

**NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
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A BRIEF REPORT ON POTATO PRODUCTION IN THE COUNTRY

The major potato growing states are Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Gujarat and M.P. The harvesting of potatoes are almost completed in the country.

AREA, PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY OF POTATO

S. N.	YEAR	AREA	PRODUCTION	PRODUCTIVITY
		(LAKH HA)	(LAKH MT)	(TONES/HA)
3	2013-14	19.73	415.55	21.06
4	2014-15	20.76	480.09	23.13
5.	2015-16	20.85	480.96	23.07

More than 80% of the potato crop is raised in the winter season (Rabi) under assured irrigation during short winter days from October to March. About 8% area lies in the hills during long summer days from April to October. Rainy season (Kharif) potato production is taken in Karnataka, Maharashtra, HP, J&K and Uttrakhand mainly. Plateau regions of South-eastern, central and peninsular India, constitute about 6 per cent area where potatoes are grown as a rainfed crop during rainy season (July to October). In a small area covering mainly the Nilgiri and Palni hills of Tamilnadu, the crop is grown round the year both as irrigated and rainfed crop.

The potato production during the current year 2015-16 estimated to be around 481.0 lakh MT from the area of 20.85 lakh ha in the country as per the 1st estimate of Govt. of India. The potato production in the state of Bihar reported to be around 12-14% more compared to last year and in West Bengal it is less by around 10-12% compared to last year due to blight disease in some of the pockets. Harvesting of rabi crop is completed. The cold stores of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, Haryana and Bihar are almost full.

Approximately 220-225 lakh MT potatoes are stored in cold stores. Present arrivals of potatoes in the markets are coming from temporary storage made by the farmers in different areas. Major potatoes were stored in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.