

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN MARCH 2002

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in March 2002 increased 13% from the prior month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Annualized production for the year was 33.5 million metric tons, which was about 4% higher than total production in 2001.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used, for March increased 9% from the prior month, to 3.0 million tons. Annualized sales or use for the year was 34.7 million tons, which was about 6% higher than the total for 2001. U.S. producer ending stocks for March were slightly lower than the figure shown in February.

Some phosphate rock import data for Morocco were suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau. U.S. import tonnage was estimated by USGS to average 208,000 tons per month, in 2001. March import data were not available at the time of publication.

Annualized domestic consumption for 2002 was calculated to be 37.2 million tons, using annualized sold and used data and estimated trade data. Apparent domestic consumption for 2001, calculated from the sum of home deliveries and adjusted trade data, was 35.2 million tons.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

| Region and period | Marketable production | Sold and/or used | Ending stocks 2/ |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| United States: | | | |
| 2001 p/: | | | |
| March | 3,281 | 2,954 | 8,922 |
| April | 3,105 | 2,689 | 9,369 |
| May | 3,577 | 2,727 | 10,231 |
| June | 2,946 | 2,448 | 10,727 |
| July | 1,358 | 2,428 | 9,657 |
| August | 2,623 | 2,841 | 9,445 |
| September | 2,711 | 2,681 | 9,390 |
| October | 2,769 | 2,840 | 9,315 |
| November | 2,567 | 2,877 | 9,005 |
| December | 1,264 | 2,757 | 7,314 |
| January-December | 32,100 | 32,800 | XX |
| 2002: | | | |
| January | 2,863 | 2,865 | 7,526 |
| February | 2,542 | 2,724 | 7,574 r/ |
| March | 2,866 | 2,966 | 7,559 |
| Total | 8,271 | 8,555 | XX |
| Florida and North Carolina: | | | |
| 2001 p/: | | | |
| March | 2,871 | 2,532 | 7,458 |
| April | 2,699 | 2,240 | 7,947 |
| May | 2,515 | 2,212 | 8,262 |
| June | 2,277 | 2,022 | 8,516 |
| July | 1,045 | 2,126 | 7,435 |
| August | 2,222 | 2,427 | 7,241 |
| September | 2,155 | 2,318 | 6,990 |
| October | 2,396 | 2,519 | 6,868 |
| November | 2,370 | 2,479 | 6,758 |
| December | W | 2,457 | 5,310 |
| January-December | W | 28,100 | XX |
| 2002: | | | |
| January | 2,551 | 2,468 | 5,608 |
| February | 2,230 | 2,304 r/ | 5,768 r/ |
| March | 2,699 | 2,613 | 5,944 |
| Total | 7,480 | 7,385 | XX |
| Idaho and Utah: | | | |
| 2001 p/: | | | |
| March | 410 | 422 | 1,464 |
| April | 406 | 449 | 1,421 |
| May | 1,063 | 515 | 1,969 |
| June | 669 | 426 | 2,211 |
| July | 313 | 302 | 2,222 |
| August | 401 | 413 | 2,204 |
| September | 556 | 364 | 2,396 |
| October | 373 | 322 | 2,447 |
| November | 197 | 398 | 2,247 |
| December | W | 300 | 2,003 |
| January-December | W | 4,700 | XX |
| 2002: | | | |
| January | 313 | 398 | 1,918 |
| February | 312 | 425 | 1,806 |
| March | 167 | 353 | 1,615 |
| Total | 792 | 1,176 | XX |

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised. XX Not applicable. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

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

2/ Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

| Period | Quantity | Value |
|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2001: | | |
| February | 142 | 7,370 |
| March | 67 | 3,680 |
| April | -- | -- |
| May | 64 | 3,110 |
| June | 66 | 3,230 |
| July | -- | -- |
| August | 60 | 3,290 |
| September | 114 | 4,470 |
| October | 156 | 6,800 |
| November | 134 | 6,320 |
| December | 54 | 2,120 |
| January-December | 857 | 40,400 |
| Total year 3/ | <u>2,500</u> | <u>119,000</u> |
| 2002 4/: | | |
| January | 118 | 5,650 |
| February | 29 | 784 |
| Total | 147 | 6,434 |

1/ C.i.f. (cost, insurance, and freight) values at U.S. ports.

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

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

4/ Data 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)

| | 2000 | 2001 p/ | 2002 1/ |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Marketable production: | | | |
| Florida and North Carolina | 33.3 | W | 30.3 |
| Idaho and Utah | 5.3 | W | 3.2 |
| Total 2/ | <u>38.6</u> | <u>32.1</u> | <u>33.5</u> |
| Sold or used by producers: | | | |
| Florida and North Carolina | 31.9 | 28.1 | 30.0 |
| Idaho and Utah | 5.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Total 2/ | <u>37.4</u> | <u>32.8</u> | <u>34.7</u> |
| Yearend stocks | 8.2 | 7.3 | 7.6 |
| Exports 3/ | 0.3 | 0.1 | -- |
| Average value per ton | \$40.06 | \$45.80 | -- |
| Imports for consumption e/ | 1.9 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Average value per ton | \$51.88 | \$47.60 | NA |
| Apparent consumption e/ 4/ | 39.0 | 35.2 | 37.2 |

e/ Estimated. p/ Preliminary. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. -- Zero.

1/ Annualized data.

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

3/ Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

4/ Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 4
MOROCCAN
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS 1/
JANUARY - MARCH 2002

(Thousand metric tons)

| Country of destination | Quantity |
|------------------------|----------|
| Australia | 92 |
| Austria | 32 |
| Belgium | 111 |
| Brazil | 145 |
| Bulgaria | 24 |
| El Salvador | 9 |
| France | 224 |
| Germany | 30 |
| Greece | 27 |
| India | 113 |
| Indonesia | 146 |
| Italy | 26 |
| Japan | 21 |
| Korea, Republic of | 100 |
| Mexico | 239 |
| New Zealand | 145 |
| Pakistan | 28 |
| Peru | 23 |
| Poland | 122 |
| Romania | 44 |
| Spain | 378 |
| South Africa | 55 |
| Taiwan | 28 |
| Thailand | 42 |
| United States | 559 |
| Venezuela | 37 |
| Yugoslavia | 43 |
| Total | 2,760 |

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

Source: Office Chérifien des Phosphates--
Casablanca, Morocco