# Potato Production Up In 1992

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Pennsylvania's production of fall potatoes for 1992 totaled 4,940,000 cwt., up 41 percent from 1991, according to the Pennsylvania Agriculture Statistics Service. The value of production was 33.3 million dollars, up 27 percent from 1991.

Potato sales totaled 4,394,000 cwt., or 89 percent of the 1992 crop. In 1991, 3,308,000 cwt., or 95 percent of the total production, was sold. The average price received in 1992 was $6.75 per cwt., compared to $7.50 in 1991. Of the total production, 83,000 cwt. were used on the farms where produced and 463,000 cwt. went to shrinkage and other losses. Farm use accounted for 38,000 cwt. in 1991 and shrinkage and other losses were 154,00 cwt.

Farm marketings of the 1992 crop, by months, were as follows: August, 14 percent; September, 22 percent; October, 14 percent; November, 12 percent; December, 8 percent; January, 9 percent; February, 8 percent; March, 7 percent; April, 3 percent; May, 3 percent.

Nationally, acreage of all potatoes harvested in 1992 totaled 1.32 million, down 4 percent from the previous year. Yield per acre averaged a record high 323 cwt., up 19 cwt. from 1991. Production totaled 425 million cwt. in 1992, an increase of 2 percent from the previous year.

The volume of potatoes sold was a record high 386 million cwt., up 2 percent from 1991. Value of the 1992 potato crop was estimated at $2.34 billion, up 14 percent from a year earlier. The average price was $5.52 per cwt., compared with $4.96 in 1991.

Utilization placed a record high 229 million cwt. of potatoes in the hands of processors, 127 million cwt. was sold for fresh market, and other sales (diversion, seed and livestock feed) totaled 29.4 million cwt. Non-sales at 39.7 million cwt. were up 3 percent from 1991. Shrinkage and loss were estimated at 33.8 million cwt., feed and home use totaled 1.18 million cwt., and 4.75 million cwt. was kept by growers for seed on their own farms.

# Hall Of Fame Search Begins

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Governor William Donald Schaefer announced that the search has begun for the 1994 Governor's Agriculture "Hall of Fame" candidates.

"This 'Hall of Fame' recognizes the tremendous contributions of farmers and their families to agriculture in Maryland," Governor Schaefer said.
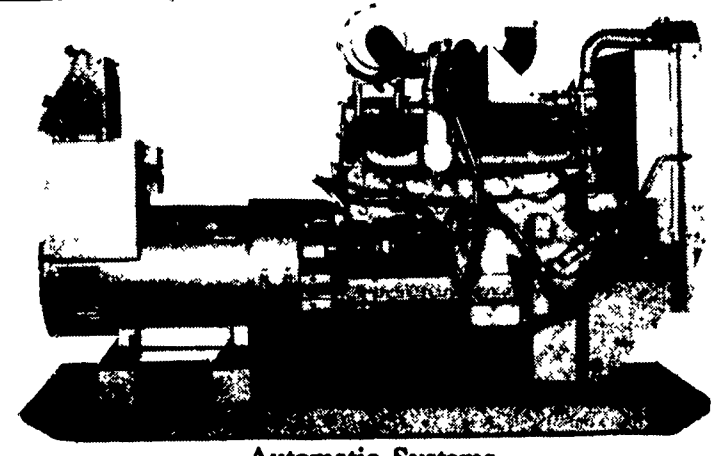
The award was created by Governor Schaefer in 1991 to honor leaders in the agricultural industry who exemplify high standards of achievement and commitment to the community.

Nominating committees are being created in each county. A governor's selection committee — chaired by the secretary of agriculture and including the director of the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service, president of the Maryland Farm Bureau, Master of the Maryland State Grange, and three other members named by the secretary, including the winner from the previous year — will review all county nominations and select award winners.

For more information on the selection process and the name of the coordinator for your county, call Suzie Harrison at (410) 841-5770.