

Maine Potatoes 2007 Crop Acreage, Yield, Size and Grade

A field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

January 11, 2008



NEW ENGLAND
Agricultural
Statistics

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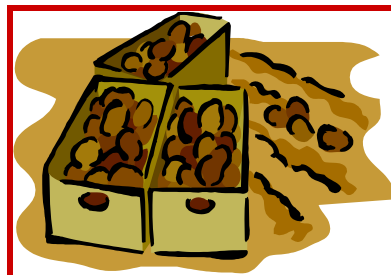
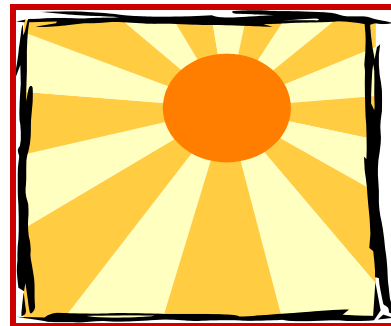
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A special "THANK YOU" goes to Maine growers who have helped us by participating in the Potato Objective Yield Survey program. The study estimates yield, size and grade from randomly selected hills that are dug just before harvest.



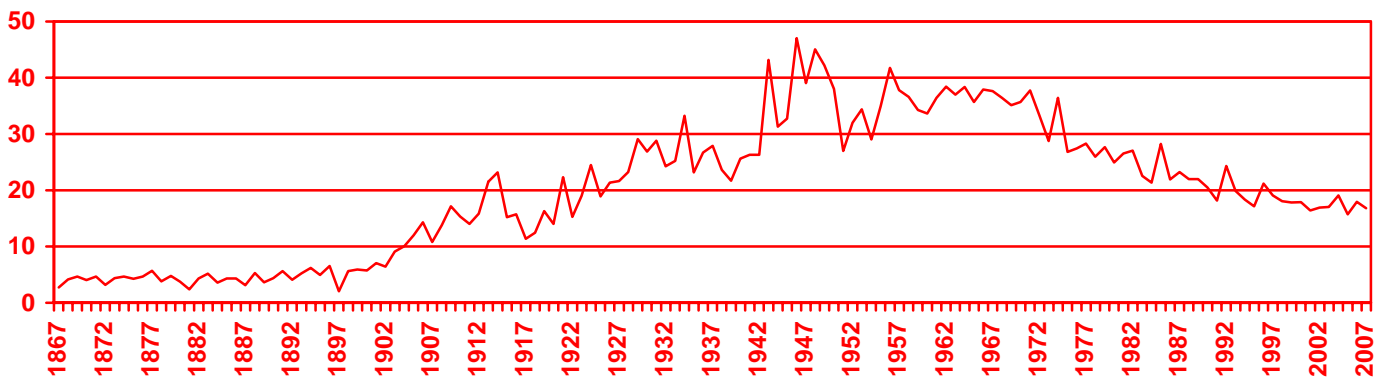
This report is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Maine Department of Agriculture as a service to growers and others in the industry. It is published annually and is available on the Internet in mid-January.

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**Maine Fall Potatoes
Production 1867 – 2007**

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Maine Potatoes Acreage, Yield, Size and Grade, 2007 Crop

FORWARD:

We are pleased to present the Maine Acreage, Yield, Size and Grade Report for the 2007 potato crop. Data contained in this report are based on the results of the Potato Objective Yield Survey, a project conducted annually since 1968. The National Potato Objective Yield program encompasses seven of the major fall potato producing states (Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin) that grew 84 percent of the United States fall potato crop in 2007.

The 2007 Potato Objective Yield Survey in Maine consisted of 210 “samples” chosen by systematic random sampling. Each sample consisted of two independently located units. Within each unit, hill counts were made along a 20-foot length of the row, width of the row was measured, and three hills were harvested. Thus, tubers were harvested from six hills of potatoes for each sample. These potatoes were graded, sized, and weighed using strict laboratory procedures. After harvest, enumerators returned to one-fourth of the sample fields to obtain an objective indication of harvest loss. Tubers were collected from two units, each unit covering a three foot by six foot area, and sent to the lab for weighing.

The success of this project must be credited to the cooperation of many potato growers across the State of Maine. We sincerely appreciate their time and efforts in supplying crop information, and granting permission for field entry and sample diggings. The 2007 Maine Potato Objective Yield Survey was under the leadership of Statisticians John Miyares and Travis Averill. Data collection was supervised by NASDA field supervisors Marcia Gartley and Bill Turner. NASDA field enumerators included Keith Boulter, Margaret Wolverton, Scott Knowlton, Alina Mushero, Shannon Lion and Julie Kosch. Lab supervision was under the direction of John Bourgoine. Robin Helrich was responsible for setting the estimates of acreage, yield, production, prices, and stocks. We would also like to recognize Lynne Arsenault, Deirdre Davis, Alexander I. Slosman and Kathy Schmitt for their assistance in preparing this publication.

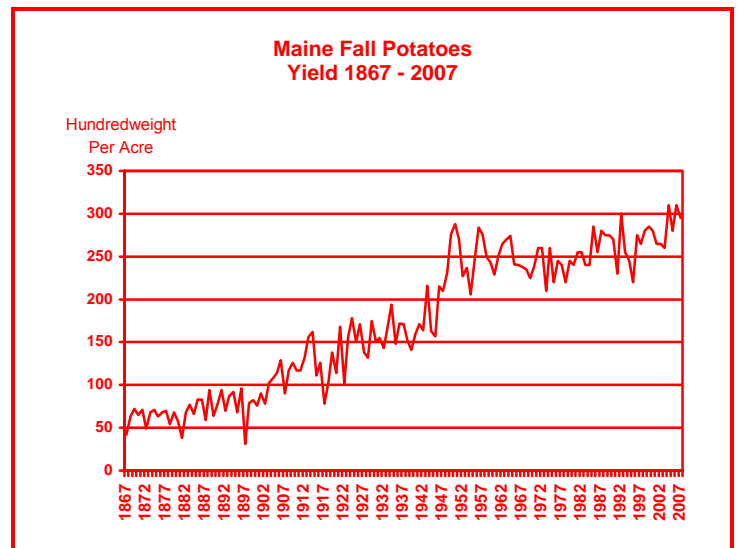
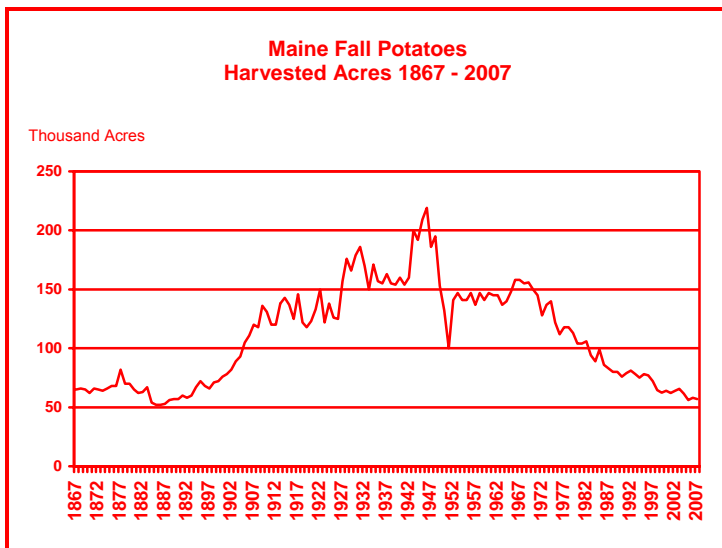


Table 1: MAINE POTATOES: Acres, Yield and Production, 2002 – 2007

Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Production
	Planted	Harvested		
	Acres		Cwt	1,000 Cwt
2002	64,500	64,000	265	16,960
2003	66,000	65,500	260	17,030
2004	63,500	61,500	310	19,065
2005	57,500	56,200	275	15,455
2006	58,500	58,000	310	17,980
2007	57,100	57,000	290	16,530

SOURCE: *Crop Production – Annual*, 8:30 a.m., January 11, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 2: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Acres Planted by Variety, 2002 – 2007

Variety and Type	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
By Variety:	Percent					
Russet Burbank	36.4	33.2	36.7	42.5	42.5	39.1
Frito-Lay, All	10.9	11.9	11.5	17.1	17.1	18.9
Superior	7.2	6.1	3.0	3.4	4.5	5.0
Shepody	9.2	9.8	9.3	7.2	5.2	4.6
Snowden	1.4	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.1	3.8
Yukon Gold	1.4	2.0	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.3
Goldrush	1.1	1.6	1.9	2.7	1.0	2.8
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	2.6
Norland	1.6	1.9	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6
Atlantic	3.4	3.5	3.0	3.5	1.5	2.0
Ontario	9.7	8.3	5.5	2.8	2.9	2.0
Monona	*	*	1.7	1.0	1.9	1.9
Norwis	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.3	1.8
Reba (NY87)	*	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.1	1.5
Andover	*	*	*	*	1.0	*
Mainstay	*	*	1.0	*	*	*
Chieftain	1.8	1.4	1.3	*	*	*
Centennial Russet	*	*	1.2	*	*	*
Other Varieties	7.4	7.1	6.4	4.7	5.3	5.3
Total Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
By Type:						
Whites (Long and Round)	53.0	56.0	51.0	49.5	50.6	46.2
Russets	43.0	40.0	43.5	47.0	45.8	44.8
Yellows ¹						5.4
Reds	4.0	4.0	5.5	3.5	3.6	3.6
Total Varieties	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Unavailable prior to 2007.

* Included with other varieties.

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 3:00 p.m., November 9, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



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Table 3: MAINE POTATOES: Number of Tubers per Hill and Hills per Acre, by Type, 2002 – 2007 ¹

Year	Yellows		Round Whites		Long Whites		Russets		All Varieties ²	
	Tubers per Hill ³	Hills per Acre ³	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre	Tubers per Hill	Hills per Acre
2002			7.4	13,803	5.6	12,230	10.7	9,596	8.5	11,948
2003			7.8	13,521	6.8	12,021	10.5	9,731	8.9	11,729
2004			8.5	13,609	6.8	13,024	10.7	10,012	9.3	11,969
2005			7.3	12,494	6.7	10,402	9.8	9,007	8.6	10,595
2006			8.0	12,604	6.0	13,149	10.9	10,208	9.1	11,613
2007	6.6	13,418	7.1	13,290	7.5	11,943	11.0	9,629	8.9	11,519

¹ Tubers 1½ inches and over.² Includes Red varieties.³ Unavailable prior to 2007.**Table 4A: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Net Yield by Weight within Size Groups
Yellows and Round Whites, 2002 – 2007 ¹**

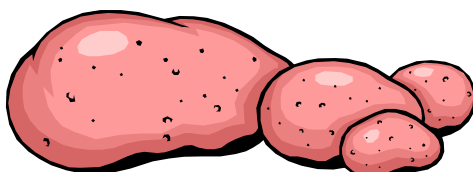
Size	Yellows ²	Round Whites					
	2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
		Percent					
1 ½" - under 1 ⅞"	1	4	3	2	2	*	1
1 ⅞" - under 2"	3	4	4	3	3	2	1
2" - under 2 ¼"	8	14	14	10	9	11	10
2 ¼" - under 2 ½"	13	22	20	16	15	18	21
2 ½" - under 3 ½"	65	50	55	63	61	64	61
3 ½" - under 4"	10	4	3	6	9	4	5
4" and over	*	2	1	*	1	1	1

¹ Adjusted for harvest loss.² Unavailable prior to 2007

* Less than one percent.

**Table 4B: MAINE POTATOES: Percent of Net Yield by Weight within Size Groups
Long Whites and Russets, 2002 – 2007 ¹**

Size	Long Whites (<i>Shepody</i>)						Russets					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Percent											
1 ½" - under 1 ⅞"	8	6	1	5	1	2	6	10	3	4	6	7
1 ⅞" - under 2"	8	5	2	1	3	1	6	8	4	4	7	6
2" and over:												
4 oz - under 6 oz ²	38	30	15	27	22	37	36	33	29	32	35	33
6 oz - under 8 oz	22	25	21	18	19	25	20	21	21	18	19	20
8 oz - under 10 oz	9	19	18	19	19	20	12	11	15	15	12	14
10 oz and over:												
10 oz - under 12 oz	7	4	17	13	9	5	8	8	9	10	8	8
12 oz - under 14 oz	2	8	8	9	12	9	5	5	6	6	4	5
14 oz and over	6	3	18	8	15	1	7	4	13	11	9	7

¹ Adjusted for harvest loss.² Includes potatoes two inches or greater weighing less than four ounces.

**Table 5: MAINE POTATOES:
Percent of Net Yield by Weight within Grade, by Type, 2002 – 2007 ¹**

Grade	Yellows ²	Round Whites						Long Whites						Russets					
	2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Percent																		
No. 1 (2 Inch Minimum) ³	82	83	77	85	83	78	89	73	62	69	81	60	59	77	61	70	74	63	70
No. 2 or Processing Usable (1 ½ Inch Minimum) ⁴	12	11	11	8	8	10	9	19	19	11	11	17	24	16	22	13	16	21	18
Cull ⁵	6	6	12	7	9	12	2	8	19	20	8	23	17	7	17	17	10	16	12

¹ Percent of net yield – adjusted for field loss. Reflects condition before harvest or handling damage.

² Unavailable prior to 2007.

³ Potatoes which meet the requirements for US #1, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.

⁴ Potatoes which meet the requirements for US #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.

⁵ Potatoes not meeting the requirements for US #1 or US #2, as stated in U.S. Standards for Grades of Potatoes, USDA, Agriculture Marketing Service.

Table 6A: MAINE POTATOES: Harvest Loss by Size, Round Whites, 2002 – 2007 ¹

Size	Round Whites					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Cwt per Acre					
1 ½" – under 1 ⅞"	4	4	3	1	7	4
1 ⅞" – under 2"	3	2	2	1	3	3
2" – under 2 ¼"	3	2	3	4	5	2
2 ¼" – under 2 ½"	2	3	3	3	3	1
2 ½" – under 3 ½"	4	4	3	6	4	3
3 ½" – under 4"	0	0	1	0	0	0
4" and over	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16	15	15	15	22	13

¹ Includes United States No. 1, United States No. 2 and Culls.

Table 6B: MAINE POTATOES: Harvest Loss by Size, Long Whites and Russets, 2002 – 2007 ¹

Size	Long Whites ²						Russets					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Cwt per Acre											
1 ½" - under 1 ⅞"							5	5	8	3	6	5
1 ⅞" - under 2"							3	2	4	2	3	2
2" and over:												
4 oz - under 6 oz ³							6	7	9	6	9	2
6 oz - under 8 oz							1	1	4	2	3	2
8 oz - under 10 oz							*	3	1	1	*	2
10 oz and over							*	4	4	1	2	*
Total	16	15	37	17	12	34	15	22	30	15	23	13

¹ Includes United States No. 1, United States No. 2, and Culls.

² Long white totals by size unavailable.

³ Includes potatoes two inches or greater weighing less than four ounces.

* Less than 0.5 cwt per acre.



Table 7: MAINE POTATOES: Planting Progress, 2002 – 2007

Size	Percent of Acres Planted Weekly						Accumulated Percent of Acres					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	Percent											
Before May 1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
May 8	22	4	4	0	15	5	22	4	4	0	17	5
May 15	23	6	40	5	40	25	45	10	44	5	57	30
May 22	22	40	37	5	5	20	67	50	81	10	62	50
May 29	24	36	14	15	25	30	91	86	95	25	87	80
June 5	8	12	3	50	10	15	99	98	98	50	97	95
After June 5	1	2	2	25	3	5	100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 8: MAINE POTATOES: Potato Production and Stocks by Month, 2001 – 2006 Crop Years ¹

Crop Year	Production	Stocks Held by Growers, Local Dealers, and Processors						
		Year	Following Year					
		December 1	January 1	February 1	March 1	April 1	May 1	June 1
		1,000 cwt						
2001	16,430	12,200	10,800	8,900	7,100	5,300	3,300	1,800
2002	16,960	12,600	11,200	9,500	8,000	6,300	3,900	2,100
2003	17,030	13,500	12,100	10,500	8,900	6,500	4,100	2,300
2004	19,065	15,000	12,800	11,100	9,400	7,500	5,000	2,900
2005	15,455	12,500	11,200	9,700	8,400	6,500	4,300	2,500
2006	17,980	14,400	12,800	11,300	9,800	7,700	5,300	3,000

¹ Data in this table is not derived from the Potato Objective Yield Survey. This data is derived from the monthly Potato Stocks/Price Survey also conducted by New England Agricultural Statistics.

SOURCE: **Potatoes**, 3:00 p.m., September 20, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 9: MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received by Farmers for Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average 2001 – 2006 Crop Years ^{1 2}

Crop Year	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Market Year Average
	Dollars Per Cwt											
2001	6.20	5.70	6.05	6.65	7.50	7.75	8.30	8.65	9.45	8.05	7.80	7.65
2002	5.75	5.45	5.60	6.65	6.95	7.10	7.10	7.45	8.10	8.15	7.40	7.05
2003	6.00	5.25	5.45	5.85	5.70	5.80	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.75	7.05	6.05
2004	5.90	5.15	5.65	6.15	6.35	5.90	6.55	6.60	6.95	7.30	7.40	6.50
2005	*	5.85	6.30	7.90	8.20	8.20	8.40	8.75	9.45	9.30	8.55	8.25
2006	*	6.25	6.50	8.15	8.25	8.40	7.90	7.60	8.15	8.20	8.05	7.80

¹ Data in this table is not derived from the Potato Objective Yield Survey. This data is derived from the monthly Potato Stocks/Price Survey also conducted by New England Agricultural Statistics.

² Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed.

* Missing data indicates too few potatoes being marketed to set price.

SOURCE: **Potatoes**, 3:00 p.m., September 20, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

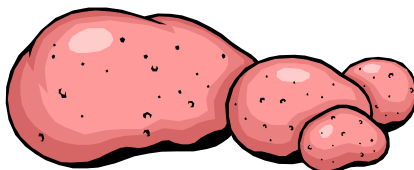


Table 10: FALL POTATOES: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2006 – 2007 ¹

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Acres				Cwt		1,000 Cwt	
California	8.6	8.2	8.6	8.2	450	515	3,870	4,223
Colorado	59.9	59.2	59.7	59.1	380	355	22,686	20,981
Idaho	335.0	350.0	334.0	349.0	386	377	128,915	131,650
Maine	58.5	57.1	58.0	57.0	310	290	17,980	16,530
Massachusetts	3.1	2.7	3.1	2.7	240	295	744	797
Michigan	43.5	42.5	43.0	42.0	330	350	14,190	14,700
Minnesota	51.0	50.0	48.0	47.0	425	440	20,400	20,680
Montana	10.6	11.3	10.5	11.2	335	330	3,518	3,696
Nebraska	19.5	20.5	19.4	19.4	450	415	8,730	8,051
Nevada	6.6	7.3	6.6	7.3	445	390	2,937	2,847
New Mexico	5.0	5.5	5.0	5.4	420	370	2,100	1,998
New York	20.6	19.0	19.0	18.3	300	285	5,700	5,216
North Dakota	100.0	97.0	98.0	91.0	260	260	25,480	23,660
Ohio	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	325	325	1,008	975
Oregon	35.0	36.5	35.0	36.5	530	554	18,533	20,238
Pennsylvania	11.0	10.5	10.5	10.0	260	220	2,730	2,200
Rhode Island	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	260	300	130	180
Washington	156.0	165.0	155.0	165.0	580	620	89,900	102,300
Wisconsin	66.0	64.5	66.0	64.0	445	440	29,370	28,160
United States Fall Crop	993.7	1,010.6	983.0	996.7	406	410	398,921	409,082

¹ Data in this table is not derived solely from the Potato Objective Yield Survey; data is derived from other end of year surveys conducted by New England Agricultural Statistics.
SOURCE: *Crop Production – Annual*, 8:30 a.m., January 11, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

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