>2/</sup> Revised.<sup>3/</sup> Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath County, OR.<sup>4/</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.SOURCE: **Potatoes**, 3:00 p.m., September 20, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

FALL POTATOES: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2005 – 2007 <sup>1/2/</sup>

State	Area Planted			Area Harvested			Yield per Acre			Production		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
	1,000 Acres						Cwt			1,000 Cwt		
Maine	57.5	58.5	57.5	56.2	58.0	57.0	275	310		15,455	17,980	
Massachusetts	2.5	3.1	2.7	2.4	3.1	2.7	260	240		624	744	
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	210	260		105	130	
<b>United States Fall Crop</b>	967.7	993.7	1,009.2	949.0	983.0	996.2	403	406		382,743	398,921	
<b>United States All Seasons</b>	1,109.1	1,140.1	1,147.5	1,086.9	1,121.9	1,128.4	390	393		423,926	441,348	

<sup>1/</sup> 2006 crop revised.<sup>2/</sup> The forecast of fall 2007 potato production will be published in *Crop Production* on November 9, 2007.SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 3:00 p.m., September 12, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## FALL POTATOES: Production, Disposition, Price, and Value, 2006 Crop

State	Production	Total Used for Seed <sup>1/</sup>	Disposition			Price per Cwt	Value of	
			On Farm Where Grown		Sold		Production	Sales
			Seed, Feed, Home Use	Shrink and Loss				
	1,000 Cwt			Dollars			1,000 Dollars	
Maine	17,980	1,236	228	1,482	16,270	7.80	140,244	126,906
Massachusetts	744	59	5	5	734	10.10	7,514	7,413
Rhode Island	130	14	—	2	128	10.40	1,352	1,331
<b>United States Fall Crop</b>	398,921	23,337	4,482	28,576	365,863	6.68	2,671,119	2,445,026
<b>United States All Seasons</b>	441,348	26,437	4,738	29,852	406,758	7.33	3,225,871	2,981,414

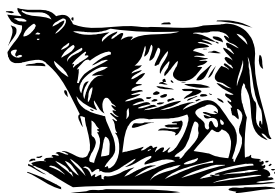
<sup>1/</sup> Seed used to plant 2007 crop acreage.SOURCE: *Potatoes*, 3:00 p.m., September 20, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, August 2007 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows <sup>1/</sup>			Production per Cow			Production		
	August 2006	July 2007	August 2007	August 2006	July 2007	August 2007	August 2006	July 2007	August 2007
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	141	139	139	1,510	1,555	1,540	213	216	214
New York	634	626	625	1,580	1,650	1,640	1,002	1,033	1,025
Pennsylvania	554	550	551	1,580	1,610	1,620	875	886	893
<b>UNITED STATES <sup>2/</sup></b>	8,255	8,316	8,327	1,676	1,743	1,721	13,838	14,493	14,332

<sup>1/</sup> Average number for month, includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.<sup>2/</sup> United States includes 23 major States: AZ, CA, CO, FL, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, TX, VT, VA, WA, and WI.SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., September 18, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.VERMONT MILK: 2002 – 2007 Prices Received <sup>1/</sup> by Farmers for Milk Sold

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
	Price per Cwt												
2002	14.20	13.80	13.30	13.10	12.70	12.10	11.60	11.70	12.00	12.50	12.50	12.40	12.70
2003	12.30	11.90	11.50	11.40	11.50	11.50	12.10	13.40	15.00	15.80	15.50	14.80	13.00
2004	14.00	14.40	16.20	17.80	20.10	19.80	17.60	15.50	16.30	16.60	17.00	17.20	16.90
2005	16.90	16.00	16.60	15.80	15.50	15.10	15.80	15.70	16.10	16.50	16.10	15.50	16.00
2006	15.30	14.60	13.80	12.80	12.70	12.70	12.70	12.90	13.60	14.50	14.70	14.80	13.70
2007 <sup>2/</sup>	15.60	15.80	16.70	17.60	19.00	21.00	23.20	23.50					

<sup>1/</sup> Prices include quality, quantity, and other premiums; excludes deductions for hauling and hauling subsidies.<sup>2/</sup> Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., August 31, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, July 2007 with Comparisons

Product	July 2006 <sup>1/</sup>	June 2007 <sup>1/</sup>	July 2007	July 2007 as percent of:	
				July 2006	June 2007
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	1,406	1,619	1,175	84	73
American Type Cheese <sup>2/</sup>	6,693	5,371	6,566	98	122
Mozzarella Cheese	3,540	3,342	3,427	97	103
Other Italian Cheese <sup>3/</sup>	916	571	490	53	86
Cottage Cheese <sup>4/</sup>	581	592	552	95	93
	1,000 Gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	8,620	6,521	7,802	91	120
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	1,289	1,296	1,244	97	96
Milk Sherbet, Hard	298	139	165	55	119

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.<sup>2/</sup> American type Cheese includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack.<sup>3/</sup> Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.<sup>4/</sup> Creamed and low fat.SOURCE OF NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, 3:00 p.m., September 5, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, August 2006 – 2007

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers <sup>1/</sup>		Eggs per 100 for All Layers <sup>1/</sup>		Egg Production from All Layers <sup>1/</sup>	
	August 2006	August 2007	August 2006	August 2007	August 2006	August 2007	August 2006	August 2007
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	2,606	2,653	2,665	2,708	2,439	2,437	62	66
Maine	3,960	3,712	4,026	3,786	2,335	2,272	92	87
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>278,481</b>	<b>274,843</b>	<b>341,450</b>	<b>339,471</b>	<b>2,239</b>	<b>2,229</b>	<b>7,645</b>	<b>7,573</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.SOURCE: *Chickens and Eggs*, 3:00 p.m., September 21, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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