

IDAHO POTATO PULSE



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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 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 387 million cwt, up 6 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 939,200 acres, is 7 percent above the 2010 estimate. The average yield forecast, at 412 cwt per acre, is down 4 cwt 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. If realized, the yield will be the second highest on record. In Washington, harvesting conditions were favorable, however yields were variable across the state. In Maine, wet conditions prevailed from planting through harvest and resulted in reductions in both acres harvested and yields.

Total United States potato production in 2011 from all seasons is forecast at 426 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 397 cwt per acre, down 4 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 57.9 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 Norland, at 1.0 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 Red 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	57.9	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	1.0	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	Binjje	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	Norwis	*	0.1
Other Varieties	8.2	6.0	Mazama	0.2	0.1
			All Blue	*	0.1
			Other Varieties	3.3	2.0

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

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