

Highlights from the *Québec Survey on Potatoes*

May 2019

Disposition of the 2017 Harvest

The survey on the disposition of the 2017 harvest was conducted by the Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ) among Québec potato producers with at least 0.2 hectares (ha) in production. The data from this survey are available on the ISQ's website and provide a picture of the Québec potato industry.

Seeded area

In 2017, the potato seeded area in Québec was 17,100 ha, compared to 16,900 ha in 2016. The combined administrative regions of Capitale-Nationale and Chaudière-Appalaches (3,700 ha in 2017); Montréal, Laval and Lanaudière (3,500 ha); Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean and Côte-Nord (2,800 ha); Mauricie and Centre-du-Québec (2,700 ha); and Estrie and Montérégie (2,100 ha) had the largest seeded areas in Québec.

Production

The harvested area stood at 16,900 ha in 2017, while production totalled 567,200 metric tonnes (t). The harvested area and production were little changed from 2016 (16,800 ha and 554,900 t). By comparison, potato production averaged 537,700 t per year over the 2013-2016 period. Yield per hectare harvested was 33.6 kilograms (kg) in 2017 (33.0 kg/ha in 2016). This was comparable to the average annual yield between 2013 and 2016 (32.1 kg/ha).

Sales

In 2017, the volume of potato sales outside the sector stood at 513,700 t, up 7.5% from 2016. This brought cash receipts to \$166.9 million, up 9.1% from 2016. The value of potato sales outside the sector for table consumption represented 61.4% of the total, ahead of potato sales for prepeeling and canning (18.6%), for chipping (16.0%) and for seed (4.0%).

Preliminary results from the survey on the 2018 harvest

According to preliminary survey data on the 2018 harvest, the seeded area should total 17,300 ha, while the harvested area should stand at 16,600 ha, production at 535,000 t, and yield per hectare at 32.2 kg/ha.

Final data on the 2018 harvest will be collected in the summer of 2019 and are scheduled to be released on the ISQ's website in the fall of 2019.

For complete data from the *Québec Survey on Potatoes – Distribution of the 2017 Harvest*: www.stat.gouv.qc.ca/statistiques/agriculture/pommes-terre/index_an.html

Area, production, sales outside the sector and cash receipts of potatoes, by administrative region, Québec, 2017

Administrative region	Area	Area	Total	Sales outside	Cash
	seeded	harvested	production	the sector ¹	receipts
	K ha		K t		\$K
Total	17,1	16,9	567,2	513,7	166 902
Bas-Saint-Laurent (01), Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (11)	1,2	1,2	29,3	23,2	8 494
Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean (02), Côte-Nord (09)	2,8	2,7	87,4	67,1	20 176
Capitale-Nationale (03), Chaudière-Appalaches (12)	3,7	3,7	121,6	113,7	33 543
Mauricie (04), Centre-du-Québec (17)	2,7	2,7	100,4	97,8	28 549
Estrie (05), Montérégie (16)	2,1	2,1	69,1	65,5	24 291
Montréal (06), Laval (13), Lanaudière (14)	3,5	3,5	127,5	120,0	41 714
Outaouais (07), Abitibi-Témiscamingue (08), Nord-du-Québec (10), Laurentides (15)	1,1	1,0	31,9	26,4	10 135

Area, production, sales outside the sector and cash receipts of potatoes, Québec, 2013-2018^p

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^p	2018/2017	
									%
Area seeded	K ha	17,4	17,1	16,9	16,9	17,1	17,3 ^p	1,2	
Area harvested	K ha	17,1	16,6	16,6	16,8	16,9	16,6 ^p	-1,8	
Total production	K t	520,6	514,8	560,6	554,9	567,2	535,0 ^p	-5,7	
Sales outside the sector ¹	K t	453,3	455,5	479,6	478,0	513,7	..	...
Cash receipts	\$K	135 896	122 976	134 545	152 979	166 902	..	...
Table consumption	\$K	92 808	76 545	78 788	94 862	102 482	..	...
Chips	\$K	17 682	22 450*	25 692	29 191	26 665	..	...
Prepeeling and canning	\$K	20 282	18 584	24 741	25 886	31 094	..	...
Seed	\$K	5 124	5 397*	5 324	3 040	6 661	..	...

.. These data are not currently available. They will be collected in the summer of 2019.

... Not applicable.

K ha In thousands of hectares

K t In thousands of metric tonnes

\$K In thousands of dollars

p Preliminary data

Unless specifically indicated, coefficient of variation lower than 15%; estimate good to excellent.

* Coefficient of variation between 15% and 25%; estimate must be interpreted with caution.

** Coefficient of variation greater than 25%; imprecise estimate provided for information purposes only.

1. Includes sales of potatoes for table consumption, chipping, prepeeling, canning and seed outside the sector.

Note: Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec.

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