



# News Release

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Potato Stocks  
May 15, 2008

## May 1 Potato Stocks

### North Dakota

North Dakota growers, dealers and processors held 3.90 million hundredweight (cwt) of potatoes in storage on May 1, 2008, down 19 percent from a year ago but up 22 percent from two years ago. This is according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Current stocks represent 16 percent of production, down from 19 percent last year but slightly above 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 May 1 totaled 19.8 million cwt, down from 20.7 million cwt a year ago but up from 17.3 million cwt two years ago. April disappearance totaled 2.10 million cwt, down from 3.10 million cwt a year ago but equal to two years ago.

### United States

The 13 major potato states held 92.7 million cwt of potatoes in storage May 1, 2008, up 17 percent from a year ago and 22 percent above May 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 23 percent of the 2007 fall storage states' production, up 3 percentage points from last year.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to May 1 was at 307 million cwt, 1 percent below last year but up 3 percent from 2006. Shrink and loss, at 23.4 million cwt, was down 3 percent from the same period in 2007 but up 6 percent from 2006. Processors have used 158 million cwt of the 2007 potato crop so far this season, down 3 percent from last year's season-to-date usage but up 6 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 33.4 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year but 11 percent above the same period in 2006.

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

State	Crop of 2006		Crop of 2007	
	Production	Stocks May 1, 2007 <sup>1</sup>	Production	Stocks May 1, 2008 <sup>1</sup>
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
<b>North Dakota</b>	25,480	4,800	23,660	3,900
California	3,870	450	4,223	460
Colorado	22,686	5,800	20,981	4,400
Idaho	128,915	33,000	131,650	37,000
Maine	17,980	5,300	16,530	3,950
Michigan	14,190	700	14,700	1,600
Minnesota	20,400	4,100	20,680	4,800
Montana	3,518		3,696	
Nebraska	8,730	1,400	8,051	1,000
New York	5,700		5,216	
Oregon	18,533	4,800	20,238	6,400
Washington	89,900	14,000	102,300	25,000
Wisconsin	29,370	4,000	28,160	3,700
Other States		700		500
<b>13 State Total</b>	<b>389,272</b>	<b>79,050</b>	<b>400,085</b>	<b>92,710</b>

<sup>1</sup> Missing stocks combined into "Other States".