



## United States Potato Acreage Planted Estimate

June 30, 2022

### Top Thirteen States

State	2019	2020	2021	2022	Percent
Idaho	310,000	300,000	315,000	<b>290,000</b>	<b>-7.9%</b>
Washington	165,000	155,000	160,000	<b>165,000</b>	<b>+3.1%</b>
North Dakota	73,000	72,000	76,000	<b>73,000</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
Wisconsin	71,000	69,000	69,000	<b>65,000</b>	<b>-5.8%</b>
Maine	52,000	51,000	54,000	<b>60,000</b>	<b>+11.1%</b>
Colorado	51,300	54,000	53,000	<b>53,000</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Michigan	50,000	46,000	47,000	<b>46,000</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>
Oregon	43,000	45,000	45,000	<b>42,000</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>
Minnesota	46,000	42,000	42,000	<b>40,000</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>
California	40,500	29,000	28,000	<b>26,000</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>
Nebraska	20,500	19,000	19,000	<b>20,000</b>	<b>+5.3%</b>
Florida	26,000	21,000	21,000	<b>17,000</b>	<b>-19.0%</b>
Texas	15,000	15,500	14,000	<b>13,000</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>
<b>Total U.S.</b>	<b><u>963,300</u></b>	<b><u>918,500</u></b>	<b><u>943,000</u></b>	<b><u>910,000</u></b>	<b>-3.5%</b>

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service June 2022

Total Planted Acreage includes 13 states reporting to USDA, NASS. United States growers planted 33,000 acres or 3.5% less than a year ago, the bulk of the acreage (25,000 acres) coming out of Idaho. Based on the USDA reported acreage above, this would be the smallest US planted acreage since 1954. (*North American Potato Market News*)

## Summary of Major US Potato States

**Idaho** Acreage is estimated to be down 25,000 acres below 2021, lower than even 2020 levels in the first year of the COVID pandemic. A large amount of the cuts are coming from seed acreage as well as very high input costs and water issues turning growers to alternative crops with better, more stable, pricing at the time of planting. Also, some of the acreage reduction in Idaho is due to the fact that the fryers were hesitant to provide a good contract and sign up enough acres, figuring extra acres would get planted anyway but they did not take into consideration the increases in cost of production causing most growers to actually tighten up acreage.

**Washington** Acreage is estimated to be up 5,000 acres or 3.1% over the 2021 crop, not surprising since it is a state with most of its crop destined for processing where demand continue to be strong, both domestically and for export markets. Cold weather at the start of the season delayed growth however recent mild weather is giving the plants a chance to catch up.

**North Dakota** Acreage is down this year at 3,000 acres, or 3.9% below 2021. Although there is a reduction, total acreage remains above 2020 and on par with 2019 levels, and still places North Dakota third overall in total acreage behind Idaho and Washington.

**Wisconsin** USDA reports a 4,000 acre decrease in the state. There is a decrease in reported acreage for Russets although they still make up 44% of Wisconsin's crop. Both reds and yellows also decreased, but whites were up slightly, 1.6%, and make up a large proportion of the balance of acreage at approximately 41% of the total.

**Maine** experienced the greatest increase in both real acres, 6,000 acres over 2021, and in percentage growth at 11.1%. It is thought that most of this growth is in processing acres in response to shortages from last year and continued strong demand.

**Colorado** acreage remained flat over last year but still above 2019 levels.

**Minnesota** Acreage is reported down by 2,000 acres or 4.8%. The decrease seems to be more in the processing sector, with an estimated decrease of 14.2% in Russets. Acreage of reds in the Red River Valley has remained flat or slightly up, while yellows have increased by approximately 10%.

**Oregon** NASS estimates acreage in Oregon has decreased by 3,000 acres, a 6.1% decrease over 2021. It is believed that some growers pulled back on planted acres due to continued water and

irrigation others, while other reduced processing acres after the loss of a processing plant in the state earlier in the year.

**Florida** Planted acreage appears to be reduced by 3,000 acres, just over 19% change from last year, a continued decline since 2019. There is a question as to whether these cuts have been overstated in the USDA report.

### **Overall Outlook for the US**

Although foodservice has come back on since the COVID pandemic there has not been a complete recovery in this sector, and many are concerned about the next six months with record high inflation and some decline in customer traffic. Exports of frozen fries while increasing in volume continue to lag behind other countries in overall market share for the US globally. Some of this is also due to the fact they were short of product to export last year. These factors, combined with sharp inclines in fuel, fertilizer and other related input costs, cast some uncertainty over the potato industry moving forward and have put a damper on acreage expansion plans, at least for this year as seen in the figures above.

Drought and heat stress in western US states, combined with very late planting in the upper mid-west and some eastern states, are causing concerns about overall yields for the 2022 crop. With current shortages on old crop and delays and lower yields on new crops, the higher pricing seen in the market currently may continue.

In contrast to the negative reports, many states are now seeing ideal growing conditions and are becoming more confident that plants are catching up in growth and won't be caught by sudden high temperatures as seen in 2021.

Contract negotiations in the processing sector will be starting soon and despite increases seen previously, they were not enough to cover the large jump in fuel and fertilizer costs experienced in the spring of 2022, putting growers under pressure to demand more to remain profitable.

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