

Maine Potato Board

A REVIEW OF THE INDUSTRY



2012

THE SEASON

Occasionally during the growing season there is some issue or challenge that presents itself to the potato industry that catches the attention of those outside of the industry. This year the issue was the lack of rain during the summer. We had several calls from the media during the months of July and August seeking comments about how disastrous this was going to be for our industry. We explained that we still had a long time to go before the crop was harvested and that we needed to wait until the crop was in before we could assess the effect that the weather had on the crop. It seems that human nature is interested in misery more than success. We never were contacted after harvest to check on how things turned out. The effects on the crop were different depending on what part of the state you were in. Some growers suffered significant yield reductions while others were blessed with excellent yields. The overall impact of the dry summer on the industry was a slightly less than average yield with excellent quality potatoes going into storage.

The challenges faced by our industry sometimes attract the attention of those outside the industry, but more often they do not. Growers face circumstances regularly that impact their businesses and futures that often go unnoticed by the public. Things like overproduction in other parts of the country, legislative action or inaction, disease pressure, variable costs of crop inputs, changing markets and the list goes on. Potato growers in Maine know that there are many things beyond their control that affect their profitability and even their existence, but yet they still choose to grow potatoes. They still get excited when their children express an interest in farming, and there is still nothing quite like the smell of the ground being worked for the first time in the spring.

In spite of the challenges, concerns, issues and circumstances facing our industry, weather known or unknown this industry will continue. It will continue because those who are involved in it love it. Growing potatoes in Maine has more to do with family, faith, determination, attitude and satisfaction with results than worrying about those things you cannot change.

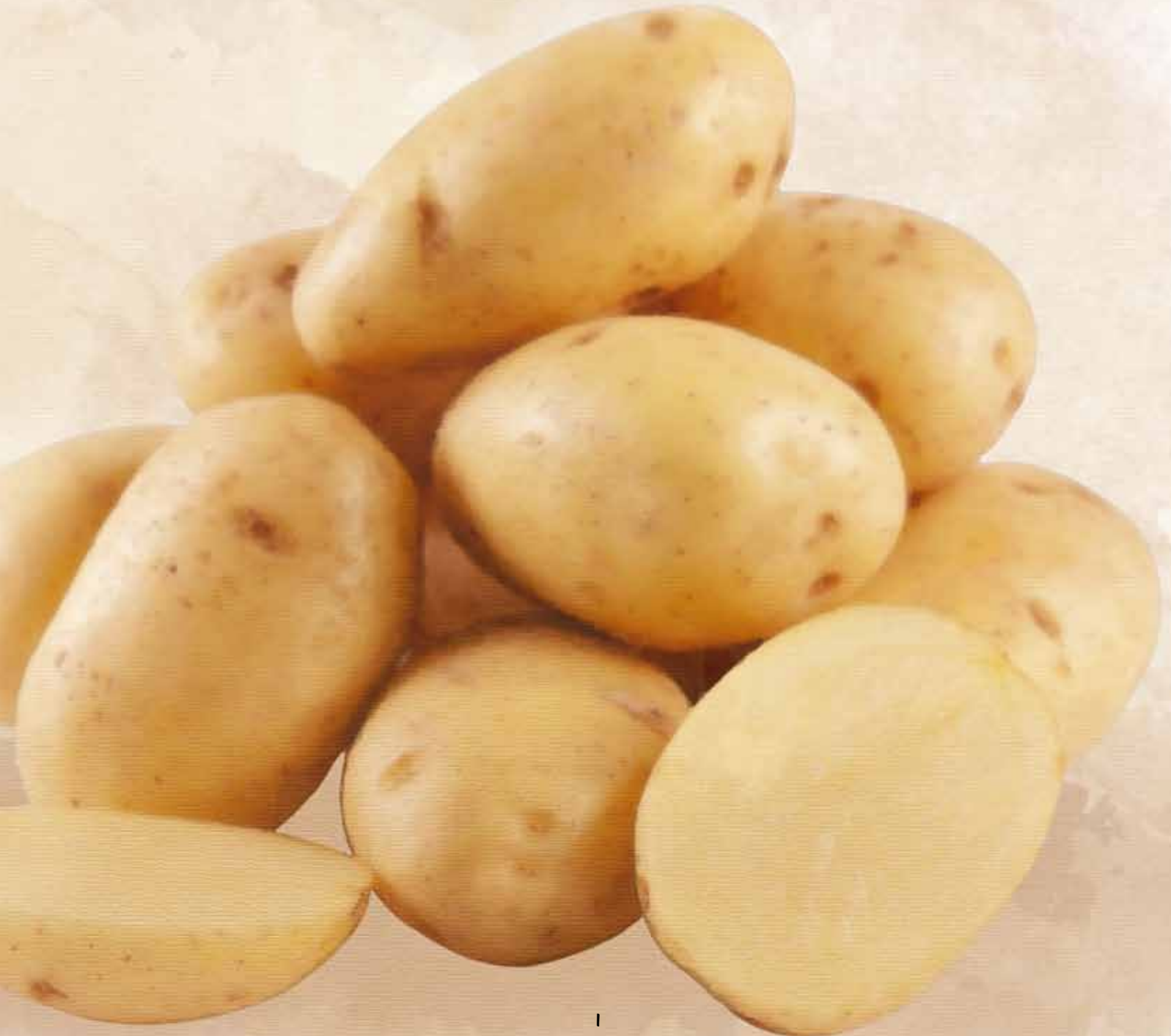
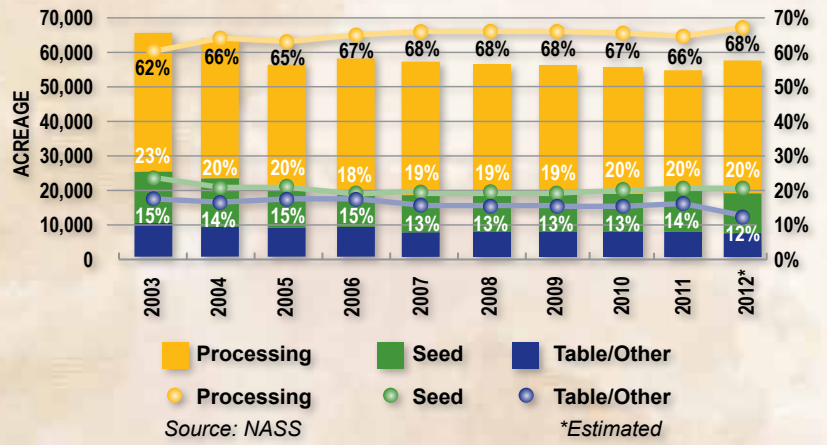
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ESTIMATED 2012 UTILIZATION BY ACREAGE

Processing	%	Total Harvested Acres
Processing	68%	38,964
Seed	20%	11,445
Tablestock	12%	6,891
Total	100%	57,300

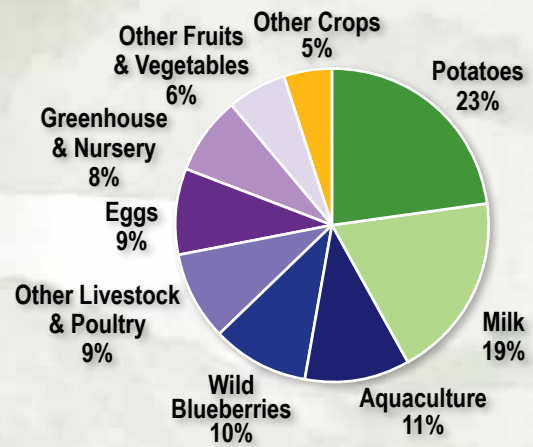
Source: New England Agricultural Statistics Service, MPB/ABC

MAINE PRODUCTION BY UTILIZATION



CASH RECEIPTS AND MAINE POTATO PRODUCTION

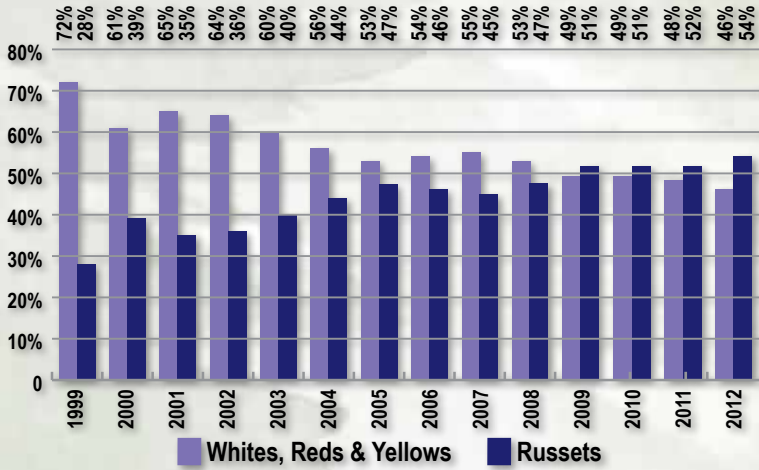
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS 2011 MAINE AGRICULTURAL RECEIPTS



Source: NASS/USDA



MAINE PRODUCTION BY TYPE



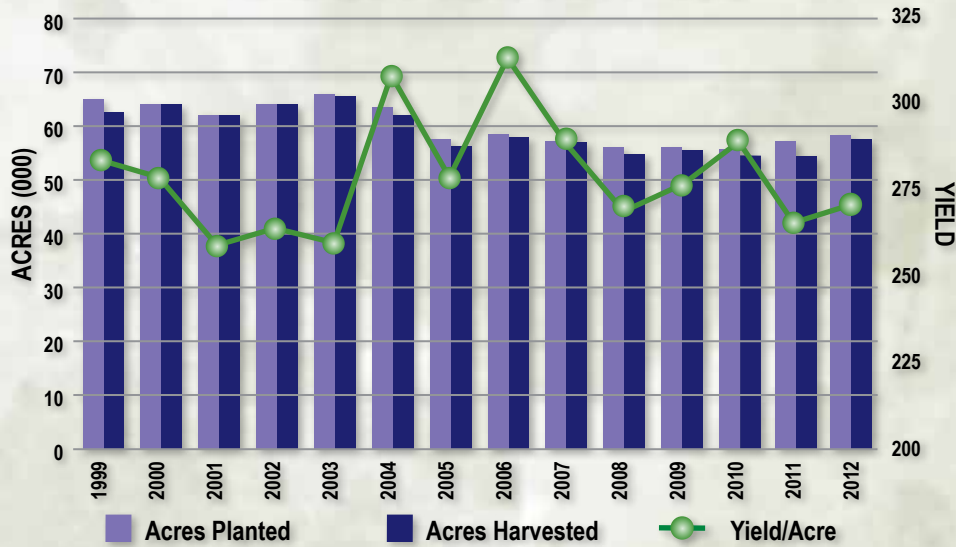
Source: NASS

MAINE POTATO PRODUCTION

	Acres Planted		CWT	
	Acres Planted	Acres Harvested	Yield/ Acres	Production (000)
1999	65,000	62,500	285	17,813
2000	64,000	64,000	280	17,920
2001	62,000	62,000	260	16,120
2002	64,000	64,000	265	16,960
2003	66,000	65,500	260	17,030
2004	63,500	62,000	310	19,220
2005	57,500	56,200	280	15,736
2006	58,500	58,000	315	18,270
2007	57,100	57,000	290	16,530
2008	56,000	54,700	270	14,769
2009	56,500	55,500	275	15,263
2010	55,000	54,800	290	15,892
2011	57,000	54,000	265	14,310
2012	58,000	57,300	270	15,471
Average	60,007	59,107	280	16,522

Source: USDA/NASS/MPB

ACREAGE & YIELDS 1999 - 2012



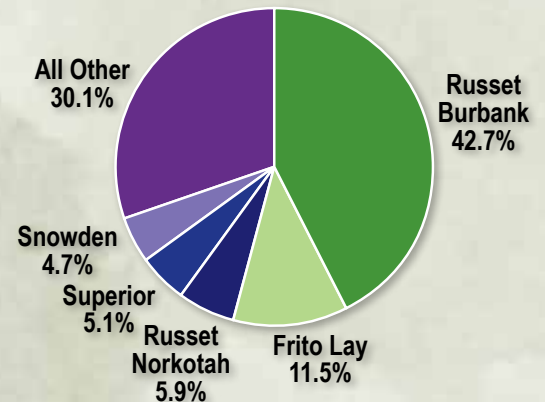
Source: NASS

MAINE'S TOP 5 VARIETIES 2011 - 2012

2011	% Of Total	Acres Planted	2012	% Of Total	Acres Planted
Russet Burbank	43.1	24,567	Russet Burbank	42.7	24,766
Frito-Lay	12.5	7,125	Frito-Lay	11.5	6,670
Snowden	5.5	3,135	Russet Norkotah	5.9	3,422
Russet Norkotah	4.9	2,793	Superior	5.1	2,958
Shepody	4.1	2,337	Snowden	4.7	2,726
All Other	29.9	17,043	All Other	30.1	17,458
Total	100%	57,000	Total	100%	58,000

Source: NASS

2012 MAINE'S TOP 5 VARIETIES

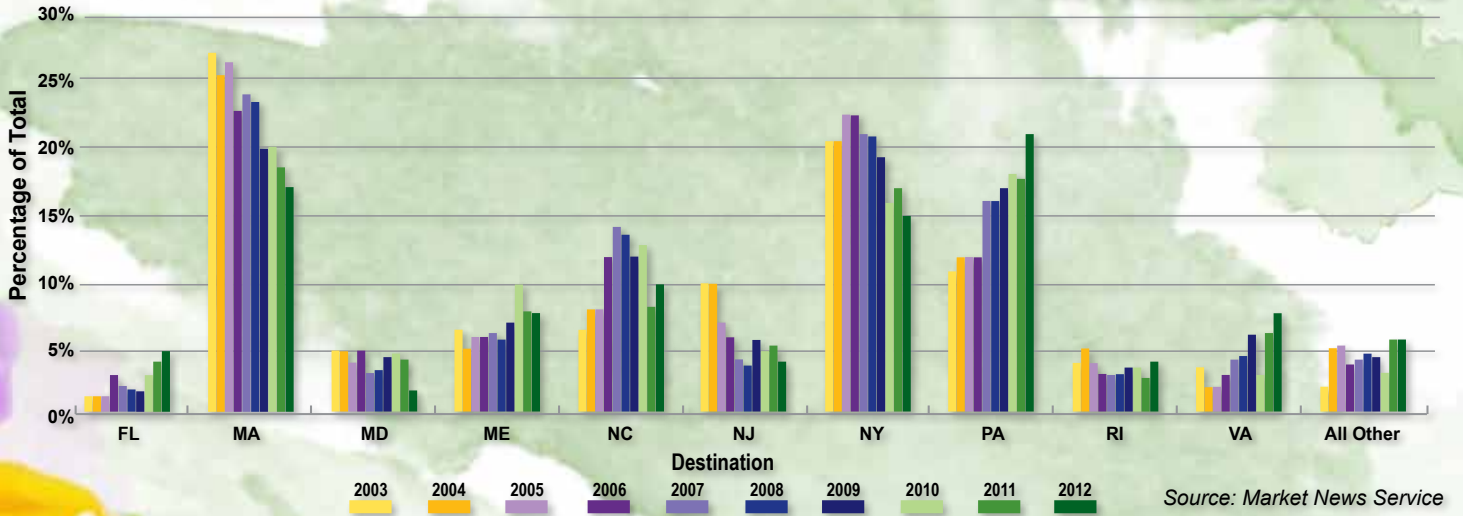




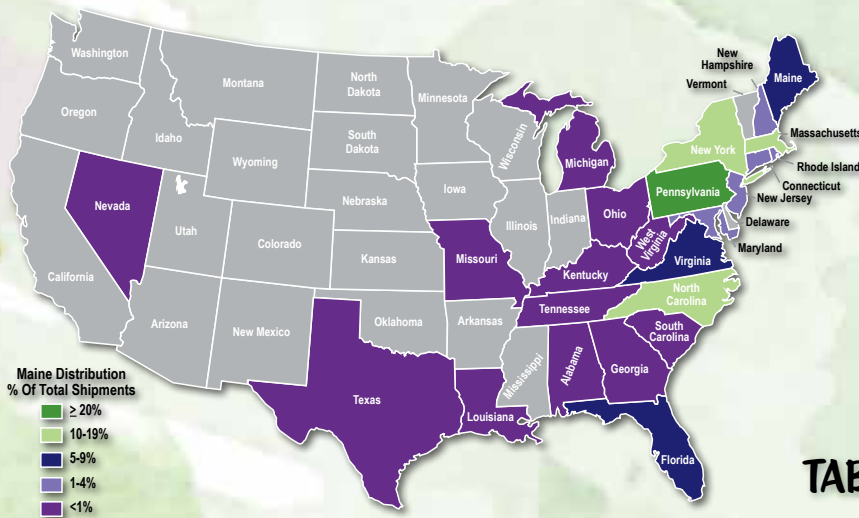
MAINE POTATO DISTRIBUTION: TABLESTOCK

TABLESTOCK SHIPMENTS

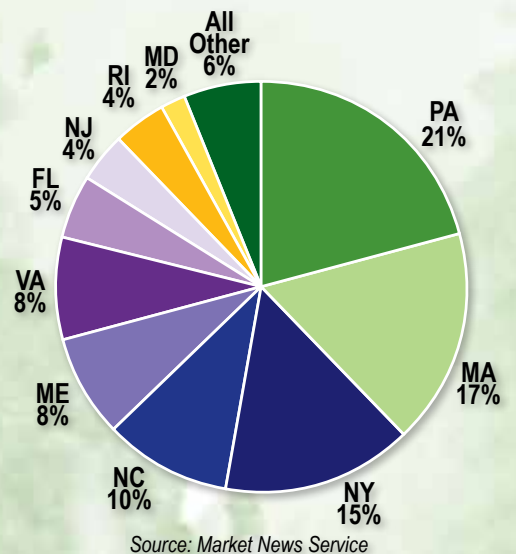
HISTORICAL 2003 - 2012



MAINE TABLESTOCK DISTRIBUTION 2011 - 2012



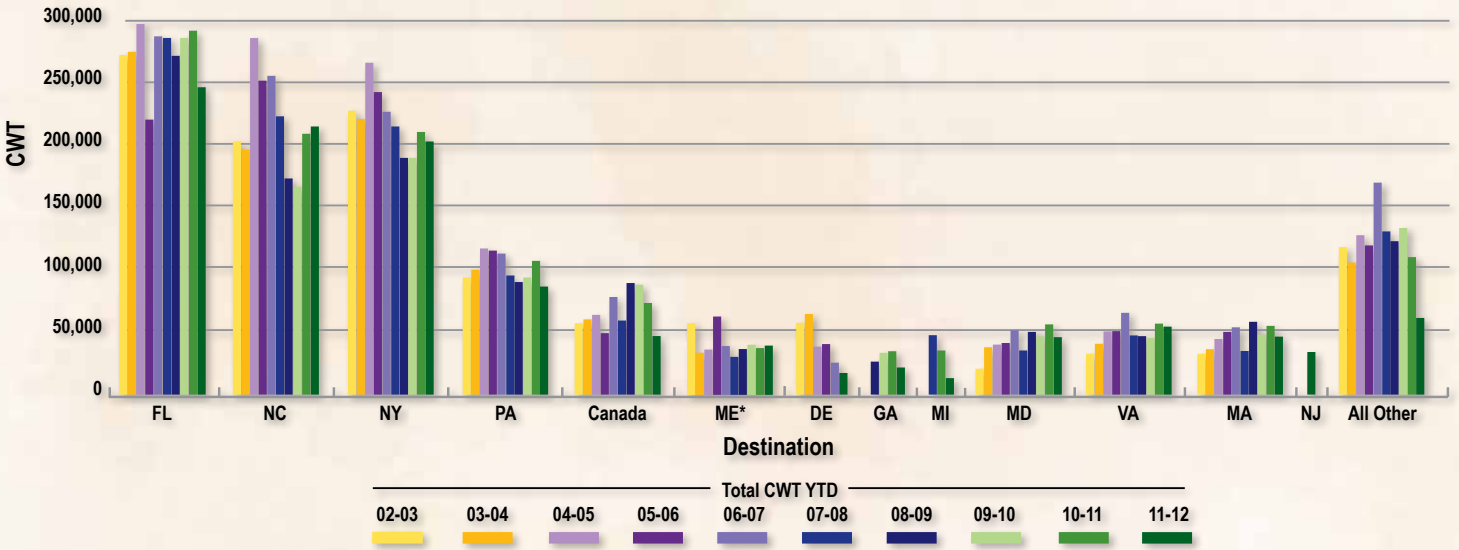
TABLESTOCK SHIPMENTS 2011 - 2012



MAINE POTATO DISTRIBUTION: SEED

SEED SHIPMENTS

HISTORICAL 2002 - 2012

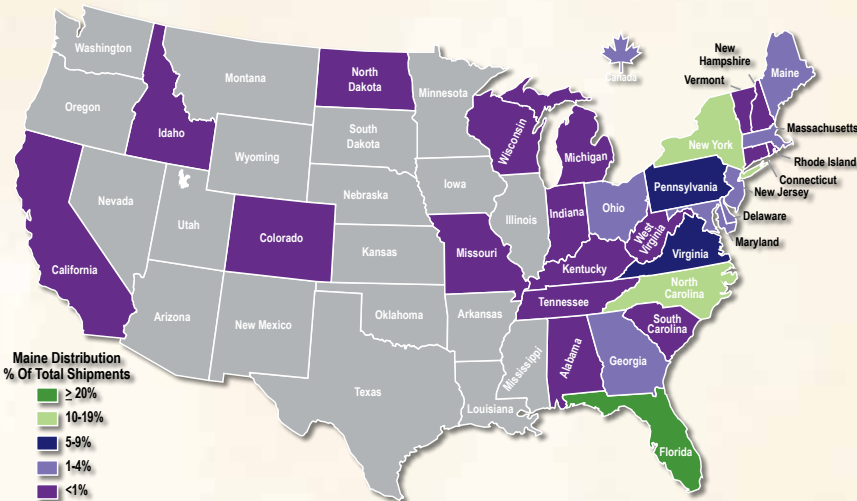


SEED POTATO DISTRIBUTION

From November to May 2011-2012, approximately 59% of Maine's total 1,099,052 hundredweight of seed were shipped to Florida, New York and North Carolina.

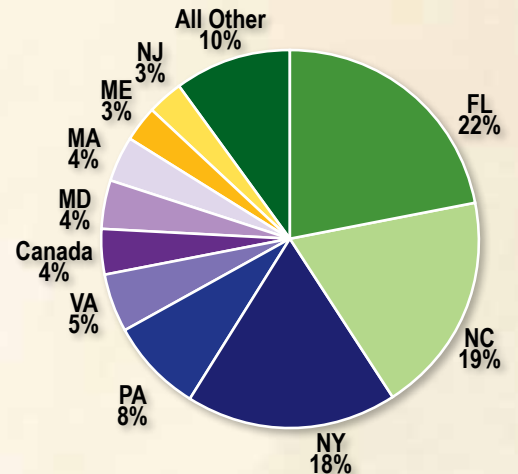
**In-state inspected shipments only. Source: Market News Service*

MAINE SEED DISTRIBUTION 2011 - 2012



Source: Market News Service

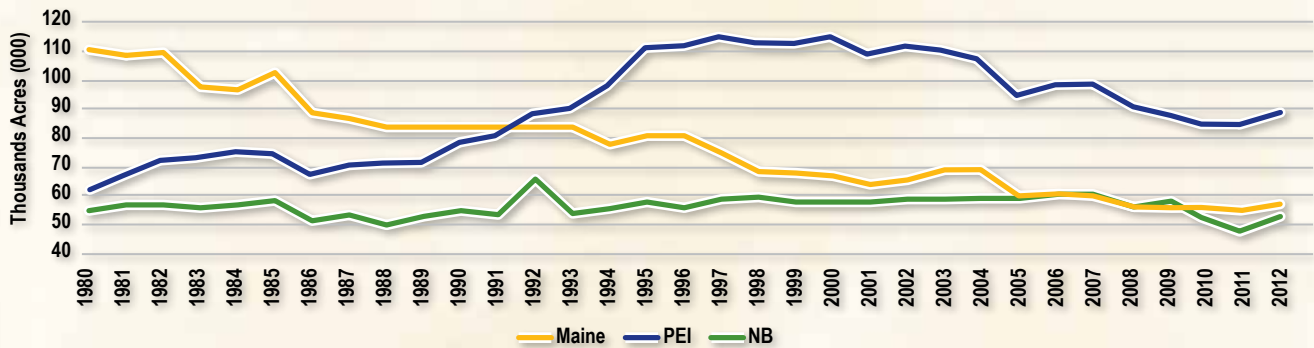
TOP 10 SEED DESTINATIONS 2011 - 2012



Source: Market News Service

REGIONAL: NATIONAL POTATO PRODUCTION

REGIONAL PRODUCTION 1980 - 2012 MAINE • PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND • NEW BRUNSWICK

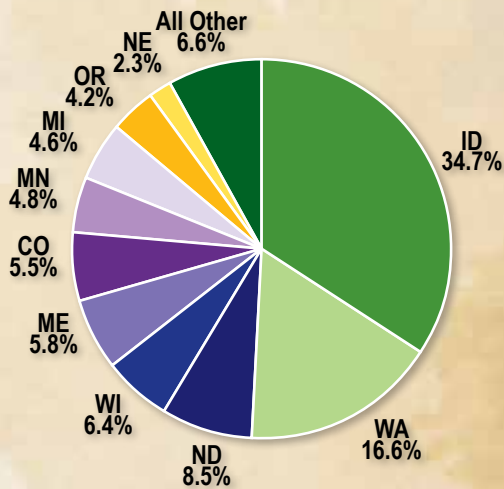


2012 PRODUCTION BY FALL STATE

#	State	% Of Total Acres	Harvested Acres	Avg. Yield CWT	Production
1.	Idaho	34.7%	344,000	416	143,104,000
2.	Washington	16.6%	165,000	595	98,175,000
3.	North Dakota	8.5%	84,000	300	25,200,000
4.	Wisconsin	6.4%	63,000	455	28,665,000
5.	Maine	5.8%	57,300	270	15,471,000
6.	Colorado	5.5%	54,600	385	21,021,000
7.	Minnesota	4.8%	48,000	385	18,480,000
8.	Michigan	4.6%	46,000	355	16,330,000
9.	Oregon	4.2%	41,900	550	23,045,000
10.	Nebraska	2.3%	22,700	430	9,761,000
11.	New York	1.7%	16,500	285	4,702,500
12.	Montana	1.2%	11,700	320	3,744,000
13.	California	0.9%	8,800	490	4,312,000
14.	Pennsylvania	0.9%	8,600	250	2,150,000
15.	New Mexico	0.6%	6,200	460	2,852,000
16.	Nevada	1%	7,100	390	2,769,000
17.	Massachusetts	<1%	3,800	350	1,330,000
18.	All Other States	<1%	2,300	243	558,900
	Total	100%	991,500	425	421,670,400

Source: NASS

2012 FALL POTATO PRODUCTION BY PERCENTAGE & STATE



Source: NASS/USDA

MAINE POTATO BOARD

STAFF

Donald E. Flannery Executive Director
Timothy P. Hobbs Director of Development/
Grower Relations
George McLaughlin Agricultural Engineer
Jeannie Tapley Office Manager
Heather Pinette Administrative Assistant
Ann Currier Pathology Lab Technician

SEED FARM STAFF

Kimberly Flewelling Greenhouse/Laboratory Manager
Sharon Craig Greenhouse/Laboratory Assistant
Kendall McHatten Farm Manager
Donald Flewelling Agriculture Worker
Ward Turner Agriculture Worker

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maine Potato Board is to provide a competitive environment for our growers, processors, and dealers creating both stability and the infrastructure for future growth, while promoting the economic importance to the state and quality of the product.





Board members seated from the left: Brandon Roope; Erica Fitzpatrick-Peabody, Treasurer; Gregg Garrison, Secretary; Mark Tarr, President; Shawn Doyen, Vice President. Standing from the left: Seth Bradstreet III, Greg Schools, Kramer Bell, Greg McCrum. Absent: Scott Irving, Keith Labrie.

BOARD MEMBERS & OFFICERS

Kramer Bell.....	Mars Hill
Seth Bradstreet III.....	Newport
Shawn Doyen, Vice President.....	Mapleton
Gregg Garrison, Secretary.....	Mars Hill
Scott Irving.....	Caribou
Keith Labrie.....	St. Agatha
Greg McCrum.....	Presque Isle
Erica Fitzpatrick-Peabody, Treasurer.....	Houlton
Brandon Roope.....	Presque Isle
Greg Schools.....	Littleton
Mark Tarr, President.....	Washburn

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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