Highlights

- Manitoba planted 20.4 per cent of Canada’s potato acreage in 2023.
- Canada’s top potato-producing provinces for 2022 were Alberta at 21.8 per cent, then Prince Edward Island at 21.6 per cent, and Manitoba at 21.3 per cent.
- Manitoba exported $730 million worth of potatoes and potato products in 2022. That’s 50 per cent more than the $486 million exported just five years ago in 2018!
- Manitoba has increased production by almost 30 per cent from 2018 to 2022 in order to feed the recently expanded processing capacity. This trend is expected to continue in 2023.
- By farm cash receipts, potato production ranks as Manitoba’s fourth biggest crop.

Production (hundredweight)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Production (hundredweight)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>28,139,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>24,024,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>24,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>19,700,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>20,300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Statistics Canada
Processing

- Manitoba has four major potato processors: Simplot and McCain Foods both located in Portage la Prairie, as well as Naleway Foods and Old Dutch Foods both located in Winnipeg.
- Manitoba Starch Products is located in Carberry and produces potato starch for human consumption with a focus on gluten-free and kosher markets.
- From mid-August to early October, freshly harvested potatoes are delivered directly from field to processors. For the remainder of the year, potatoes are delivered from storage facilities, which have capacity to store up to 80 per cent of the usual harvest.

Marketing and Trade

- Manitoba’s commercial potato sector produces fresh potatoes, processing potatoes and seed potatoes.
- For 2022, Manitoba exported $730 million worth of potato products and potatoes, with frozen potato products accounting for almost 90 per cent of that total.
- The U.S. is Manitoba’s top export market; however, processed potatoes are also shipped to Mexico, Japan and Philippines.

DID YOU KNOW?

- It takes about two kilograms of potatoes to make one kilogram of french fries, and four kilograms of potatoes to produce one kilogram of potato chips.
- Fresh potatoes are also referred to as ‘table potatoes.’
- Russet Burbank is the variety of choice grown under contract for processing into french fries.
- There are more than 24 different varieties of potatoes grown in Manitoba.
- Keystone Potato Producers Association represents Manitoba’s processing potato producers and negotiates with processors annually to set the contract price for processing potatoes.
- The Seed Potato Growers Association of Manitoba represents seed potato producers and works to enhance production, promotion and sales of Manitoba’s high quality seed potatoes.

Contact us

- Go to manitoba.ca/agriculture and click on Markets and Statistics.
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