

IDAHO POTATO PULSE



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Website: www.idahopotato.com

Tom Cooper is retiring.

A long standing industry icon, Tom Cooper, will be retiring from his position with USDA. Tom has worked with the industry for 42 years. An Open House is being organized for those who wish to give Tom a nice send off and best wishes on December 10, 2011. For information and details, contact Patty Willkie (Patty.Wilkie@ams.usda.gov) or Mick Davie (Mick.Davie@ams.usda.gov). If you'd like to send a letter/card for inclusion in a gift book, please mail same to Patty Willkie, 1820 E 17th Street, Suite 100; Idaho Falls, ID 83604 by December 2nd.



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Idaho Potatoes

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture

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Idaho Potato Production Up 12 Percent

Idaho's potato production is expected to total 127 million cwt, up 12 percent from last year's 113 million cwt, but 4 percent below the 2009 crop. Planted acres of 320,000 and harvested acres of 319,000 are up 25,000 acres from 2010. Statewide, yield is 398 cwt (field-run basis), up 14 cwt from last year. Yield in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 530 cwt, decreased 15 cwt from last year's record high for this area. Acreage for the 10 Southwest counties, at 19,000 acres planted and harvested, increased 3,000 acres from last year. Because of the acreage increase, total production in the area is up 15 percent from last year at 10.1 million cwt. In Idaho's "other counties," yield is estimated at 390 cwt, compared to a 375 cwt a year ago. Other area production from 300,000 harvested acres is expected to total 117 million cwt, 12 percent above last year's 104 million cwt.

United States Highlights

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2011 is forecast at 385 million cwt, up 5 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 938,500 acres, is 6 percent above the 2010 estimate. The average yield forecast, at 410 cwt per acre, is down 6 cwt per acre from last year's yield.

In Idaho, yields are good despite a cool, wet spring that delayed emergence. If realized, the yield will be the second highest on record. In Washington, harvesting conditions were favorable, however yields from early digs were lower than last year due to immaturity. In Maine, growers were challenged by persistent wet conditions that delayed planting, washed out fields, and delayed harvest.

Total United States potato production in 2011 from all seasons is forecast at 424 million cwt, 5 percent above 2010. Harvested area, at 1.07 million acres, is up 7 percent from last year. Average yield is forecast at 395 cwt per acre, down 6 cwt per acre from the previous year.

Acreage By Variety

Data from the Potato Objective Yield Survey show that the Russet Burbank variety accounts for 57.8 percent of the potato acreage planted in Idaho. Russet Norkotah accounts for 16.2 percent of plantings, and Ranger Russet is 14.2 percent of the total. Frito Lay varieties, at 1.3 percent, and Umatilla Russet, at 1.2 percent, complete the top five varieties planted in Idaho for the 2011 crop. Other published varieties include Western Russet, at 1.1 percent, and Red Norlands, at 1.1 percent.

In addition to Idaho, planted acreage by variety is published for seven other states: Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin. Colorado conducts an independent survey and is not included in the seven state total. Russet Burbank accounts for 44.0 percent of the planted acreage in the seven states. Russet Burbank is the top variety in five of the eight states. Russet Norkotah is the leading variety in Colorado and Oregon, while Frito Lay varieties account for the greatest percentage of acreage in Wisconsin. Russet Norkotah is second among varieties planted in the seven states and accounts for 12.7 percent of the acreage in the seven state total. Ranger Russet follows with 9.9 percent of the planted acreage in the seven state total. Umatilla Russet is next with 5.5 percent of the acreage planted in the seven states. Frito-Lay varieties are fifth with 4.7 percent of the planted acreage, and Norland is sixth with 3.9 percent of the planted acreage in the seven states.

Potato Objective Yield Survey:
Fall Potatoes: Percent of Major Varieties Planted, Selected States and 7 State Total, 2010 Crop and 2011 Crop

State and Varieties	2010 Percent of Planted Acres	2011 Percent of Planted Acres	State and Varieties	2010 Percent of Planted Acres	2011 Percent of Planted Acres
Idaho			Total (7 States) 1/		
Russet Burbank	59.3	57.8	Russet Burbank	44.3	44.0
Russet Norkotah	14.0	16.2	Russet Norkotah	11.4	12.7
Ranger Russet	12.8	14.2	Ranger Russet	9.0	9.9
Frito-Lay Varieties	1.6	1.3	Umatilla Russet	4.8	5.5
Umatilla Russet	1.1	1.2	Frito-Lay Varieties	5.8	4.7
Western Russet	1.5	1.1	Norland	3.2	3.9
Norland	1.1	1.1	Alturas	2.7	2.2
Other Varieties	8.6	7.1	Shepody	2.5	1.7
			Goldrush	1.1	1.1
Colorado 2/			Snowden	1.0	1.0
Russet Norkotah	45.9	49.3	Premier Russet	1.2	0.8
Canela Russet	13.4	11.5	Chieftain	1.0	0.8
Classic Russet	*	6.6	Yukon Gold	1.0	0.8
Rio Grande Russet	6.8	6.2	Bannock	0.5	0.7
Centennial Russet	4.2	4.0	Prospect	0.7	0.6
Yukon Gold	4.0	2.2	Cal White	*	0.6
Mesa Russet	*	2.1	Atlantic	0.6	0.5
Blazer Russet	4.8	1.9	Silverton Russet	0.6	0.5
Russet Nugget	2.7	1.7	Superior	0.5	0.5
Other Varieties	18.2	14.5	Dakota Pearl	0.7	0.5
			Western Russet	0.6	0.5
Oregon			Modoc	0.1	0.4
Russet Norkotah	27.9	22.3	Innovator	0.3	0.3
Ranger Russet	17.8	17.9	Alpine	0.2	0.3
Russet Burbank	17.2	16.6	Pike	0.3	0.3
Umatilla Russet	9.1	9.5	Ivory Crisp	0.2	0.3
Shepody	5.8	6.8	Red LaSoda	0.6	0.2
Frito-Lay Varieties	10.7	6.5	Reba	0.2	0.2
Alturas	3.1	5.8	Blazer Russet	*	0.2
Premier Russet	1.1	2.5	Dakota Crisp	*	0.2
Modoc	1.9	1.9	Cascade	0.3	0.2
Atlantic	*	1.9	Classic Russet	0.2	0.2
Yukon Gold	1.6	1.7	Laratte	*	0.1
Pike	1.2	1.3	Klondike Rose	0.1	0.1
Other Varieties	2.6	5.3	Sangre	0.1	0.1
			Dakota Rose	0.1	0.1
Washington			Rio Grande Russet	*	0.1
Russet Burbank	30.6	30.5	Binje	0.2	0.1
Umatilla Russet	15.8	16.7	Mega Chip	0.1	0.1
Russet Norkotah	14.2	14.1	Wisconsin	*	0.1
Ranger Russet	9.8	11.1	Monona	*	0.1
Alturas	9.0	8.8	Ontario	*	0.1
Frito-Lay Varieties	2.5	3.2	Katahdin	0.1	0.1
Chieftain	4.0	3.1	Yukon Gem	*	0.1
Shepody	2.6	3.1	Red Pontiac	0.2	0.1
Premier Russet	3.3	2.4	Keuka Gold	*	0.1
Cal White	*	1.0	Mazama	0.2	0.1
Other Varieties	8.2	6.0	Norwis	*	0.1
			All Blue	*	0.1
			Other Varieties	3.3	2.0

* Data not published in 2010. Included in Other Varieties.

1/ The seven state total includes ID, ME, MN, ND, OR, WA, and WI.

2/ Colorado conducts an independent variety survey and is not included in the 7 state total.

**Potatoes: Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production
by Seasonal Group, State, and United States, 2010 – 2011**

States	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	<u>1,000 Cwt</u>				<u>Cwt</u>		<u>1,000 Cwt</u>	
SPRING 1/	89.3	93.1	85.8	90.5	289	283	24,797	25,640
SUMMER 1/	42.1	45.2	40.4	44.2	321	303	12,971	13,386
FALL								
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
IDAHO, ALL	295.0	320.0	294.0	319.0	384	398	112,970	127,070
- 10 SW Counties	16.0	19.0	16.0	19.0	545	530	8,720	10,070
- Other Areas	279.0	301.0	278.0	300.0	375	390	104,250	117,000
Maine	55.0	57.0	54.8	54.0	290	260	15,892	14,040
Massachusetts	3.9	(D)	3.8	(D)	285	(D)	1,083	(D)
Michigan	44.0	45.0	43.5	44.0	360	350	15,660	15,400
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	19.6	415	400	7,719	7,840
Nevada	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Mexico	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
New York	16.2	16.5	16.0	16.2	320	255	5,120	4,131
North Dakota	84.0	84.0	80.0	77.0	275	235	22,000	18,095
Ohio	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.7	290	250	609	425
Oregon	35.5	40.0	35.5	39.9	565	585	20,058	23,342
Pennsylvania	9.5	9.2	9.0	8.5	245	230	2,205	1,955
Rhode Island	0.6	(D)	0.6	(D)	275	(D)	165	(D)
Washington	135.0	160.0	134.0	160.0	660	620	88,440	99,200
Wisconsin	62.5	63.0	61.5	62.0	395	360	24,293	22,320
Other States 2/	13.4	17.3	13.4	16.7	392	367	5,252	6,130
TOTAL FALL	894.3	957.3	881.8	938.5	416	410	366,505	385,113
UNITED STATES	1,025.7	1,095.6	1,008.0	1,073.2	401	395	404,273	424,139

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.

2/ Includes data withheld above.