



Alaska Farm Reporter



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ALASKA POTATO STOCKS

All potatoes in storage in **ALASKA** as of February 1, 2013 totaled 88,000 cwt. This was 63 percent of the total 2012 production of potatoes and compares with 67,000 cwt and 50 percent on hand during the same period last year. The 2010 level for February 1 stocks was 91,000 cwt. The five year average stocks on hand for February 1 is 82,800 cwt.

Disappearance since the start of harvest to February 1 was 52,000 cwt. The disappearance from the start of harvest to February 1 in 2011 was 67,000 cwt. The five year average of disappearance since the start of harvest is 63,600 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 214 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2013, up 14 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 52 percent of the 2012 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from the previous year. Potato disappearance, at 199 million cwt, was 2 percent above February 1, 2012. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 18.9 million cwt, was up slightly from the same date in 2012. Processors in the 9 major States have used 107 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 2 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 20.8 million cwt of the total processing, virtually unchanged from last year.

ALASKA POTATO STOCKS – FEBRUARY 1, 2013

| Crop Year | February 1 Stocks* | December 1 Stocks | Production | February 1 Stocks as a Percent of Production |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------|--|
| | ----- 1,000 Cwt ----- | | | -- Percent -- |
| 2012 | 88.0 | 108.0 | 140.0 | 63% |
| 2011 | 67.0 | 102.0 | 134.0 | 50% |
| 2010 | 91.0 | 117.0 | 150.0 | 61% |
| 2009 | 82.0 | 103.0 | 137.0 | 60% |
| 2008 | 71.0 | 92.0 | 135.0 | 53% |

*following year

MILK PRODUCTION

ALASKA: Milk production for October, November and December of 2012 was 1.2 million pounds, down from 1.7 million pounds in October through December of 2011. Milk cows, at 400 head, were down 100 head from a year ago.

Annual milk production for January through December 2012 was 5.7 million pounds, down from 6.9 million pounds in January through December 2011. This is a 17.4% decrease from 2011. Milk cows, at 400 head, were down 100 head from 2011. Production per cow in 2012 averaged 14,250 pounds, up from 13,800 pounds in 2011.

UNITED STATES: The annual production of milk for the United States during 2012 was 200 billion pounds, 2.1 percent above 2011. Revisions to 2011 production decreased the annual total 81 million pounds. Revised 2012 production was up 40 million pounds from last month's publication.

Production per cow in the United States averaged 21,697 pounds for 2012, 361 pounds above 2011. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 15.7 percent from 2003.

The average number of milk cows on farms in the United States during 2012 was 9.23 million head, up 0.4 percent from 2011. The average number of milk cows was revised up 2,000 head for 2012.

FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS

The number of farms in **ALASKA** in 2012 is estimated at 680 farms, unchanged from 2011 and 2010. Total land in farms, at 880,000 acres, and the average size farm, at 1,294 acres, are also unchanged from the previous two years.

A farm is "any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year". Government payments are included in sales. Ranches, institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with the entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or other government programs are counted as farms.

| ALASKA FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Year | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Farms ^{1/} | 680 | 680 | 680 | 680 |
| Land in Farms (Acres) | 880,000 | 880,000 | 880,000 | 880,000 |
| Average Farm Size (Acres) | 1,294 | 1,294 | 1,294 | 1,294 |

^{1/} Includes farms and ranches with annual sales or potential sales of \$1,000 or more.

ALASKA CROP VALUES

Crop values include average price and values of production for Alaska's major field crops. All prices in this report are marketing year average prices. The value is computed from production and marketing average year price. These estimates should not be confused with cash receipts, which relate to sales during a calendar year, irrespective of the year of production.

| ALASKA CROP VALUES | | | | | |
|--------------------|------|----------------|----------|---------------------|-------------|
| | | Price per Unit | | Value of Production | |
| | | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Barley | Bu. | \$5.35 | \$4.50 | \$1,107,000 | \$788,000 |
| Oats | Bu. | \$3.60 | \$3.45 | \$212,000 | \$276,000 |
| All Hay | Tons | \$315.00 | \$300.00 | \$8,505,000 | \$6,600,000 |
| Potatoes | Cwt. | \$23.60 | \$23.70 | \$3,304,000 | \$3,176,000 |

CATTLE INVENTORY

CATTLE: All cattle and calves in **ALASKA** on January 1, 2013 totaled 12,000 head, down 1,000 head from last year. This includes 4,900 head of beef cows that have calved and 400 dairy cows that have calved, 1,600 heifers over 500 pounds, 2,900 bulls and 500 steers over 500 pounds and 1,700 calves.

BEEF COWS, at 4,900 head were down 600 head from a year ago. Beef replacement heifers over 500 pounds totaled 1,300 head, down 300 head from last year.

There were 400 **MILK COWS** that have calved, down 100 head from a year ago. There were 200 head of dairy replacement heifers on hand January 1, 2013, unchanged from a year ago.

An estimated 1,700 **CALVES**, down 100 head from the previous year, were on hand January 1.

| CATTLE INVENTORY | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| As of January 1 | 2013 | 2012 |
| All Cattle & Calves | 12,000 | 13,000 |
| Beef Cows/Calved | 4,900 | 5,500 |
| Milk Cows /Calved | 400 | 500 |
| Heifers (500+ lbs) | 1,600 | 1,900 |
| Bulls/Steers (>500 lbs) | 3,400 | 3,300 |
| Calves (<500 lbs) | 1,700 | 1,800 |

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