

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN NOVEMBER 2003

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in November was 9% lower than in October, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Annualized production for 2003 was estimated to be 33.8 million metric tons (Mt), which was 6% lower than in 2002. Production from January to November was 7% lower compared with the same period in 2002.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used in November increased slightly over that in October to 3.06 Mt. Annualized sales or use for the year was estimated to be 35.2 Mt, which was slightly higher than in 2002. For the period January to November, phosphate rock sales and use were slightly higher compared

with 2002. U.S. producer ending stocks for November decreased 3% from those in the prior month.

Some phosphate rock import data for Morocco, the largest supplier, were suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau data. In addition, Census trade data are not available for the current month. Based on Census figures and data from the Moroccan producer, the USGS estimates that imports of phosphate rock in 2003 have averaged 208,000 tons per month.

Domestic consumption for 2003 was estimated to be 37.7 Mt, using annualized sold or used data and estimated trade data. This was slightly higher than in 2002.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production			Sold and/or used			Ending stocks ²		
	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total
2002:									
January-November	28,500	4,680	33,200	27,600	4,470	32,100	XX	XX	XX
November	2,530	366	2,900	2,460	502	2,960	6,590	2,210	8,810
December	2,450	362	2,810	2,390	448	2,840	6,560	2,300	8,860
January-December ³	31,100	5,040	36,100	29,800	4,920	34,700	XX	XX	XX
2003:									
January	2,580	333	2,910	2,420	425	2,850	6,650	2,030	8,680
February	1,970	321	2,290	2,300	465	2,760	6,320	1,890	8,210
March	2,470	308	2,780	2,680	447	3,130	6,160	1,750	7,910
April	2,180	283	2,470	2,360	398	2,750	5,910	1,630	7,540
May	2,550	610	3,160	2,480	476	2,960	5,930	1,770	7,700
June	2,290	458	2,750	2,300	371	2,670	6,020	1,860	7,880
July	2,250	510	2,760	2,390	465	2,850	5,770	1,900	7,670
August	2,480	577	3,060	2,750	432	3,180	5,530	2,050	7,570
September	2,550	361	2,910	2,610	350	2,960	5,460	2,050	7,510
October	2,650	379	3,030	2,720	318	3,040	5,430	2,110	7,540
November	2,450	300	2,750	2,610	448	3,060	5,260	2,080	7,340
Total	26,400	4,440	30,900	27,600	4,600	32,200	XX	XX	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes inventory adjustments.

³Data may not add to total shown because of revisions to monthly data.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
2002:		
January-October	1,080	46,600
October	124	5,270
November	86	2,370
December	127	5,230
January-December	1,320	54,900
Total year ³	2,700	112,000
2003: ⁴		
January	65	1,790
February	131	5,180
March	110	1,990
April	153	5,610
May	138	5,340
June	82	2,090
July	92	4,270
August	144	5,750
September	130	4,990
October	63	1,690
Total	1,110	38,700

¹Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

⁴Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2001	2002	2003 ^{e,1}
Marketable production:			
Florida and North Carolina	W	31.1	28.9
Idaho and Utah	W	5.0	4.9
Total ²	31.9	36.1	33.8
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	28.1	29.8	30.2
Idaho and Utah	4.7	4.9	5.0
Total ²	32.8	34.7	35.2
Yearend stocks	7.5	8.9	7.3
Exports ³	(4)	(4)	W
Average value per ton	W	W	W
Imports for consumption ^e	2.5	2.7	2.5
Average value per ton	\$49.30	\$41.45	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e,5}	35.3	37.4	37.7

^eEstimated. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

¹Annualized data.

²Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

³Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2001-02, reported by producers in 2003.

⁴Less than 1/2 unit.

⁵Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.