



Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN MAY 2003

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in May increased 28% from the previous month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The reopening of the Kingsford Mine by IMC Phosphates MP, Inc. in Florida and seasonal production increases in Idaho contributed to the growth in mine output from April. Annualized production for 2003 was estimated to be 32.9 million metric tons (Mt), which was 7% lower than in 2002. Production for January to May 2003 was down 6% compared with the same period in 2002.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used in May increased slightly over that in April, to 2.96 Mt. Annualized sales or use for the year was estimated to be 34.9 Mt, which was slightly

higher than in 2002. U.S. producer ending stocks for May grew by 2% 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 is 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 2002 were 2.7 Mt or an average of 225,000 tons per month. Domestic consumption for 2003 was estimated to be 37.6 Mt, using annualized sales and use data and estimated trade data. Apparent domestic consumption for 2002 calculated from the sum of home deliveries and adjusted trade data was 37.5 Mt.

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-May	12,700	1,670	14,400	12,500	1,980	14,500	XX	XX	XX
May	2,650	635	3,280	2,570	388	2,960	6,040	1,690	7,730
June	2,480	531	3,010	2,470	365	2,840	5,940	1,860	7,800
July	2,550	497	3,050	2,560	517	3,070	6,180	1,840	8,020
August	2,690	694	3,380	2,590	352	2,940	6,360	2,170	8,530
September	2,490	472	2,960	2,420	378	2,800	6,420	2,270	8,690
October	2,580	450	3,030	2,530	375	2,900	6,510	1,440	7,950
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	6,540	2,120	8,670
January-December	30,500	5,040	35,500	29,900	4,910	34,800	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
Total	11,700	1,860	13,600	12,200	2,210	14,400	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.

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

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
2002:		
January-April	434	18,800
April	145	6,400
May	78	2,440
June	111	5,370
July	110	4,900
August	142	5,560
September	112	4,910
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
Total	459	14,600

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	30.5	28.4
Idaho and Utah	W	5.0	4.5
Total ²	31.9	35.5	32.9
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	28.1	29.9	29.6
Idaho and Utah	4.7	4.9	5.3
Total ²	32.8	34.8	34.9
Yearend stocks	7.5	8.7	7.7
Exports ³	(4)	(4)	--
Average value per ton	W	W	NA
Imports for consumption ^e	2.5	2.7	2.7
Average value per ton	\$49.30	\$41.45	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e,5}	35.3	37.5	37.6

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

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.