



# Idaho Potatoes

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture  
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)



Released November 9, 2012

Media Contact: Vince Matthews

## Idaho Potato Production Up 11 Percent

Idaho's potato production is expected to total 143 million cwt, up 11 percent from last year's 129 million cwt, and 27 percent above the 2010 crop. Planted acres of 345,000 and harvested acres of 344,000 are up 25,000 acres from 2011. Statewide, yield per acre is estimated to be a record 416 cwt, up 12 cwt from last year. Yield per acre in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 520 cwt, decreased 20 cwt from last year. Acreage for the 10 Southwest counties, at 20,000 acres planted and harvested, increased 1,000 acres from last year. Because of the acreage increase, total production in the area is up 1 percent from last year at 10.4 million cwt. In Idaho's "other counties," yield per acre is estimated at 410 cwt, compared to 395 cwt a year ago. Other area production from 324,000 harvested acres is expected to total 133 million cwt, 12 percent above last year's 119 million cwt.

## United States Highlights

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2012 is forecast at 422 million cwt, up 8 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 991,500 acres, is 6 percent above the 2011 estimate. The average yield forecast, at 426 cwt per acre, is up 10 cwt per acre from last year's yield.

In Idaho, growing conditions were favorable. Total potato production is forecast to be the second highest on record. Record high yields are also forecast in North Dakota and Massachusetts. Favorable spring weather and adequate water supplies benefitted both the North Dakota and Massachusetts potato crops. In Michigan, growers reported good yields despite the high temperatures and dry conditions experienced during the summer.

Total United States potato production in 2012 from all seasons is forecast at 467 million cwt, 9 percent above 2011. Harvested area, at 1.14 million acres, is up 6 percent from last year. Average yield is forecast at 411 cwt per acre, up 12 cwt per acre from the previous year.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

## **Acreage By Variety**

Data from the Potato Objective Yield Survey show that the Russet Burbank variety accounts for 52.5 percent of the potato acreage planted in Idaho. Russet Norkotah accounts for 20.9 percent of plantings, and Ranger Russet is 12.2 percent of the total. Alturas, at 2.1 percent, and Umatilla Russet, at 1.8 percent, complete the top five varieties planted in Idaho for the 2012 crop. Other published varieties include Western Russet, at 1.2 percent, and 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 44.5 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 13.1 percent of the acreage in the seven state total. Ranger Russet follows with 9.4 percent of the planted acreage in the seven state total. Umatilla Russet is next with 5.1 percent of the acreage planted in the seven states. Frito-Lay varieties are fifth with 3.2 percent of the planted acreage, and Norland is sixth with 3.1 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, 2011 Crop and 2012 Crop

State and Varieties	2011 Percent of Planted Acres	2012 Percent of Planted Acres	State and Varieties	2011 Percent of Planted Acres	2012 Percent of Planted Acres
<b>Idaho</b>			<b>Total (7 States) 1/</b>		
Russet Burbank	57.9	52.5	Russet Burbank	44.0	44.5
Russet Norkotah	16.2	20.9	Russet Norkotah	12.7	13.1
Ranger Russet	14.2	12.2	Ranger Russet	9.9	9.4
Alturas	*	2.1	Umatilla Russet	5.5	5.1
Umatilla Russet	1.2	1.8	Frito-Lay Varieties	4.7	3.2
Western Russet	1.1	1.2	Norland	3.9	3.1
Norland	1.0	1.1	Alturas	2.2	2.6
Other Varieties	8.4	8.2	Shepody	1.7	1.8
			Goldrush	1.1	1.2
<b>Colorado 2/</b>			Snowden	1.0	1.1
Russet Norkotah	49.3	52.5	Chieftain	0.8	1.0
Canela Russet	11.5	8.7	Yukon Gold	0.8	0.8
Centennial Russet	4.0	5.0	Premier Russet	0.8	0.8
Rio Grande Russet	6.2	4.7	Bannock	0.7	0.8
Classic Russet	6.6	4.3	Prospect	0.6	0.7
Russet Nugget	1.7	2.0	Ivory Crisp	0.3	0.6
Yukon Gold	2.2	1.9	Innovator	0.3	0.6
Mesa Russet	2.1	1.5	Silverton Russet	0.5	0.6
Latona	*	1.4	Superior	0.5	0.6
Other Varieties	16.4	18.0	Dakota Pearl	0.5	0.6
			Western Russet	0.5	0.5
<b>Oregon</b>			Alpine	0.3	0.5
Russet Norkotah	22.3	22.1	Atlantic	0.5	0.5
Ranger Russet	17.9	17.5	Modoc	0.4	0.5
Russet Burbank	16.6	15.8	Cal White	0.6	0.3
Umatilla Russet	9.5	9.2	Cascade	0.2	0.3
Shepody	6.8	7.6	Red LaSoda	0.2	0.3
Alturas	5.8	6.9	Pike	0.3	0.3
Frito-Lay Varieties	6.5	3.3	Blazer Russet	0.2	0.3
Premier Russet	2.5	3.1	Dakota Crisp	0.2	0.2
Yukon Gold	1.7	2.3	Dakota Rose	0.1	0.2
Atlantic	1.9	2.3	Laratte	0.1	0.2
Modoc	1.9	1.7	Bintje	0.1	0.1
Bannock	*	1.5	Ontario	0.1	0.1
Other Varieties	6.6	6.7	Red Pontiac	0.1	0.1
			Rio Grande Russet	0.1	0.1
<b>Washington</b>			Classic Russet	0.2	0.1
Russet Burbank	30.5	40.0	Norwis	0.1	0.1
Umatilla Russet	16.7	15.4	Mega Chip	0.1	0.1
Ranger Russet	11.1	12.5	Defender	*	0.1
Alturas	8.8	7.2	Kennebec	*	0.1
Chieftain	3.1	4.9	Satina	*	0.1
Russet Norkotah	14.1	4.8	Keuka Gold	0.1	0.1
Shepody	3.1	3.6	Katahdin	0.1	0.1
Premier Russet	2.4	1.6	Nor Donna	*	0.1
Yukon Gold	*	1.5	Reba	0.2	0.1
Frito-Lay Varieties	3.2	1.2	Agata	*	0.1
Other Varieties	7.0	7.3	All Blue	0.1	0.1
			Canela Russet	*	0.1
			Other Varieties	2.6	2.0

\* Data not published in 2011. 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, 2011 – 2012**

States	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	<u>1,000 Cwt</u>				<u>Cwt</u>		<u>1,000 Cwt</u>	
SPRING 1/	93.3	97.7	91.5	96.1	279	289	25,573	27,740
SUMMER 1/	48.2	50.3	46.0	49.0	280	356	12,894	17,447
FALL								
California	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	490	490	4,312	4,312
Colorado	54.0	55.1	53.9	54.6	395	385	21,291	21,021
<b>IDAHO, ALL</b>	<b>320.0</b>	<b>345.0</b>	<b>319.0</b>	<b>344.0</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>128,760</b>	<b>143,240</b>
<b>- 10 SW Counties</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>10,260</b>	<b>10,400</b>
<b>- Other Areas</b>	<b>301.0</b>	<b>325.0</b>	<b>300.0</b>	<b>324.0</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>118,500</b>	<b>132,840</b>
Maine	57.0	58.0	54.0	57.3	265	270	14,310	15,471
Massachusetts	3.6	3.8	2.8	3.8	275	350	770	1,330
Michigan	45.0	47.5	44.0	46.0	345	355	15,180	16,330
Minnesota	49.0	51.0	47.0	48.0	355	385	16,685	18,480
Montana	11.7	12.0	11.5	11.7	330	320	3,795	3,744
Nebraska	20.0	23.0	19.5	22.7	400	430	7,800	9,761
Nevada	(D)	7.1	(D)	7.1	(D)	390	(D)	2,769
New Mexico	(D)	6.3	(D)	6.2	(D)	460	(D)	2,852
New York	16.5	17.0	16.2	16.5	250	285	4,050	4,703
North Dakota	84.0	88.0	77.0	84.0	245	300	18,865	25,200
Ohio	2.0	(D)	1.7	(D)	270	(D)	459	(D)
Oregon	40.0	42.0	39.9	41.9	585	555	23,342	23,255
Pennsylvania	9.2	8.9	7.8	8.6	260	250	2,028	2,150
Rhode Island	0.6	(D)	0.6	(D)	250	(D)	150	(D)
Washington	160.0	165.0	160.0	165.0	610	595	97,600	98,175
Wisconsin	63.0	63.5	62.5	63.0	415	455	25,938	28,665
Other States 2/	13.3	2.4	13.3	2.3	439	243	5,845	558
<b>TOTAL FALL</b>	<b>957.7</b>	<b>1,004.4</b>	<b>939.5</b>	<b>991.5</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>391,180</b>	<b>422,016</b>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>1,099.2</b>	<b>1,152.4</b>	<b>1,077.0</b>	<b>1,136.6</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>429,647</b>	<b>467,203</b>

(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.