



# Alaska Farm Reporter



PO Box 799 · Palmer, AK 99645  
(907) 745-4272 · (907) 746-4654 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov/ak](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ak)

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## 2012 ALASKA CROP SUMMARY

Growers harvested 4,300 acres of **BARLEY** for grain in 2012, down 500 acres from a year ago. Production was 207,000 bushels with a yield of 48.1 bushels per acre. Production in 2011 was 175,000 bushels with a yield of 36.5 bushels per acre.

**OATS** for grain was harvested from 900 acres in 2012, down 100 acres from 2011. A yield of 65.6 bushels per acre was realized with a production of 59,000 bushels. This compares with 80,000 bushels produced in 2011.

**HAY** farmers harvested 22,000 acres in 2012 with a production of 27,000 tons. A year ago, 19,000 acres were harvested with a production of 22,000 tons. The hay yield of 1.23 tons per acre compares with 1.16 tons per acre in 2011.

**POTATO** growers harvested 650 acres in 2012, down 70 acres from a year ago. Production totaled 140,000 cwt, up from the 134,000 cwt harvested from last year's crop.

ALASKA CROP SUMMARY								
	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested for Grain		Yield (Bu/Acre)		Production (Bu)	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
<b>BARLEY</b>								
State Total	5,200	4,600	4,800	4,300	36.5	48.1	175,000	207,000
<b>OATS</b>								
State Total	2,100	2,400	1,000	900	80.0	65.6	80,000	59,000
			Acres Harvested		Yield (Tons/Acre)		Production (Tons)	
<b>ALL HAY</b>			2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
State Total			19,000	22,000	1.16	1.23	22,000	27,000
	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield (Cwt/Acre)		Production (Cwt)	
<b>POTATOES</b>	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
State Total	750	680	720	650	186	215	134,000	140,000

## 2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Farmers and ranchers in Alaska now have the opportunity to make a positive impact on their communities by taking part in the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census is a complete count of all U.S. farms, ranches and those who operate them.

The Census remains the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county and borough in the nation. It's a critical tool that gives farmers a voice to influence decisions that will shape the future of their community, industry and operation.

The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income, expenditures and other topics. This information is used by all those who serve farmers and rural communities from federal, state and local governments to agribusinesses and trade associations. For example, legislators use the data when shaping farm policy and agribusinesses factor it into their planning efforts.

The answers to the Census impact farm programs and rural services that support your community. So do your part and be counted by returning the form you received recently in the mail, because there's strength in numbers that only the Census can reveal. For more information visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)

**ALASKA POTATO STOCKS**

All potatoes in storage in **ALASKA** as of December 1, 2012 totaled 108,000 cwt. This was 77 percent of the total 2012 production of potatoes and compares with 102,000 cwt and 76 percent on hand during the same period last year. The 2010 level for December 1 stocks was 117,000 cwt. The five year average stocks on hand for December 1 is 108,200 cwt.

Disappearance since the start of harvest to December 1 was 32,000 cwt. The disappearance from the start of harvest to December 1 in 2011 was also 32,000 cwt. The five year average of disappearance since the start of harvest is 38,200 cwt. The disappearance since harvest reflects sales, shrinkage and waste, as well as losses caused after harvest.

Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purpose and uses, including seed potatoes that are not yet moved, and shrinkage, waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report.

The **13 major potato States** held 280 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2012, up 11 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 68 percent of the 2012 fall storage States' production, up 2 percent from the previous year. Potato disappearance, at 132 million cwt, was 2 percent above December 1, 2011. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 13.7 million cwt, was unchanged from the same date in 2011. Processors in the 9 major States have used 73.2 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 4 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 13.5 million cwt of the total processing, up 1 percent from last year.

**ALASKA HOG & PIG INVENTORY**

Alaska inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2012 was 1,000 head. This was up 11 percent from December 1, 2011 and down 17 percent from December 1, 2010.

<b>Alaska Hog &amp; Pig Inventory</b> (Number of Head)			
<b>December 1</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	200	200	200
<b>Market</b>	800	700	1,000
<b>Total Hogs</b>	1,000	900	1,200

Breeding inventory at 200 head was unchanged from last year, and from 2010. Market hog inventory, at 800 head was up 14% from last year, and down 20% from 2010.

