

HOP STOCKS

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HOP HOLDINGS SET NEW RECORD

A record high total of 75.3 million pounds of hops were being held by growers, dealers, and brewers on March 1, 1977, according to the Crop Reporting Board. These stocks were 5 percent above a year earlier and exceeded the March 1, 1975 inventory by 12 percent. Hop production in 1976 at 57.8 million pounds was the largest crop in 25 years.

Brewers' holdings accounted for 63.5 million pounds, 84 percent of the total. This is 2 percent higher than last March 1 and 15 percent above the figure two years ago. Dealers held 11.4 million pounds, up 33 percent from March 1, 1976, and growers' stocks at 380,000 pounds were only about half the year earlier level.

There were 52.1 million pounds of dry hops in storage on March 1, 1977, or 69 percent of total stocks compared with 68 percent a year ago. Domestic hops accounted for 65 percent of all dry hops. The remaining 35 percent were foreign in origin, a slightly lower percent of the total than last year. Hops held in pellet form at 13.6 million pounds (dry equivalent) constituted 18 percent of total hop stocks, unchanged from last year's proportion. Hops stored in extract form accounted for the remaining 9.7 million pounds (dry equivalent), 13 percent of total inventory.

HOP STOCKS - UNITED STATES

STOCKS	SEP 1		MAR 1		
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1977
	THOUSAND POUNDS				
TOTAL STOCKS	42,170	50,400	67,300	71,380	75,300
STOCKS HELD BY: 1/					
GROWERS	560	390	650	680	380
DEALERS	1,230	1,960	11,200	8,570	11,420
BREWERS	40,380	48,050	55,450	62,130	63,500
FORM HELD:					
DRY HOPS-DOMESTIC	14,660	17,890	30,260	30,450	33,600
-FOREIGN	12,200	14,320	18,140	18,240	18,470
PELLETS (EQUIV. DRY HOPS)	8,060	10,310	10,750	13,150	13,560
EXTRACT (EQUIV. DRY HOPS)	7,250	7,880	8,150	9,540	9,670
RESERVES	540	880	600	880	1,170

1/ INCLUDES EQUIVALENT POUNDS OF DRY HOPS HELD IN FORM OF EXTRACT OR PELLETS.

