



News Release

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Potato Stocks
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March 1 Potato Stocks

North Dakota

North Dakota growers, dealers and processors held 8.00 million hundredweight (cwt) of potatoes in storage March 1, 2008, down 19 percent from a year ago but up 11 percent from two years ago. This is according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Current stocks represent 34 percent of production, down from 39 percent last year and 35 percent two years ago. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to March 1 totaled 15.7 million cwt, up from 15.6 million cwt a year ago and 13.3 million cwt two years ago. February disappearance totaled 2.00 million cwt, down from 2.10 million cwt a year ago and 2.20 million cwt two years ago.

United States

The 13 major potato states held 172 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2008, up 8 percent from last year and 10 percent above March 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 43 percent of the 2007 fall storage states' production, up 2 percentage points from last year. Potato disappearance, at 228 million cwt, was down 1 percent from last year but up 4 percent from 2006. Season to date shrink and loss, at 19.7 million cwt, was down 3 percent from the same date in 2007 but 7 percent above 2006. Processors in the 9 major states have used 123 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 3 percent from the same time last year but 8 percent above 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 25.2 million cwt of the total processing, down 10 percent from last year but 11 percent above the same date in 2006.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks
13 Major States and United States, March 1, 2007-2008

State	Crop of 2006		Crop of 2007	
	Production	Stocks March 1, 2007	Production	Stocks March 1, 2008
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
North Dakota	25,480	9,900	23,660	8,000
California	3,870	1,200	4,223	1,100
Colorado	22,686	11,300	20,981	9,500
Idaho	128,915	59,500	131,650	63,000
Maine	17,980	9,800	16,530	8,000
Michigan	14,190	3,300	14,700	4,600
Minnesota	20,400	8,300	20,680	8,500
Montana	3,518	3,100	3,696	3,300
Nebraska	8,730	3,400	8,051	3,000
New York	5,700	1,000	5,216	700
Oregon	18,533	9,700	20,238	11,600
Washington	89,900	28,500	102,300	40,000
Wisconsin	29,370	10,700	28,160	10,500
13 State Total	389,272	159,700	400,085	171,800