



Canadian (Seed) Potato Storage Holdings by Province

May 1, 2023 Infohort: AAFC (000 cwt)

Province	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2022/23 vs. 2021/22	3-yr. Average
Prince Edward Island	1,641	1,581	1,545	1,650	6.8%	1,589
New Brunswick	1,035	852	1,463	1,366	-6.7%	1,117
Quebec	435	335	695	434	-37.6%	489
Ontario	37	30	80	52	-35.0%	49
Eastern Canada	3,148	2,799	3,783	3,502	-7.4%	3,243
Manitoba	1,073	1,072	1,359	1,869	37.5%	1,168
Alberta	972	748	584	250	-57.2%	768
British Columbia	72	68	36	32	-11.1%	59
Western Canada	2,117	1,888	1,979	2,151	8.6%	1,995
Total Canada	<u>5,265</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>5,762</u>	<u>5,652</u>	-1.9%	<u>5,238</u>

The seed inventory recorded as of May 1, 2023 is at 5.6 million cwt, down only 110,000 cwt from last year at this time but still above the 3 year average. This season did start off with approximately 800,000 cwt more in storage (based on December published numbers) however the shipping pace is up 177,000 per month on average for December through April of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, with 2.8 million cwt being moved in April alone, a 75% increase over April 2021. This is most likely related to the very cold and wet spring last year, including flooding in Manitoba and serious rains in BC, that caused significant delays in planting and hence movement of seed. Ontario shipments of seed were lower in April compared to March however all other provinces saw an increase in movement, particularly out of Alberta, as well as Quebec who doubled their shipments this month compared to March. The bulk of the seed storage left is in New Brunswick and Manitoba,

however both provinces report that they will see the majority of this stock move in May as planting gets underway in earnest.

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