



Season's Greetings
from the
USDA/NASS Colorado Field Office



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Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks December 1, 2010-2011

FALL POTATO STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2011

The 13 major potato States held 250 million hundredweight of potatoes in storage December 1, 2011, up 4 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 66 percent of the 2011 fall storage States' production, one percentage point below December 1, 2010. Potato disappearance, at 129 million hundredweight, was 10 percent above December 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 13.5 million hundredweight, was up 6 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 73.0 million hundredweight of potatoes this season, up 17 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 13.4 million hundredweight of the total processing, up 68 percent from last year.

Fall potato stocks in Colorado's San Luis Valley totaled 15.4 million hundredweight as of December 1, 2011 down less than 1 percent from the stocks in storage one year earlier. The latest stocks represent 72 percent of the 21.29 million hundredweight produced in 2011. The December 2010 stocks represented 72 percent of the 21.53 million hundredweight produced for that year. The December 1, 2011 stocks by type in Colorado were 1 percent reds, 4 percent whites, 8 percent yellow and 87 percent russet.

Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for table stock have averaged 67 percent of the production for the 2006-2010 period. The remaining 33 percent of production is used for seed, processing, feed and home use or is lost through cullage and shrinkage. The total quantity of potatoes sold as a percent of production has averaged about 85 percent over the past five years.

If these relationships for total sales and table stock sales exist for the 2011 crop, about 18.1 million hundredweight of the 21.3 million hundredweight produced will be sold of which 14.3 million hundredweight will be sold as table stock.

State	Crop of 2010			Crop of 2011		
	Prod.	Stocks Dec. 1, 2010	% of Prod.	Prod.	Stocks Dec. 1, 2011	% of Prod.
	1,000 Cwt.		%	1,000 Cwt.		%
CA.....	2,828	1,900	67	4,128	2,500	61
CO	21,528	15,500	72	21,291	15,400	72
ID	112,970	81,000	72	127,070	88,000	69
ME	15,892	12,300	77	14,170	10,600	75
MI.....	15,660	9,300	59	15,620	8,900	57
MN.....	17,010	10,500	62	15,870	10,000	63
MT.....	3,673	3,600	98	3,876	3,800	98
NE.....	7,719	4,900	63	7,800	4,600	59
NY.....	5,120	2,500	49	4,050	2,100	52
ND.....	22,000	14,000	64	18,480	12,600	68
OR	20,058	16,400	82	23,342	17,900	77
WA.....	88,440	52,200	59	98,400	57,500	58
WI.....	24,293	16,100	66	24,688	16,000	65
13 ST.						
TOTAL	357,191	240,200	67	378,785	249,900	66
Klamath Basin 1/	(NA)	4,000	(NA)	(NA)	5,200	(NA)

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

DRY EDIBLE BEANS - 2011

Production in **Colorado**, at 576 thousand hundredweight, is down 54 percent from 2010. Area harvested, at 36,000 acres, was 45 percent lower than the 66,000 acres harvested last year. The average yield of 1,600 pounds per acre is 300 pounds below 2010.

U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 19.7 million hundredweight for 2011, down 38 percent from 2010. Planted area is estimated at 1.21 million acres, down 37 percent from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 1.15 million acres, 38 percent below the previous year. The average United States yield is forecast at 1,719 pounds per acre, a decrease of 7 pounds from 2010. Production is expected to be lower in 17 of the 18 States in the dry bean program.

Dry Edible Beans: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2010-2011 ^{1/}

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre ^{2/}		Production ^{2/}	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		Pounds		1,000 Cwt.	
Arizona.....	13.0	8.2	12.9	7.9	1,880	1,780	243	1.48
California.....	63.5	46.0	63.0	45.1	2,320	2,200	1,462	990
Colorado.....	70.0	38.0	66.0	36.0	1,900	1,600	1,254	576
Idaho.....	135.0	95.0	134.0	94.0	1,900	2,000	2,546	1,880
Kansas.....	9.5	6.5	9.0	9.0	2,600	1,900	234	114
Michigan.....	236.0	170.0	235.0	168.0	1,800	2,000	4,230	3,360
Minnesota.....	185.0	140.0	175.0	135.0	1,750	1,690	3,062	2,281
Montana.....	18.8	15.0	17.7	14.5	2,030	1,970	359	286
Nebraska.....	170.0	110.0	155.0	105.0	2,060	2,000	3,193	2,100
New Mexico.....	13.8	12.5	13.8	12.5	2,330	2,230	332	279
New York.....	15.0	12.0	14.9	11.8	1,890	1,400	282	165
North Dakota.....	800.0	410.0	770.0	375.0	1,490	1,300	11,473	4,875
Oregon.....	7.1	6.4	6.9	6.4	2,160	2,410	149	154
South Dakota.....	12.5	10.2	11.3	9.0	2,040	1,770	230	159
Texas.....	21.0	15.0	19.0	13.0	1,210	1,000	229	130
Washington.....	86.0	70.0	86.0	70.0	1,600	1,900	1,376	1,330
Wisconsin.....	6.2	5.3	6.2	5.3	2,150	2,080	133	110
Wyoming.....	49.0	35.0	47.0	33.0	2,180	2,400	1,024	792
United States.....	1,911.4	1,205.1	1,842.7	1,147.5	1,726	1,719	31,801	19,729

^{1/} Excludes beans grown for garden seed. ^{2/} Clean Basis.

The top five producing States (North Dakota, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Idaho) expect decreased production from last season.

In North Dakota, the largest producing State, harvest began the second week of September, about two weeks behind last year. Harvest progressed quickly due to favorable weather conditions. Harvest was essentially complete by the second week of October, a week ahead of last year. Michigan's dry bean harvest began on a limited basis the week of August 12 and wrapped up in late-October. In Minnesota, a cool, wet spring prevented some acres from being planted and slowed maturation. An early frost in September further damaged the crop. In Nebraska, hail damage reduced expected yields.

**FALL POTATO PRODUCTION
2011 CROP**

Production of fall potatoes for 2011 is forecast at 387 million hundredweight, up 6 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 939,200 acres, is slightly above the November 1 forecast and 7 percent above the 2010 estimate. The average yield forecast, at 412 hundredweight per acre, is down 4 hundredweight per acre from last year's yield.

In Idaho, cool soil temperatures this spring delayed emergence of potatoes. Mild summer weather was followed by warmer than normal temperatures this fall, enabling farmers to harvest the 2011 potato crop with few delays. In Idaho, if realized, the yield will be the second highest on record. In Maine, wet conditions prevailed from planting through harvest and resulted in reductions in both acres harvested and yields. In Washington, harvesting conditions were favorable; however yields were variable across the State.

Fall potato growers in the San Luis Valley produced 21.29 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, slightly down from last year's crop. Average yield was 395 hundredweight per acre, 5 hundredweight above last year's yield. The harvested area of 53,900 acres this year was down 2 percent from last year.

Fall Potatoes: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2009-2011

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield/Acre		Production	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		1,000 Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
California	6.5	8.6	6.5	8.6	435	480	2,828	4,128
Colorado	55.5	54.0	55.2	53.9	390	395	21,528	21,291
ID.....	295.0	320.0	294.0	319.0	384	398	112,970	127,070
10 SW Co.....	16.0	19.0	16.0	19.0	545	530	8,720	10,070
Other Co.....	279.0	301.0	278.0	300.0	375	390	104,250	117,000
Maine.....	55.0	57.0	54.8	54.5	290	260	15,892	14,170
Massachusetts.....	3.9	3.5	3.8	2.7	285	275	1,083	743
Michigan	44.0	45.0	43.5	44.0	360	355	15,660	15,620
Minnesota	45.0	49.0	42.0	46.0	405	345	17,010	15,870
Montana	11.5	11.7	11.3	11.4	325	340	3,673	3,876
Nebraska	19.0	20.0	18.6	19.5	415	400	7,719	7,800
Nevada	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/
New Mexico	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/
New York.....	16.2	16.5	16.0	16.2	320	250	5,120	4,050
North Dakota.....	84.0	84.0	80.0	77.0	275	240	22,000	18,840
Ohio.....	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.7	290	250	609	425
OR.....	35.5	40.0	35.5	39.9	565	585	20,058	23,342
Pennsylvania	9.5	9.5	9.0	8.5	245	230	2,205	1,955
Rhode Island.....	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	275	250	165	150
Washington.....	135.0	160.0	134.0	160.0	660	615	88,440	98,400
Wisconsin.....	62.5	63.0	61.5	62.5	395	395	24,293	24,688
Other States ^{2/}	13.4	13.2	13.4	13.2	392	404	5,252	5,337
United States.....	894.3	957.3	881.8	939.2	416	412	366,505	387,395

^{1/} Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

^{2/} Includes data withheld above.

MILK PRODUCTION NOVEMBER 2011

Colorado dairy herds produced 245 million pounds of milk during the November 2011 period, 5 percent above the 234 million pounds produced during the same period in 2010. The average number of milk cows on hand during the month was 131,000, up 9,000 head from the same month last year. Production per cow averaged 1,870 pounds for November, 3 percent below November a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during November totaled 14.7 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from November 2010. October revised production at 15.2 billion pounds, was up 2.5 percent from October 2010. The October revision represented an increase of 1 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,738 pounds for November, 16 pounds above November 2010. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.48 million head, 108,000 head more than November 2010, but unchanged from October 2011.

Milk Cows and Milk Production

Item	Unit	2010	2011
Colorado:			
Milk Cows ^{1/}	1,000 head	122	131
Production per cow ^{2/}	Pounds	1,920	1,870
Production ^{2/}	Mil. lbs.	234	245
23 State Total:			
Milk Cows ^{1/}	1,000 head	8,373	8,481
Production per cow ^{2/}	Pounds	1,722	1,738
Production ^{2/}	Mil. lbs.	14,421	14,736

^{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. 23 - Hogs and Pigs
- Dec. 30 - Agricultural Prices
- Jan. 12 - Crop Production - Annual
- Jan. 12 - Grain Stocks
- Jan. 12 - Winter Wheat and Rye Seedings
- Jan. 13 - Turkey Hatchery
- Jan. 20 - Cattle on Feed
- Jan. 23 - Milk Production
- Jan. 27 - Cattle

William Meyer
Director

Rodger Ott
Deputy Director