



## Canadian (Seed) Potato Storage Holdings by Province

March 1, 2023 Infohort: AAFC (000 cwt)

Province	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2022/23 vs. 2021/22	3-yr. Average	2022/23 vs. 3-yr. avg
Prince Edward Island	1,928	1,892	1,856	1,572	1,661	5.6%	1,773	-6.4%
New Brunswick	1,626	1,585	1,027	1,651	1,551	-6.0%	1,421	9.2%
Quebec	1,123	1,120	1,066	1,279	1,043	-18.4%	1,155	-9.7%
Ontario	105	71	69	148	201	35.8%	96	109.4%
<b>Eastern Canada</b>	<b>4,782</b>	<b>4,668</b>	<b>4,018</b>	<b>4,649</b>	<b>4,456</b>	<b>-4.2%</b>	<b>4,445</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Manitoba	1,241	1,341	1,531	1,471	1,990	35.3%	1,448	37.4%
Alberta	2,400	2,619	2,685	2,718	2,986	9.9%	2,674	11.7%
British Columbia	182	133	126	39	86	120.5%	99	-13.4%
<b>Western Canada</b>	<b>3,823</b>	<b>4,093</b>	<b>4,342</b>	<b>4,228</b>	<b>5,062</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>4,221</b>	<b>19.9%</b>
<b>Total Canada</b>	<b><u>8,605</u></b>	<b><u>8,761</u></b>	<b><u>8,360</u></b>	<b><u>8,877</u></b>	<b><u>9,518</u></b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b><u>8,666</u></b>	<b>9.8%</b>

As of March 1, 2023, total seed inventory in Canada is 9.5 million hundred weight, 7.2% above last year at this time and 9.8% over the 3-yr. average level, which is interesting compared to stock levels in February that were only 3-5% above historic levels, which would indicate that February 2023 movement isn't quite as good as in previous years for the same month. Perhaps the tight seed market this year is causing growers to hold seed a little longer, or weather conditions in many areas are pushing out planting a bit later than usual as with the cold conditions late February in BC. Disappearance of seed potatoes in February 2023 was 0.6 million cwt, up 44% from last month, however well below the same period in 2022, close to 35% lower. Although the overall seed crop did increase in 2023 over previous years, there is a tightness in seed availability across North America that is regional and varietal in nature, with growth in processing demand outstripping the increased availability of certain seed.

For more information please contact:

Victoria Stamper

[victoria@unitedpotatocanada.com](mailto:victoria@unitedpotatocanada.com)

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