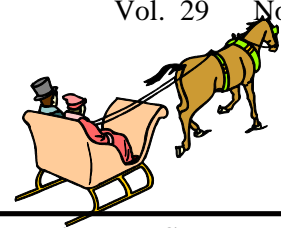




## Season's Greetings

from

Colorado Field Office



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### FALL POTATO STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2009

The 13 major potato States held 265 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2009, up 9 percent from a year ago but slightly below December 1, 2007. Potatoes in storage accounted for 69 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 4.50 million cwt on December 1, 2009, up 13 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County.

Potato disappearance, at 120 million cwt, was 5 percent below December 1, 2008 and down 9 percent from 2007. Season to date shrink and loss, at 14.1 million cwt, was up 11 percent from the same date in 2008 but 1 percent below 2007. Processors in the 9 major States have used 60.9 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 12 percent from the same period last year and down 17 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 11.0 million cwt of the total processing, up 3 percent from last year but 14 percent below the same period in 2007.

Fall potato stocks in Colorado's San Luis Valley totaled 15.8 million cwt as of December 1, 2009 down 5 percent from the stocks in storage one year earlier. The latest stocks represent 72 percent of the 22.08 million cwt produced in 2009. The December 2008 stocks represented 76 percent of the 2008 crop of 21.91 million cwt. The December 1, 2009 stocks by type in Colorado were 3 percent reds, 2 percent whites, 11 percent yellow and 84 percent russet.

Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for table stock have averaged 69 percent of the production for the 2004-2007 period. The remaining 31 percent of production is used for seed, processing, feed and home use or is lost through cullage and shrinkage.

### Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks December 1, 2008-2009

State	Crop of 2008			Crop of 2009		
	Prod.	Stocks Dec. 1, 2008	% of Prod.	Prod.	Stocks Dec. 1, 2009	% of Prod.
	<b>1,000 Cwt</b>		<b>%</b>	<b>1,000 Cwt</b>		<b>%</b>
CA .....	3,948	1,900	48	4,158	2,100	51
<b>CO.....</b>	<b>21,907</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>22,080</b>	<b>15,800</b>	<b>72</b>
ID .....	116,475	85,000	73	131,000	96,500	74
ME.....	14,769	11,300	77	15,263	12,000	79
MI.....	14,875	8,300	56	15,660	8,700	56
MN.....	20,400	13,200	65	21,150	13,000	61
MT.....	3,465	3,400	98	3,278	3,200	98
NE.....	8,245	5,600	68	8,712	5,800	67
NY.....	5,696	2,600	46	4,950	2,500	51
ND.....	22,680	14,800	65	19,125	13,000	68
OR.....	18,676	16,100	86	21,460	17,400	81
WA.....	93,000	49,500	53	88,450	54,500	62
WI.....	25,730	15,400	60	28,980	20,000	69
<b>13 ST.</b>						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>369,866</b>	<b>243,700</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>384,266</b>	<b>264,500</b>	<b>69</b>
Klamath Basin 1/		4,000			4,500	

1/ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath County Or.

### DRY EDIBLE BEANS - 2009

Production in Colorado, at 858 million cwt, is up 30 percent from 2008. Area harvested at 52,000 acres was 18 percent higher than the 44,000 acres harvested last year. The average yield of 1,650 pounds per acre is 150 pounds above 2008.

U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 25.2 million cwt for 2009, virtually unchanged from the October 1 forecast but 1 percent below the 2008. Planted area is forecast at 1.53 million acres, up slightly from the October forecast and 3 percent above 2008. Harvested area is forecast at 1.45 million acres, 1 percent above the October forecast but virtually unchanged from the previous year's acreage. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,737 pounds per acre, a decrease of 17 pounds from the October's forecast and 31 pounds below the 2008 yield.

Production is expected to be higher than last year in 11 of the 17 States in the dry bean estimating program in 2009; however, the top 4 producing States are forecasting a decrease in production. The production forecast in North Dakota, the largest producing State, is down 17 percent from a year ago, while Michigan dropped 3 percent from 2008. Minnesota and Nebraska's production is expected to be down 11 percent and 15 percent, respectively. In North Dakota, planting was delayed due to saturated fields and cool temperatures.

Harvest began in mid-September, about two weeks behind the 5-year average, and was essentially complete by mid-November. In Nebraska, hail and cool temperatures early in the growing season left the crop susceptible to disease pressure. As a result, some reduced yields and low quality beans were reported. Excessive moisture and cold weather slowed Minnesota's dry bean maturation and harvest. Several growers reported leaving acres in the fields or tilling them under.

### Dry Edible Beans: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2007-2009 <sup>1/</sup>

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre <sup>2/</sup>		Production <sup>2/</sup>		
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		Pounds		1,000 Cwt.		
Arizona <sup>4/</sup> .....	15.5		15.2		2,120				322
California .....	52.0	68.5	51.9	68.0	1,850	2,050	1,212	960	1,394
<b>Colorado.....</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>858</b>
Idaho .....	80.0	100.0	79.0	99.0	1,850	2,000	1,602	1,462	1,980
Kansas .....	6.0	8.5	5.5	8.0	2,100	2,800	138	116	224
Michigan .....	200.0	200.0	195.0	195.0	1,850	1,800	3,120	3,607	3,510
Minnesota.....	150.0	150.0	145.0	140.0	1,950	1,800	2,610	2,828	2,521
Montana .....	11.2	11.9	9.8	11.5	1,950	2,030	278	191	234
Nebraska .....	135.0	130.0	126.0	117.0	2,290	2,100	2,418	2,885	2,457
New Mexico.....	9.3	12.5	9.3	12.5	2,300	2,250	181	214	281
New York.....	17.0	16.0	16.8	15.6	1,930	1,190	248	324	185
North Dakota.....	660.0	610.0	640.0	565.0	1,570	1,480	10,773	10,048	8,362
Oregon .....	4.8	6.5	4.7	6.5	2,000	2,260	149	94	147
South Dakota.....	8.5	10.3	8.3	9.9	1,840	2,340	206	153	232
Texas .....	24.0	37.0	21.8	34.5	1,300	1,600	243	283	552
Utah <sup>3/</sup> .....	1.2		1.2		580		5	7	
Washington .....	50.0	58.0	50.0	58.0	1,770	1,800	1,020	885	1,044
Wisconsin.....	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.4	2,130	1,980	92	136	127
Wyoming.....	31.5	36.5	30.5	35.5	2,310	2,100	555	705	746
<b>United States.....</b>	<b>1,495.0</b>	<b>1,534.6</b>	<b>1,445.2</b>	<b>1,449.6</b>	<b>1,768</b>	<b>1,737</b>	<b>25,586</b>	<b>25,558</b>	<b>25,176</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Excludes beans grown for garden seed. <sup>2/</sup> Clean Basis. <sup>3/</sup> Discontinued in 2009. <sup>4/</sup> Estimates began in 2009.

### FALL POTATO PRODUCTION 2009 CROP

Production of fall potatoes for 2009 is forecast at 394 million cwt, up 1 percent from the November forecast and 4 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 919,400 acres, is slightly below the November forecast and 2008 estimate. The average yield, forecast at 429 cwt per acre, is up 3 cwt per acre from November's forecast and up 18 cwt per acre from last year. If realized, it will be the highest yield on record.

Idaho's yield is forecast at 411 cwt per acre. If realized, this will be Idaho's highest yield on record, 25 cwt above the record yield set in 2006. Production in Idaho is up 13 percent from last year. In eastern Washington, potato harvest was virtually completed by late November. Despite weather delays, harvest progress was the same as last year's pace and the 5-year average.

In Colorado, growing conditions were favorable in the San Luis Valley, however, an early frost and disease led to increase abandonment this year. Oregon's crop had a normal start without any widespread delays during planting. In California, favorable weather conditions aided yields and resulted in good crop quality reports from growers.

In North Dakota, crop condition was rated fair to good throughout the growing season. Wisconsin growers reported above average crop conditions and good quality. Cool temperatures and timely rain provided good growing conditions for Michigan potatoes.

**Fall potato** growers in the San Luis Valley produced 22.08 million cwt of potatoes this year, up 1 percent from last year's crop. Average yield was 400 cwt per acre, 15 cwt above last year's yield. The harvested area of 55,200 acres this year was 1,700 acres less than in 2008.

### Fall Potatoes: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2007-2009

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield/Acre		Production		
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
	<b>1,000 Acres</b>		<b>1,000 Acres</b>		<b>Cwt</b>		<b>1,000 Cwt</b>		
California .....	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	470	495	3,792	3,948	4,158
<b>Colorado.....</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>20,981</b>	<b>21,907</b>	<b>22,080</b>
ID .....	305.0	320.0	304.0	319.0	383	411	130,010	116,475	131,000
10 SW Co.....	15.0	19.0	15.0	19.0	540	500	10,290	8,100	9,500
Other Co.....	290.0	301.0	289.0	300.0	375	405	119,720	108,375	121,500
Maine .....	56.0	56.0	54.70	55.5	270	275	16,668	14,769	15,263
Massachusetts.....	2.8	3.5	2.7	3.5	260	260	832	702	910
Michigan .....	43.0	45.0	42.5	43.5	350	360	14,700	14,875	15,660
Minnesota.....	50.0	47.0	48.0	45.0	425	470	21,560	20,400	21,150
Montana .....	10.9	11.0	10.5	9.5	330	345	3,696	3,465	3,278
Nebraska .....	19.5	20.0	19.4	19.8	425	440	8,217	8,245	8,712
Nevada .....	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.1	410	465	2,847	2,378	2,372
New Mexico .....	5.9	6.5	5.9	6.4	390	420	1,998	2,301	2,688
New York.....	18.0	17.1	17.8	16.5	320	300	5,216	5,696	4,950
North Dakota.....	82.0	83.0	81.0	75.0	280	255	23,660	22,680	19,125
Ohio.....	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.1	325	335	990	683	704
OR.....	35.3	37.0	35.3	37.0	529	580	20,293	18,676	21,460
Malheur 1/.....	2.8		2.8		460		1,365	1,288	
Other Co 1/.....	32.5		32.5		535		18,928	17,388	
Pennsylvania .....	10.0	10.0	9.5	9.5	265	310	2,200	2,518	2,945
Rhode Island .....	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	280	210	180	140	84
Washington .....	155.0	145.0	155.0	145.0	600	610	100,800	93,000	88,450
Wisconsin.....	63.5	63.5	62.0	63.0	415	460	28,160	25,730	28,980
<b>United States.....</b>	<b>931.1</b>	<b>936.9</b>	<b>922.0</b>	<b>919.4</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>406,800</b>	<b>378,588</b>	<b>393,969</b>

1/ Estimates discontinued 2009

### MILK PRODUCTION NOVEMBER 2009

Colorado dairy herds produced 218 million pounds of milk during the November 2009 period, 9 percent below the 240 million pounds produced during the same period in 2008. The average number of milk cows on hand during the month was 116,000, down 14,000 head from the same month last year. Production per cow averaged 1,880 pounds for November, 2 percent above November a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during November totaled 14.0 billion pounds, down 1.0 percent from November 2008. October revised production at 14.3 billion pounds, was down 1.2 percent from October 2008. The October revision represented a decrease of 12 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,679 pounds for November, 25 pounds above November 2008. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.31 million head, 209,000 head less than November 2008, and 6,000 head less than October 2009.

### Milk Cows and Milk Production

Item	Unit	2008	2009
<b>Colorado:</b>			
Milk Cows 1/ .....	1,000 head	130	116
Production per cow 2/ .....	Pounds	1,845	1,880
Production 2/.....	Mil. lbs.	240	218
<b>23 State Total:</b>			
Milk Cows 1/ .....	1,000 head	8,519	8,310
Production per cow 2/ .....	Pounds	1,654	1,679
Production 2/.....	Mil. lbs.	14,089	13,955

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Dec. 30 - Hogs and Pigs
- Dec. 30 - Agricultural Prices
- Jan. 4 - Turkeys Raised
- Jan. 11 - Crop Production - Annual
- Jan. 11 - Grain Stocks
- Jan. 11 - Winter Wheat and Rye Seedings
- Jan. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Jan. 17 - Potato Stocks
- Jan. 18 - Milk Production
- Jan. 25 - Cattle on Feed

**William Meyer**  
Director

**Rodger Ott**  
Deputy Director