

## FRUITS and VEGETABLES PRICE and YIELD DATA, 2003

The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is in the second year of a five-year study of fruit and vegetable prices and yields at the request of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). Funding was provided by the State Departments of Agriculture in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. This new data series will be valuable for growers to use in making production and marketing decisions; for State FSA offices to administer farm programs based on individual State yield and price data; for Cooperative Extension to provide needed outreach and education programs; and for the State Departments of Agriculture to assist growers.

Over 2,700 tree fruit, berry, and vegetable growers were contacted in October and November of 2003 in the six-State region. Approximately 2,100 producer responses were tabulated for this publication. The survey was designed to provide state and regional prices and yields for selected fruit and vegetable commodities which were not in the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) estimating program. Producers in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont were asked to provide acreage, production, wholesale, and retail price information for tree fruits, berries and 28 selected vegetable crops.

The success of this project is credited to the cooperation of the thousands of growers across New England who responded to the survey. We sincerely appreciate their time and efforts in supplying crop information. As with all NASS survey work, individual grower information is kept strictly confidential and is exempted from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. The individual reports were only used in combination with other reports to establish state and regional estimates. Estimates in this report that could disclose individual farm data were recorded as a "D."

**Fresh Market Vegetables:** Less than optimal weather during 2003 resulted in poor growing conditions for vegetable crops in New England. Cool, wet weather in May and June slowed planting and emergence. Warmth and sunshine finally arrived in late June; however, drought conditions followed during much of July. Persistent heat and humidity in August adversely affected plants and led to some vegetables being lost to mildew and rot in September. Lack of heavy frost in September extended vegetable harvest beyond normal.

**Survey Specifics:** The "All Price Per Pound" column includes fresh market vegetables only, and represents the average price received by growers at the point of first sale, including both retail and wholesale sales. New England agriculture's proximity to large populations have encouraged farmers to market directly to the public through roadside stands and "Pick Your Own" (PYO) ventures; thus, commanding the higher retail price at many farm locations. Differences in average prices

among States for an individual crop are largely attributed to the amount of crop sold retail or wholesale in that State. Most vegetable growers were able to provide price data. The lack of adequate farm records hindered many producers from responding to the production questions. The yield data series was modified from providing a yield that would represent a total state average, to publishing the average yield from reports tabulated.

**Tree Fruits:** The 2003 New England **apple** crop utilized production totaled 3.9 million bushels (42-pound units), 19 percent above 2002 utilized production. A wet, cool spring did little to hamper bloom, however, some operators reported poor pollination. By mid-June continued rain had some apple growers expressing concerns about scab. Sunshine and warm temperatures finally arrived at the end of June, with the fruit crop reacting favorably to the sun and heat. By mid-July, orchardists were hoping for rain to help size up fruit. Rain finally arrived near the end of July causing noticeable improvements in fruit size. In early-August, growers started picking early apple varieties and the New England crop condition was rated good to fair, overall. A preliminary estimate of utilized production showed the 2003 New England crop valued at \$55.0 million, 13 percent above the previous year. A revised estimate of value will be available July 2004 after the majority of the 2003 crop has been marketed.

**Fresh Market Berries:** Cool, wet spring weather caused less than optimum growing conditions for the 2003 strawberry crop in New England, with early frost damage and poor pollination reported at many locations. Strawberry development was delayed from one to two weeks in the region. The highbush blueberry crop was reported in good to fair condition for most of the growing season. Full crop potential was limited by damage from early season frost and blight.

**Survey Specifics:** Price and yield data are published for cultivated blueberries, raspberries, and strawberries sold for fresh market only. Fresh and processed wild blueberry prices were available for Maine. There was an insufficient number of reports received to publish a fresh wild blueberry price and yield for the other New England States. The "All Price Per Pound" published includes fresh market berries only and represents the average price received by growers at the point of first sale, which includes both retail and wholesale sales. Most berry growers were able to provide price data; however, production figures were unavailable from the majority of contacts made. The yield data series was modified from providing a yield that would represent a total State average, to publishing the average yield from reports tabulated.

## FRESH MARKET BERRIES: Yield and Price, 2002 and 2003

Crops	Number of Reports <sup>1/</sup>		Yield per Acre <sup>2/</sup>		Number of Reports <sup>3/</sup>		All Price per Pound <sup>4/</sup>	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Number		Pounds		Number		Dollars	
<b>Blueberries, Cultivated (High Bush)</b>								
Maine	22	13	3,100	2,300	37	33	1.25	1.50
Massachusetts	71	44	2,600	2,800	97	115	1.75	1.70
New Hampshire	35	26	4,000	2,600	47	51	1.60	1.60
Rhode Island	9	10	2,800	1,400	16	18	1.40	1.65
Vermont	28	13	3,700	2,400	35	27	1.70	1.80
NEW ENGLAND <sup>5/</sup>	165	106	3,100	2,500	232	244	1.60	1.65
<b>Raspberries, All</b>								
Maine	21	17	2,000	1,000	33	44	2.85	3.35
Massachusetts	39	28	1,750	2,700	67	69	3.15	3.75
New Hampshire	24	11	2,500	1,750	29	37	2.85	3.60
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	9	D	2.75
Vermont	14	15	2,100	1,500	21	23	3.10	3.75
NEW ENGLAND <sup>5/</sup>	D	D	2,000	1,900	D	182	3.00	3.60
<b>Strawberries</b>								
Maine	30	38	6,150	6,900	54	65	1.50	1.45
Massachusetts	46	36	5,500	6,400	71	88	1.65	1.70
New Hampshire	24	17	6,200	6,600	38	36	1.55	1.75
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	7	D	1.65
Vermont	24	22	5,900	5,100	37	40	1.70	1.80
NEW ENGLAND <sup>5/</sup>	D	D	5,800	6,150	D	236	1.60	1.65

<sup>1/</sup> Number of farms reporting production or yield.<sup>2/</sup> Total tabulated pounds produced per bearing acre harvested.<sup>3/</sup> Number of farms reporting a berry price.<sup>4/</sup> Average price per pound received at point of first sale; fresh market average of retail and wholesale sales.<sup>5/</sup> New England includes Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

D - Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.

## PEACHES AND PEARS: Yield and Price, 2002 - 2003

State	Peaches <sup>1/</sup> (48-lb bu)				Pears <sup>2/</sup> (50-lb bu)			
	Yield per Bearing Acre <sup>3/</sup>		Fresh Market Price per Bushel <sup>4/</sup>		Yield per Bearing Acre <sup>3/</sup>		Fresh Market Price per Bushel <sup>4/</sup>	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Bushels		Dollars		Bushels		Dollars	
Maine	45	D	38.40	D	65	65	32.50	27.50
Massachusetts <sup>5/</sup>	130	164	38.40	38.40	30	90	30.00	25.00
New Hampshire	110	130	43.20	43.20	D	D	D	D
Rhode Island	120	155	45.60	43.20	D	110	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	40	60	25.00	D
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	124	157	40.80	39.40	40	90	30.75	26.20

<sup>1/</sup> Peach data are based on production from orchards with 10 or more peach trees.<sup>2/</sup> Pear data are based on production from orchards with 10 or more pear trees. Production from trees grown on wire excluded.<sup>3/</sup> Yield per bearing acre is based on total production, which includes unharvested production and fruit harvested but not sold due to market restrictions. Yield includes reports from orchards with bearing acreage and no production.<sup>4/</sup> Average fresh market price received by farmers at point of first sale. Insufficient sales to establish a processed price.<sup>5/</sup> Massachusetts Peach Source: **Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts - Preliminary**, 3:00 p.m., January 23, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.<sup>6/</sup> New England includes Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES: Yield and Price, 2002 and 2003<sup>1/</sup>

Crops	Number of Reports <sup>2/</sup>		Yield per Acre <sup>3/</sup>		Number of Reports <sup>4/</sup>		All Price per Pound <sup>5/</sup>	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Number		Pounds		Number		Dollars	
<b>Asparagus</b>								
Maine	5	D	700	D	11	14	2.45	2.30
Massachusetts	17	12	1,400	1,100	40	36	1.80	2.00
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	8	6	2.65	2.20
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	14	D	2,400	D	21	12	2.45	2.75
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	39	19	1,500	1,250	D	D	1.95	2.20
<b>Beans, Snap (Bush and Pole)</b>								
Maine	13	12	2,000	3,250	94	64	1.35	1.20
Massachusetts	41	12	2,750	3,400	101	78	1.15	1.10
New Hampshire	8	5	2,250	3,800	53	36	1.60	1.55
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	6	D	1.30
Vermont	12	5	2,650	2,200	56	33	1.50	1.25
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	D	2,750	3,100	D	217	1.20	1.20
<b>Beets</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	60	27	1.00	1.10
Massachusetts	20	D	11,500	D	52	20	0.80	0.70
New Hampshire	6	D	17,300	D	31	8	1.20	1.00
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	39	20	0.65	0.60
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	38	D	13,000	D	D	D	0.85	0.85
<b>Broccoli</b>								
Maine	7	D	2,750	D	37	D	1.15	D
Massachusetts	23	D	2,650	D	49	33	1.40	1.25
New Hampshire	5	D	2,500	D	27	18	1.50	1.40
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	6	5	1.50	1.50
Vermont	5	D	4,550	D	32	26	1.20	1.20
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	D	2,750	D	151	D	1.20	D
<b>Cabbage (All)</b>								
Maine	16	D	16,000	D	51	26	0.30	0.25
Massachusetts	21	14	26,000	22,300	46	44	0.20	0.15
New Hampshire	5	D	14,500	D	23	11	0.55	0.45
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	6	5	0.30	0.25
Vermont	5	4	17,300	17,700	20	18	0.35	0.30
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	24	26,000	22,000	146	104	0.25	0.20
<b>Cantaloupe and Muskmelons</b>								
Maine	7	D	24,200	D	27	20	0.65	0.60
Massachusetts	17	8	3,300	27,400	42	27	0.55	0.55
New Hampshire	8	D	13,100	D	32	17	0.60	0.65
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	5	D	0.75
Vermont	5	D	8,500	D	21	12	0.60	0.75
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	14	10,700	19,500	D	81	0.60	0.60
<b>Carrots</b>								
Maine	13	8	8,900	9,900	53	43	0.95	0.95
Massachusetts	16	D	3,000	D	45	34	0.65	0.45
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	24	17	1.15	1.20
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	13	4	12,800	13,100	41	26	0.60	0.65
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	48	16	7,000	11,700	D	120	0.70	0.70
<b>Cauliflower</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	18	11	1.50	1.40
Massachusetts	D	D	D	D	15	18	1.10	1.00
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	9	8	1.70	1.35
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	9	10	1.10	1.00
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	10	D	3,000	D	D	D	1.25	1.20
<b>Cucumbers (Excludes Pickles)</b>								
Maine	15	11	7,550	16,200	36	40	0.70	0.90
Massachusetts	39	16	12,500	14,000	74	62	0.70	0.70
New Hampshire	7	D	4,100	D	23	31	0.85	0.90
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	6	11	0.65	0.70
Vermont	8	D	10,300	D	32	17	0.50	0.70
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	38	10,700	13,600	171	161	0.70	0.75

FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES: Yield and Price, 2002 and 2003 <sup>1/</sup>

Crops	Number of Reports <sup>2/</sup>		Yield per Acre <sup>3/</sup>		Number of Reports <sup>4/</sup>		All Price per Pound <sup>5/</sup>	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Number		Pounds		Number		Dollars	
<b>Eggplant</b>								
Maine	7	D	5,500	D	27	17	1.20	1.40
Massachusetts	36	7	16,000	10,200	93	60	0.45	0.60
New Hampshire	6	D	1,800	D	28	18	1.10	1.15
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	12	9	0.50	0.60
Vermont	D	D	D	D	17	11	1.70	1.80
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	54	12	14,000	10,800	177	115	0.70	0.75
<b>Lettuce, Head</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	D	4	D	1.10
Massachusetts	D	D	D	D	12	9	1.20	1.35
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	7	D	1.00	D
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	8	D	6,500	D	30	18	1.25	1.30
<b>Lettuce, Leaf</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	25	14	2.65	1.95
Massachusetts	15	6	13,800	16,700	33	22	1.20	1.35
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	11	8	1.50	1.30
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	7	D	9,800	D	19	20	1.00	0.85
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	30	10	12,500	13,200	D	D	1.20	1.30
<b>Lettuce, Romaine</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	D	4	D	1.30
Massachusetts	D	D	D	D	16	7	1.10	1.55
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	D	6	D	0.50
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	12	D	11,500	D	30	20	1.20	1.10
<b>Onions, Dry</b>								
Maine	10	D	7,250	D	46	24	0.85	0.85
Massachusetts	11	D	20,500	D	29	17	0.30	0.35
New Hampshire	6	D	6,800	D	16	7	0.80	1.10
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	5	D	1.30
Vermont	5	D	7,200	D	33	21	0.75	0.90
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	10	15,000	20,000	D	74	0.50	0.60
<b>Onions, Green</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	14	10	1.55	1.45
Massachusetts	8	D	4,000	D	19	9	1.40	1.30
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	13	8	1.05	1.00
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	14	4	0.85	0.85
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	14	D	4,500	D	D	D	1.20	1.20
<b>Peas, Green (Fresh Only)</b>								
Maine	10	5	1,900	1,650	72	63	1.55	1.75
Massachusetts	18	D	6,000	D	55	35	1.70	1.95
New Hampshire	8	5	2,350	2,000	37	22	2.00	2.05
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	7	D	2.10	D
Vermont	8	D	3,900	D	42	26	2.40	2.50
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	18	3,400	2,200	213	D	1.80	1.95
<b>Peppers, Bell</b>								
Maine	11	D	5,200	D	52	32	0.95	1.15
Massachusetts	50	22	17,700	18,600	124	92	0.60	0.60
New Hampshire	10	D	12,500	D	39	27	0.90	1.20
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	9	D	16,000	D	35	22	0.85	1.15
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	34	16,000	17,000	D	189	0.60	0.75
<b>Peppers, Other (Excludes Bell)</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	13	12	1.40	1.00
Massachusetts	21	6	21,000	13,800	52	33	0.40	0.45
New Hampshire	7	D	10,000	D	17	D	1.30	D
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	14	D	2.50	D
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	33	D	20,500	D	D	58	0.55	0.65

FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES: Yield and Price, 2002 and 2003<sup>1/</sup>

Crops	Number of Reports <sup>2/</sup>		Yield per Acre <sup>3/</sup>		Number of Reports <sup>4/</sup>		All Price per Pound <sup>5/</sup>	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Number		Cwt		Number		Dollars/Cwt	
<b>Potatoes</b> <sup>7/ 8/</sup>								
Maine	N/A	N/A	265	260	N/A	N/A	7.05	6.25
Massachusetts	N/A	N/A	255	275	N/A	N/A	7.30	5.60
New Hampshire	12	5	180	130	8	17	33.50	50.00
Rhode Island	N/A	N/A	235	300	N/A	N/A	7.75	6.80
Vermont	D	D	D	D	22	26	17.50	26.00
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
			Pounds				Dollars/Pound	
<b>Pumpkins</b>								
Maine	30	25	18,750	14,700	85	83	0.30	0.25
Massachusetts	114	59	8,400	9,100	211	172	0.30	0.30
New Hampshire	38	27	13,850	12,200	77	70	0.30	0.30
Rhode Island	D	9	D	8,300	17	24	0.40	0.30
Vermont	19	18	12,000	9,700	61	61	0.20	0.20
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	138	10,700	10,300	451	410	0.30	0.30
<b>Rutabaga</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	15	D	0.25	D
Massachusetts	D	D	D	D	10	8	0.30	0.30
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	14	D	14,200	D	33	23	0.35	0.35
<b>Spinach</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	26	15	2.05	1.75
Massachusetts	5	D	2,400	D	23	19	1.45	0.80
New Hampshire	D	D	D	D	11	7	2.00	1.20
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Vermont	5	D	2,450	D	27	21	2.05	2.30
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	14	D	2,000	D	D	D	1.80	1.65
<b>Squash, Summer</b>								
Maine	20	D	6,000	D	78	51	0.50	0.70
Massachusetts	48	19	13,900	16,500	139	111	0.40	0.55
New Hampshire	13	D	13,000	D	68	43	0.80	0.95
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	16	15	0.40	0.50
Vermont	11	D	16,300	D	54	35	0.60	0.70
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	40	13,600	12,800	355	255	0.50	0.60
<b>Squash, Winter</b>								
Maine	31	17	5,800	6,800	98	84	0.40	0.40
Massachusetts	86	42	10,900	12,700	172	150	0.25	0.30
New Hampshire	24	12	6,400	11,900	69	51	0.50	0.50
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	14	15	0.20	0.25
Vermont	20	12	9,750	12,400	67	61	0.35	0.35
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	D	88	10,500	11,900	420	361	0.30	0.35
<b>Tomatoes</b>								
Maine	15	12	8,200	8,300	88	85	1.45	1.55
Massachusetts	78	38	11,400	10,400	172	161	1.45	1.50
New Hampshire	23	10	11,600	16,600	71	70	1.50	1.60
Rhode Island	7	10	10,600	7,100	26	25	1.15	1.05
Vermont	13	D	6,700	D	60	51	1.50	1.75
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	136	D	10,400	10,200	417	392	1.45	1.50
<b>Watermelon</b>								
Maine	D	D	D	D	20	16	0.50	0.50
Massachusetts	16	D	7,600	D	31	22	0.40	0.30
New Hampshire	6	D	7,300	D	18	8	0.50	0.55
Rhode Island	D	D	D	D	5	D	0.40	D
Vermont	D	D	D	D	19	6	0.55	0.40
NEW ENGLAND <sup>6/</sup>	31	D	7,350	D	93	D	0.45	0.40

<sup>1/</sup> Fresh market vegetable yield data are based on production from farms with three-tenths or more acres harvested of specified crop. Price data are based on reports from farmers with one-tenth or more acres harvested of specified crop.

<sup>2/</sup> Number of farms reporting production or yield.

<sup>3/</sup> Total tabulated pounds produced per acre harvested.

<sup>4/</sup> Number of farms reporting the specified vegetable price.

<sup>5/</sup> Average price per pound received at point of first sale. Fresh market average of retail and wholesale sales.

<sup>6/</sup> New England includes Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

<sup>7/</sup> Yield represents production harvested for all uses, fresh and processed.

Source Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island: **Crop Production - Annual Summary**, 8:30 a.m. January 12, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

<sup>8/</sup> ME, MA, RI: 2003 Preliminary, 2002 Revised prices for all uses, fresh and processed; New Hampshire and Vermont: fresh price only.

D - Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.