



California Vegetable Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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**SUMMER FRESH MARKET
VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE**

The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the summer quarter is forecast to be 282,400 acres, down 6 percent from last year. Acreage declines in snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, sweet corn, head lettuce, and tomatoes more than offset acreage increases in carrots and celery. Cucumbers and bell peppers harvested area remains unchanged. Area forecast for melon harvest is 109,900 acres, down 8 percent from last year. Cantaloupe area is forecast at 34,000 acres, 7 percent below 2007. Honeydew area, at 13,000 acres, is down 6 percent from last year. Watermelon area, at 62,900 acres, is 9 percent below a year ago.

Broccoli: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 32,000 acres, down 3 percent from last year. Growing conditions have been ideal for the broccoli crop. No major pest or disease problems have been reported. Harvest is ongoing throughout the State. The crop is expected to be stable despite water supply concerns.

Cantaloupe: U.S. summer cantaloupe area for harvest is forecast at 34,000 acres, down 7 percent from 2007. California's harvest was delayed in the Central Valley. Cool temperatures slowed fruit growth and some growers lost their first melon planting due to a mid-April frost. No major insect or disease problems have been reported. In Georgia, growers report the State has been too dry this growing season.

Carrots: Nationally, area for fresh market harvest is forecast at 21,600 acres, up 4 percent from last year. In California, carrots are in high demand. Warm spring temperatures boosted growing conditions. Harvest is underway with no major pest or disease problems reported. In Michigan, May's rainfall in the west central part of the State was ideal for germinating carrots. Carrots emerged in most fields by late May and had reached the second to third true leaf stage by early June. Producers reported thinner than normal stands and behind normal growth during this stage of the season. Some carrots were lost to flooding during early June.

Cauliflower: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 8,600 acres, down 2 percent from 2007. Growing conditions have been ideal for the cauliflower crop. No major pest or disease problems have been reported. The crop is expected to be stable despite water supply concerns.

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PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE AND TONNAGE INTENTIONS

In California, the processed tomato crop was slightly behind schedule. Transplanting of tomatoes began in early March. A frost in mid-April caused spotty damage to the crop in some areas of the State. Growers are expected to contract 277,000 acres, 7 percent less than in 2007. Contracted production is expected to be 11.7 million tons, 2 percent below a year ago.

Nationally, contracted production is forecast at 12.2 million tons, down 3 percent from last year's comparable States. Area contracted, at 294,000 acres, is down 7 percent from 2007 for comparable States.

PROCESSING TOMATES BY STATE

State	Area Planted				Contract Change 2008 2007	Production				Contract Change 2008 2007
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions 1/		2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions 1/	
		Total	Contract 1/				Total	Contract 1/		
Acres					Percent	Tons				Percent
California	283,000	301,000	298,000	277,000	93	10,104,000	12,082,000	11,965,000	11,700,000	98
Indiana	8,000	8,500	8,500	7,800	92	225,500	294,000	294,000	241,610	82
Michigan	3,300	3,400	3,400	2,700	79	115,500	112,200	112,200	93,000	83
Ohio	6,400	6,400	6,400	6,500	102	166,820	171,690	171,690	185,000	108
U.S.	300,700	319,300	316,300	294,000	93	10,611,820	12,659,890	12,542,890	12,219,610	97

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

**SUMMER FRESH MARKET
VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE**

(Continued from Page 1)

Celery: California's summer area for harvest is forecast at 6,400 acres, up 5 percent from 2007. The summer celery crop was in good condition during late June. Presence of seeders was minimal.

Corn, Sweet: Nationally, fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 101,100 acres, down 3 percent from last year. In New York, the sweet corn crop is reported to be in good to excellent condition. In Pennsylvania, wet weather and cool temperatures delayed planting. In California, the sweet corn crop is in good condition. Some growers have put in wells to minimize the impact of surface water curtailments. In Michigan, cold soil temperatures during May delayed emergence of sweet corn, despite enough moisture to germinate seeds. Warm weather arrived in early June promoting plant growth. Frost injury of the crop during late May, recovered by mid-June. In Illinois, cold and wet weather resulted in growers replanting their sweet corn crop. In New Jersey, weather conditions were favorable for sweet corn. In North Carolina, weather conditions were favorable during the planting season. In Wisconsin, a cold and wet spring delayed planting and crop growth.

Honeydew: U.S. fresh market area for summer harvest is forecast at 13,000 acres, down 6 percent from last year. Harvest of the California crop was delayed in the Central Valley. Cool temperatures slowed fruit growth and some early melon planting was lost due to a mid-April frost. No major insect or disease problems have been reported. Harvest in Arizona began in mid-May. The growing season is expected to end by early July.

Lettuce, Head: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 40,000 acres, down 7 percent from last year. Planted acreage is down due to strong competition from regional growing areas. However, adverse weather conditions in the Midwest have shifted more demand to California.

Tomatoes: U.S. fresh market area for summer harvest is forecast at 35,800 acres, down 6 percent from last year. In California, water shortages are a major concern. Early tomatoes have suffered wind damaged on the crown set in many fields. Michigan growers began transplanting throughout May. Early planted tomatoes progressed well by the end of May despite dry soil. Stakes were put in fields during the first week of June. Early plantings began to bloom and set fruit by mid-June. In New Jersey, cold overnight temperatures during May stalled tomato growth. Hot and humid weather by mid-June benefitted plant development.

Watermelon: Nationally, summer area for harvest is forecast at 62,900 acres, down 9 percent from 2007. In Georgia, producers report conditions has been too dry during this growing season. California's harvest was delayed in the Central Valley. Some growers lost their first melon planting due to a mid-April frost. No major insect or disease problems have been reported. In Mississippi, harvest is progressing well with good quality and size. In South Carolina, growing conditions have not been favorable for the melon crop. Precipitation is well below normal and soil moisture is extremely dry for the State.

SUMMER VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area Harvested		For Harvest	2008
		2006	2007	2008	2007
		Acres			Percent
BROCCOLI 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	34,000	33,000	32,000	97
CANTALOUPE					
California	Jul-Sep	30,000	31,000	29,000	94
Georgia	Jun-Sep	2,200	2,200	2,000	91
South Carolina	Jun-Oct	1,100	1,100	900	82
Texas	Jul-Sep	2,600	2,200	2,100	95
TOTAL		35,900	36,500	34,000	93
CARROTS					
California	Jul-Sep	16,000	17,900	19,000	106
Michigan	Jul-Nov	2,500	2,800	2,600	93
TOTAL		18,500	20,700	21,600	104
CAULIFLOWER 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	9,000	8,800	8,600	98
CELERY 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	6,000	6,100	6,400	105
CORN, SWEET					
California	Jul-Sep	8,400	9,500	9,700	102
Illinois	Jul-Sep	6,500	6,600	7,100	108
Michigan	Jul-Oct	8,300	8,500	8,300	98
New Jersey	Jul-Oct	7,000	7,100	7,000	99
New York	Jul-Oct	26,800	27,500	27,600	100
North Carolina	Jun-Aug	8,000	7,400	7,000	95
Ohio	Jul-Sep	16,000	16,000	15,000	94
Pennsylvania	Jul-Oct	16,500	14,200	13,400	94
Wisconsin	Jul-Sep	7,000	7,400	6,000	81
TOTAL		104,500	104,200	101,100	97
HONEYDEW					
Arizona	May-Jul	3,700	3,100	3,000	97
California	Jul-Sep	11,000	10,700	10,000	93
TOTAL		14,700	13,800	13,000	94
LETTUCE, HEAD					
California	Jul-Sep	45,000	43,000	40,000	93
Colorado	Jun-Sep	1,600	2,500	2/	---
TOTAL		46,600	45,500	40,000	88
TOMATOES					
California	Jul-Sep	22,000	22,000	21,000	95
Michigan	Jul-Sep	2,000	2,100	2,000	95
New Jersey	Jul-Oct	2,900	2,900	2,900	100
New York	Jul-Oct	2,000	2,400	2,500	104
Pennsylvania	Jul-Oct	3,400	3,100	2,400	77
Virginia	Jul-Sep	5,800	5,400	5,000	93
TOTAL		38,100	37,900	35,800	94
WATERMELON					
California	Jul-Sep	9,600	10,000	10,000	100
Georgia	Jul-Sep	29,000	37,000	33,000	89
Mississippi	Jun-Sep	3,100	3,200	3,000	94
North Carolina	May-Aug	7,500	7,000	6,500	93
Texas	Jul-Sep	12,500	11,600	10,400	90
TOTAL		61,700	68,800	62,900	91

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

2/ Estimate not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

Nationally, production of spring onions in 2008 is forecast at 11.0 million cwt., up 7 percent from last year. The crop is produced on 29,000 harvested acres. The average yield is 378 cwt. per acre, 48 cwt. above 2007. In Texas, a hard mid-December freeze adversely affected spring planting; however, yields are reported to be above average. In California, cool weather delayed plant growth. In Georgia, rainfall during the winter months was near normal while rainfall during the spring was well below normal. The State is currently under drought conditions; however, temperatures were near normal during the spring. Disease problems for the onion crop have been minimal. The crop is in good condition with high yields reported. Harvest was 90 percent complete by the end of May, which is near normal.

Nationally, production of non-storage onions is forecast at 10.4 million cwt., down 9 percent from last year. Harvested area covers 19,600 acres, down 5 percent from 2007. In California, cool temperatures slowed development, which delayed harvest and produced low yields. In southern California, non-storage onion growers reported water shortages throughout the area. In Nevada, the onion crop is reported to be in very good to excellent condition. In New Mexico, quality of the crop is reported to be very good.

Nationally, growers expect to harvest 100,150 acres of storage onions this year, down 7 percent from last year. In California, cool

temperatures slowed development, which delayed harvest and produced low yields. In southern California, non-storage onion growers reported water shortages throughout the area. In Colorado, mountain snowpack was excellent this growing season. Idaho's onion crop was delayed due to cool spring weather. In Michigan, planting of this year's crop was on schedule showing good growth towards the middle of May. However, flooding in early June caused damage to some onion fields. In New York, planting of the onion crop was on schedule and reported to be in good condition. In Malheur County Oregon, planting was delayed due to cold and wet spring conditions. Harvest is expected to be two to three weeks behind schedule. In the "Other Area" of Oregon, planting was delayed due to rainy and cold conditions during spring. However, the onion crop is reported to be in good condition.

The final tally of the U.S. 2007 storage onion production is 57.3 million cwt., up 1 percent from 2006. Harvested area, at 107,780 acres, is down 2 percent from 2006. Average yield of 532 cwt. per acre is 66 cwt. above 2006. The 2007 storage crop is valued at \$298 million, a decrease of 57 percent from 2006. Average price per cwt. decreased from \$15.20 in 2006 to \$5.85 in 2007. With spring and non-storage summer onions added in, total value of the 2007 harvested onions is \$820 million, down 22 percent from 2006.

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION 1/

Season and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
SPRING 2/								
Arizona	1,200	1,500	1,200	1,500	450	520	540	780
California	7,600	6,700	7,400	6,500	450	450	3,330	2,925
Georgia	12,500	12,000	12,000	11,500	270	300	3,240	3,450
Texas	12,500	11,000	10,400	9,500	300	400	3,120	3,800
SPRING TOTAL	33,800	31,200	31,000	29,000	330	378	10,230	10,955
SUMMER								
<u>Non-Storage 2/</u>								
California	9,700	9,300	9,300	9,000	565	540	5,255	4,860
Nevada	2,800	2,700	2,800	2,700	740	760	2,072	2,052
New Mexico	6,300	5,500	6,100	5,400	500	470	3,050	2,538
Texas	1,100	800	1,000	700	400	400	400	280
Washington 3/	1,500	1,800	1,500	1,800	380	360	570	648
NON-STORAGE TOTAL	21,400	20,100	20,700	19,600	548	529	11,347	10,378
<u>Storage 4/</u>								
California 5/	31,700	31,000	30,500	30,000	425	---	12,975	---
Colorado	9,000	8,000	7,700	7,200	410	---	3,157	---
Idaho	9,300	8,600	9,100	8,400	750	---	6,825	---
Michigan	2,600	2,600	2,500	2,500	260	---	650	---
New York	13,000	11,700	12,300	11,000	360	---	4,428	---
Oregon - Malheur	12,000	10,700	12,000	10,600	780	---	9,360	---
- Other	9,100	8,800	8,800	8,800	620	---	5,456	---
Washington	21,000	19,000	21,000	19,000	610	---	12,810	---
Wisconsin	1,900	1,800	1,800	1,100	370	---	666	---
Other States 6/	2,180	1,650	2,080	1,550	470	---	978	---
STORAGE TOTAL	111,780	103,850	107,780	100,150	532	---	57,305	---
SUMMER TOTAL	133,180	123,950	128,480	119,750	534	---	68,652	---
U.S. TOTAL -- ALL ONIONS	166,980	155,150	159,480	148,750	495	---	78,882	---

1/ Estimates for 2007 revised.

2/ Primarily fresh market.

3/ Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.

4/ Yield and production for 2008 will be published October 3, 2008.

5/ Primarily dehydrated and other processing.

6/ OH and UT