



Canadian (Seed) Potato Storage Holdings by Province

April 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	1,861	1,751	1,757	1,553	1,656	6.7%	1,687	-1.8%
New Brunswick	1,543	1,519	966	1,584	1,485	-6.2%	1,357	9.5%
Quebec	1,016	950	844	1,076	877	-18.5%	956	-8.3%
Ontario	46	49	64	140	116	-17.1%	84	37.5%
Eastern Canada	4,466	4,269	3,631	4,352	4,134	-5.0%	4,084	1.2%
Manitoba	1,241	1,341	1,531	1,471	1,990	35.3%	1,448	37.4%
Alberta	1,586	1,949	1,805	1,534	2,268	47.8%	1,763	28.7%
British Columbia	132	94	89	62	86	38.7%	82	5.3%
Western Canada	2,959	3,384	3,425	3,067	4,344	41.6%	3,292	31.9%
Total Canada	<u>7,425</u>	<u>7,653</u>	<u>7,056</u>	<u>7,419</u>	<u>8,478</u>	14.3%	<u>7,376</u>	14.9%

As of April 1, 2023, total seed inventory in Canada is 8.5 million hundred weight, 14.3% above last year at this time and 14.9% over the 3-yr. average level, which is interesting compared to stock levels in March that were only 9% above historic levels, which would indicate that again this month 2023 movement isn't quite as good as in previous years for the same period. With cold weather and a lot of snow still on the ground in most of the country, combined with the tight seed market this year, may be causing the slower movement of seed this season. Without contracts negotiated in the processing sector as well, growers have most likely booked seed due to a tight market but may not have shipped yet until they have acreage confirmed. Despite what the percentages show for

stocks, disappearance of seed potatoes in March 2023 was just over 1 million cwt, led by shipments out of Quebec, Ontario and Alberta and up 67% from shipments in February, however well below the same month in 2022, close to 31% lower.

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