



United POTATO News



March 2023

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Supply and Demand Committee Meeting Summary

The UPGA Supply and Demand Committee held its monthly meeting on March 13, 2023 in Denver, in conjunction with Potatoes USA’s Annual Meeting. The Committee reviewed potato supply conditions throughout North America and revised its Shipping Forecast where needed. The Committee projected fresh shipments during the 2022-23 marketing season as follows:

Shipping Area	Forecast (000 cwt)	Change from February	Change from 2021-22
Idaho	29,554	-19	-1,885
San Luis Valley	13,491	-291	-128
Columbia Basin	5,826	+242	-227
Wisconsin	6,811	0	-270
Red River Valley	3,200	-200	+607
Maine	1,000	-200	+413
Florida	2,500	+200	+224
Other Areas	18,701	0	-751
US Total	81,083	-268	-2,843
Imports from Canada	7,200	0	+32

Crop Transition Conference

June 15-16, 2023
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Thursday, June 15

- 8:00am: United Potato Growers of Canada Meeting (members only)
- 12:00pm: UPGC-UPGA Luncheon
- 12:45pm: United Potato Growers of America Meeting (members only)
- 4:30pm: Welcome Reception
- 6:10pm: Twins vs Tigers

Friday, June 16

- 8:00am: Continental Breakfast
- 8:30am: Crop Transition Conference
- 12:00pm: Luncheon

Crowne Plaza Suites MSP-Mall of America
3 Appletree Square
Bloomington, MN 55425
952-854-9000

Register [Here](#)

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AMVAC® is a forward-thinking company fueling growth through customer focus, intelligent acquisition, technology solutions, product development and supply management. AMVAC provides solutions for the potato market in every step of the growing process, starting with a strong soil foundation. Our potato portfolio includes tried-and-true soil fumigants, VAPAM® and K-PAM®, along with Green Solutions such as B Sure®, iNvigorate®, UpLift®, ECOZIN® PLUS, SmartBlock® and more. For information on AMVAC’s potato products or to connect with a regional representative, visit www.amvac.com/potatoes

US fresh potato shipments for the 2022-23 marketing year are forecast at 81.083 million cwt, 268,000 cwt less than the February forecast, and 2.843 million cwt short of 2021-22 marketing season shipments. Imports from Canada are expected to reach 7.200 million cwt for the 2022-23 marketing year.

Idaho: The State had 22.181 million cwt of potatoes left in storage on March 1. Shipments from the 2022 crop, prior to March 1, totaled 15.757 million cwt, which is the state's smallest early-season shipments since 2008. During the past five years Idaho packers have shipped an average of 68.9% of reported March 1 potato stocks after that date. It is important to distinguish that number from the packing shed packout rate – the shipments include spillover potatoes from the processing sector, which can be substantial in some years. This year, frozen processors and dehydrators have purchased a significant volume of open market fresh potatoes for processing use. UPGI is forecasting crop-year shipments from the 2022 crop at 29.508 million cwt based on a 62% packout rate for this year's remaining potatoes. If Idaho's forecast for crop-year shipments is accurate, the State's shipments will fall 3.4% short of last year's pace for the remainder of the storage season.

San Luis Valley: The Valley had 9.797 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, 903,000 cwt short of last year's holdings, an 8.4% decline. Through February 28 the Valley had shipped 7.373 million cwt, 97,000 cwt more than 2021-crop shipments during the same timeframe. The 2022-crop fresh potato shipments forecast was reduced by 300,000 cwt, to 13.500 million cwt, exceeding year-earlier movement by 315,000 cwt, a 2.4% increase. At the average shipping rate of the last five years, shipments would reach 13.200 million cwt. If the forecast is accurate, shipments for the remainder of the season would exceed the 2021-22 pace by 3.7%, at 6.127 million cwt.

Columbia Basin: The forecast for Columbia Basin shipments was increased from its 2022 crop by 250,000 cwt. The adjustment is based on strong movement out of the Basin during the past two months. The Basin has shipped 4.113 million cwt of potatoes from the 2022 crop through February 28, up 3.9% from last year. February shipments exceeded last year's pace by 10.7%.

The difference between this outlook and the marketing year forecast is related to production of early potatoes in 2023. Shipments are expected to fall 270,000 cwt short of movement during the 2021-22 marketing season.

Wisconsin: At 2.507 million cwt, Wisconsin's March 1 potato stocks exceeded year-earlier holdings by 145,000 cwt. Shipments through March 1 exceeded the 2021-22 pace by 37,000 cwt. The State's February shipments fell 2.7% short of last year's pace. If remaining shipments match the average pace of the last five years, crop-year shipments would be close to 6.860 million cwt, which nearly matches the current forecast of 6.800 million cwt. Shipments after March 1 are forecast to fall 280,000 cwt short of year-earlier movement, a 12.8% decline.

Red River Valley: Valley wash plants held 1.200 million cwt of potatoes left on March 1, 380,000 cwt more than they had in storage a year earlier. Both Red and Yellow potato supplies are up from year-earlier inventories. Shipments through February 28 fell 66,000 cwt short of 2021-22 movement. The forecast of 2022-crop shipments was trimmed by 200,000 cwt, to 3.200 million cwt.

Maine: Based on slower than expected movement through February, the forecast of crop-year shipments was reduced by 200,000 cwt, to 1.000 million cwt. Further adjustments may be necessary.

Florida: Season-to-date through March 11, the State had shipped 496,900 million cwt, 22.1% ahead of the current forecast. The forecast of 2023-crop shipments was increased to 2.500 million cwt, 224,000 cwt more than 2021-22 shipments.

Other areas: All other growing areas are expected to ship a total of 18.701 million cwt of potatoes during the marketing year, unchanged from the previous forecast for these areas, but it is 751,000 cwt less than they shipped a year ago.

Canada: The forecast of imports from Canada was left unchanged at 7.200 million cwt for the year ending July 31. January import data were not available in time for this month's committee meeting. However, Canada is reporting that it had 11.140 million cwt of fresh potatoes left in storage on March 1, 477,000 cwt less than the year-earlier inventory, a 4.1% decline. It is the second-largest March 1 inventory on record (behind 2022). It is 22.0% above the five-year average inventory. US demand for Canadian fresh potatoes has been strong due to the limited domestic supply.



Local United Potato Partners support fresh-potato growers and their local cooperatives.

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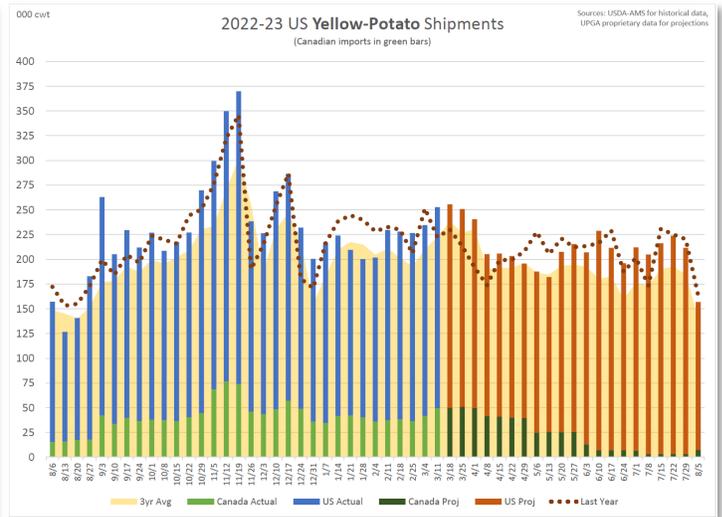
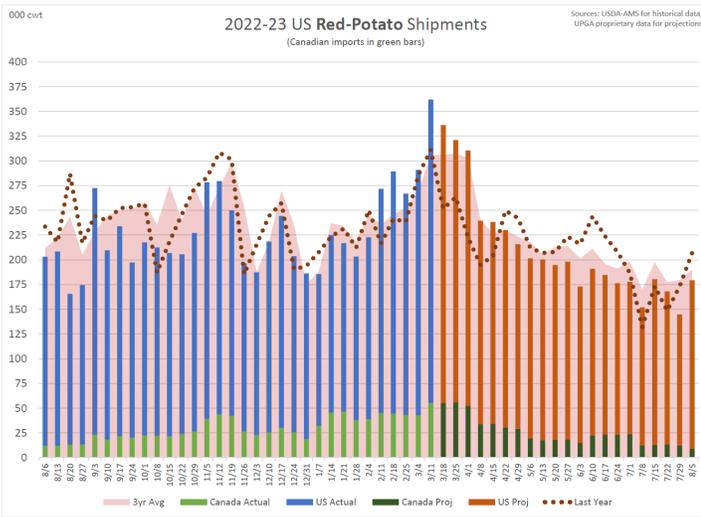
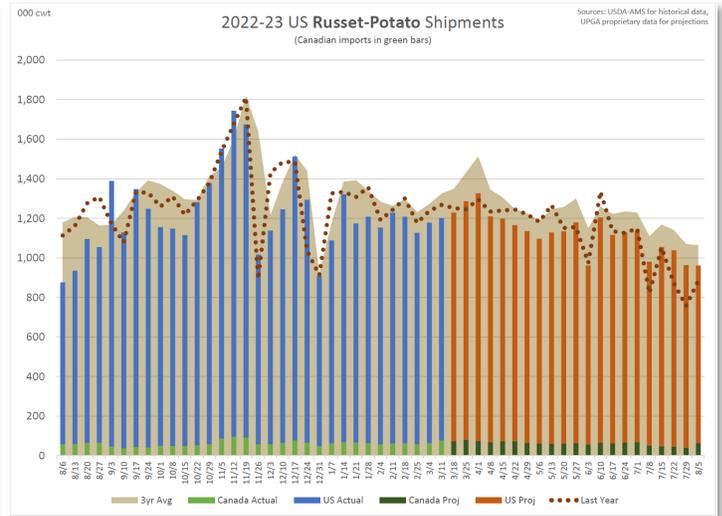
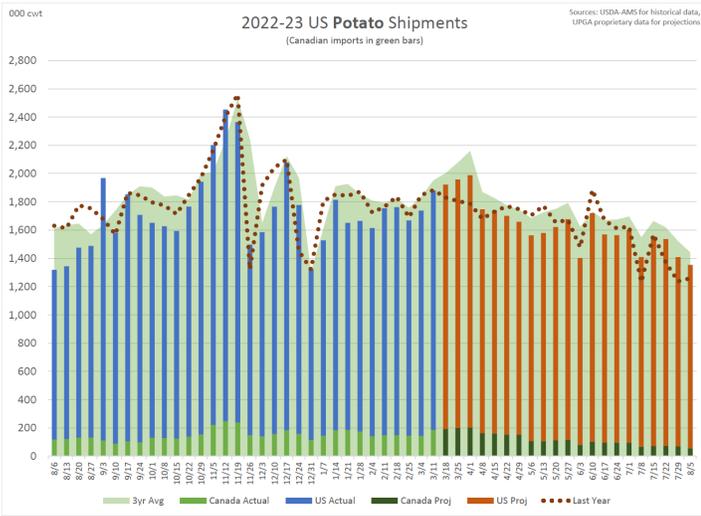


Weekly Podcasts
Every Wednesday

Weekly Conference Calls
Russet Call every Tuesday at 2:00pm*
Red/Yellow Call every Wednesday at 9:30am*
*Mountain Time

Weekly Market Data
Updated every Tuesday
UnitedPotatoUSA.com/members-only

2022-23 Shipments to Date



5284 S. Commerce Drive, Suite C-244 - Salt Lake City, UT 84107
801-266-5050 info@UnitedPotatoUSA.com

