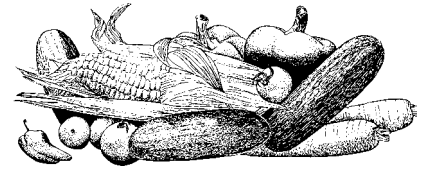


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SUMMER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

The U.S. prospective area for harvest of 12 selected fresh market vegetables during the summer quarter is forecast at 315,750 acres, up 3 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from 1995. Acreage increased for broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, eggplant, head lettuce, bell peppers, and tomatoes. Snap beans, cabbage, and cucumbers showed acreage reductions.

BROCCOLI: California's acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 27,000 acres, up 10 percent from last year and 8 percent from 1995. Producers reported the crop was in good shape with no unusual problems.

CANTALOUPE: California summer acreage for harvest is estimated at 42,900, 10 percent more than a year ago. Nationally, summer cantaloup acreage for harvest is estimated at 49,900 acres, up 12 percent from last year and 9 percent greater than 1995. Repeated heavy rains and diseases have caused problems for the Texas crop.

CARROTS: California acreage for harvest, at 12,900, is up 34 percent from a year ago, partly due to increased demand for baby carrots. Sufficient moisture and warmth have helped the California crop with size and quality. Growers reported few problems. Nationally, acreage for fresh market harvest is forecast at 20,650 acres, a 20 percent increase from last year and 19 percent greater than 1995. The Michigan crop got off to a slow start due to the wet weather and record cold temperatures in May. More favorable June conditions have boosted crop prospects at this point of the season.

CAULIFLOWER: California acreage, at 10,500, is an increase of 13 percent from the previous year. Seasonal weather allowed the crop to develop on schedule with very few insect problems. Producers reported better than normal quality for the crop. The U.S. acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 11,400 acres, up 11 percent from last year and 5 percent more than two years ago.

CELERY: California's summer acreage for harvest is forecast at 5,200 acres, up 4 percent from 1996 and 6 percent greater than two years ago. The crop was in good condition and harvest was proceeding normally.

SWEET CORN: California sweet corn acreage for summer harvest is 11,000, 2 percent below a year ago. Most of the crop was in good condition. The San Joaquin Valley harvest had begun in a few isolated areas. Nationally, fresh market

acreage for harvest is estimated at 115,500 acres, up less than 1 percent from last year, but down 1 percent from 1995. In Wisconsin, early spring conditions were cool and slowed emergence and growth. However, favorable June conditions boosted growth. In Michigan, planting was hampered by wet field conditions. Development has been behind normal throughout the spring. In North Carolina, conditions were good for the crop. Early harvest had just begun in the eastern part of the state.

HONEYDEWS: California's crop, at 12,600 acres, is 7 percent below a year earlier with some fields being treated for powdery mildew. Nationally, fresh market acreage for summer harvest is forecast at 15,100 acres, down 7 percent from last year, but 3 percent greater than 1995.

HEAD LETTUCE: California producers expect to harvest 49,000 acres of head lettuce, 9 percent above last year. The crop was reported in good condition with large head sizes. Nationally, acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 51,600 acres, up 6 percent from last year and 1 percent greater than 1995. In Colorado, the growing season has generally been favorable. Reduction in Colorado's acres was due to low prices and increased out-of-state competition.

TOMATOES: In California, 17,500 acres are expected to be harvested for fresh market, 5 percent more than the last year. Dry and warm conditions boosted the crop prospects. However, some fields were sprayed to control aphids and powdery mildew. Nationally, fresh market acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 37,900 acres, up 4 percent from last year, but 9 percent less than 1995. In New Jersey, some early planted acreage was flooded out but replanted. The crop is 7-10 days later than normal. Soil moisture for Alabama toward the end of June was mostly adequate to surplus. However, producers reported the crop was behind normal due to the cold, wet spring weather. Normal spring weather conditions allowed New York producers to plant their usual tomato acreage, which is 26 percent greater than last year's weather-shortened crop. The Michigan crop suffered from the cold weather and frost in mid-May. However, warmer weather in June allowed the crop to prosper.

WATERMELONS: California growers expect to harvest 11,700 acres, an increase of 5 percent from the previous year. Some fields were sprayed for powdery mildew. Nationally, summer acreage for harvest is forecast at 78,000 acres, down 7 percent from 1996 and 5 percent less than 1995. Cool, wet conditions have delayed the harvest and have caused crop conditions to decline in Georgia. In Alabama, several producers reported that the cold, wet weather delayed some plantings. Excessive rains also had an adverse effect on the Texas crop.

SUMMER VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Crop And State	Usual Harvest Period	Area Harvested		Area For Harvest 1997	1997 1996
		1995	1996		
--- Acres --- Percent					
BROCCOLI: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	25,000	24,500	27,000	110
CANTALOUPE:					
California	Jul-Sep	40,500	38,900	42,900	110
Georgia	Jul-Sep	2,800	3,000	3,500	117
Texas	Jul-Sep	2,500	2,500	3,500	140
GROUP TOTAL		45,800	44,400	49,900	112
CARROTS: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	9,000	9,600	12,900	134
Michigan	Jul-Nov	5,700	5,000	5,000	100
New York	Jul-Dec	750	600	650	108
Washington	Aug-Dec	1,900	2,000	2,100	105
GROUP TOTAL		17,350	17,200	20,650	120
CAULIFLOWER: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	9,700	9,300	10,500	113
New York	Jul-Dec	1,200	1,000	900	90
GROUP TOTAL		10,900	10,300	11,400	111
CELERY: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	4,900	5,000	5,200	104
SWEET CORN:					
California	Jul-Sep	9,800	11,200	11,000	98
Connecticut	Jul-Oct	4,500	4,500	4,500	100
Illinois	Jul-Oct	6,900	7,600	6,900	91
Massachusetts	Jul-Oct	6,600	7,000	7,000	100
Michigan	Jul-Oct	11,500	10,500	10,500	100
New Jersey	Jul-Oct	8,500	9,000	9,300	103
New York	Jul-Oct	24,000	20,900	21,200	101
North Carolina	Jun-Jul	5,700	6,000	6,500	108
Ohio	Jul-Sep	15,000	14,700	15,200	103
Pennsylvania	Jul-Sep	17,200	17,000	15,900	94
Wisconsin	Jul-Sep	7,200	6,800	7,500	110
GROUP TOTAL		116,900	115,200	115,500	100
HONEYDEWS:					
Arizona	Jun-Jul	2,300	2,800	2,500	89
California	Jul-Sep	12,400	13,500	12,600	93
GROUP TOTAL		14,700	16,300	15,100	93
HEAD LETTUCE:					
California	Jul-Sep	47,000	45,000	49,000	109
Colorado	Jul-Sep	3,300	2,700	2,200	81
New York	Jun-Oct	900	800	400	50
GROUP TOTAL		51,200	48,500	51,600	106
TOMATOES:					
Alabama	Jul-Sep	2,500	2,700	2,700	100
Arizona	Jul-Sep	500	500	600	120
California	Jun-Nov	21,500	16,700	17,500	105
Michigan	Jul-Sep	2,400	2,400	2,700	113
New Jersey	Jul-Oct	4,500	4,100	4,200	102
New York	Jul-Oct	2,400	1,900	2,400	126
Pennsylvania	Jul-Oct	4,200	4,400	4,700	107
Virginia	Jun-Oct	3,700	3,600	3,100	86
GROUP TOTAL		41,700	36,300	37,900	104
WATERMELONS:					
Alabama	Jul-Sep	5,500	6,600	6,000	91
California	Jul-Sep	12,100	11,100	11,700	105
Georgia	Jul-Sep	35,000	36,000	31,000	86
Mississippi	Jul-Aug	6,500	6,400	7,300	114
South Carolina	Jul-Sep	9,100	9,500	8,500	89
Texas	Jul-Sep	13,500	14,000	13,500	96
GROUP TOTAL		81,700	83,600	78,000	93

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES

California processors contracted 4,700 acres from growers for 1997, 23 percent less than last year.

U.S. pickle processors contracted 96,810 acres for harvest in 1997, up 1 percent from last year. Acreage increased in Michigan, Texas, and the other states. Development of the Michigan crop was about one week behind normal due to record low temperatures in May. Recent rains and warm weather should enhance development. Similar conditions in Wisconsin allowed the crop growth to be near normal.



CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES

State	Planted Area						1997 1996
	1995 Total	1996		1997 Contracts 1/			
		Total	Total	Contract 1/	Early	Late	All
----- Acres ----- %							
California	5,300	6,300	6,100	2/	2/	4,700	77
Colorado	950	900	900	770	---	770	86
Florida	6,000	6,500	3,600	2/	2/	3,000	83
Indiana	2,800	2,400	2,400	1,500	---	1,500	63
Michigan	28,000	28,000	24,000	25,000	---	25,000	104
N Carolina	18,800	14,100	14,100	12,100	1,400	13,500	96
Ohio	3,000	3,200	3,200	3,000	---	3,000	94
S Carolina	7,000	5,000	4,900	4,500	---	4,500	92
Texas	13,000	11,600	8,600	2/	2/	11,500	134
Wisconsin	6,200	5,000	4,200	3,500	---	3,500	83
Other States 3/	31,360	26,940	23,790	16,190	9,650	25,840	109
U.S.	122,410	109,940	95,790	78,930	17,880	96,810	101

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ 1995 - AL, AZ, AR, DE, GA, IL, KY, LA, MD, MA, MN, MO, NJ, NY, OR, VA and WA.

1996 - AL, AR, DE, GA, KY, LA, MD, MA, MN, MO, NJ, OR, VA and WA.
1997 - AL, DE, GA, LA, MD, MA, MN, MO, NJ, NY, OR, VA, and WA.

ONION ACREAGE

California growers harvested 6,800 acres of spring onions, 6 percent less than a year ago. The yield, at 410 cwt. per acre, was up 8 percent resulting in a total production of 2.79 million cwt. of spring onions. The summer onion crop, primarily for processing, is estimated at 29,000 acres, 6 percent below a year ago. Spring rains have resulted in decreased and late plantings, as well as disease and unharvested acreage in some areas. Overall, the crop appeared fair to good with smaller sizes.

Nationally, growers expect to harvest 153,450 total acres of onions in 1997. This is down 3 percent from the comparable states of last year.

Spring onion production in 1997 was estimated at 8.52 million cwt., down 8 percent from last year and 16 percent less than 1995. The crop was produced on 32,400 acres, averaging 263 cwt. per acre. Heavy rains in Texas, especially in the Rio Grande Valley, caused many producers to completely abandon acreage. Excessive water also reduced the Texas yields. Growing conditions in Georgia were ideal with cool temperatures and abundant moisture. Quality has been very good with culling rates expected to be lower than normal.

Non-storage onion production is forecast at 4.10 million cwt., down 8 percent from last year's comparable states. Harvest area covers 11,200 acres, down 7 percent from last year's comparable states. Washington's Walla Walla onion harvest started around mid-June with good quality, but onion size was slightly smaller than normal. Above average precipitation provided good soil moisture for the crop in New Mexico. Frequent, heavy rainfall has slowed harvest.

Growers expect to harvest 80,850 acres of storage onions (excluding California) this year. This is a 4 percent increase from last year. Plantings of the Colorado crop were completed slightly ahead of average. Cool, wet conditions in early June delayed crop development. More favorable conditions have boosted crop prospects. The Utah crop was planted on schedule. Crop prospects appeared to be good as growing conditions have been favorable. Planting conditions for the Oregon crop were also favorable, with just a few areas experiencing delays. There have been no indications of weather or other problems that would drastically affect harvesting at this time. Some fields in Washington were replanted due to wind damage. Generally, fields in Washington looked good with good stands. When warmer weather comes, good yield prospects are expected. Plantings in Idaho were completed ahead of last year and the five-year average. Some growers reported slow crop development in their fields due to a cool spring. Although frost and wind damage were reported by Michigan's producers for some of their fields in May, the crop was developing well at this point of the season.

The final tally of 1996 storage onion production was 33.2 million cwt. (excluding California), down 6 percent from 1995. Harvested area, at 77,610 acres, was 6 percent less than comparable 1995 acreage. The average yield was 428 cwt. per acre, up 4 cwt. from 1995. The 1996 storage crop was valued at \$275 million, an increase of 1 percent from 1995. Average prices increased from \$9.65 in 1995 to \$10.20 in 1996. With spring and non-storage summer onions added in, total value of 1996 harvested onions was \$580 million, down 8 percent from 1995.

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

Season And State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
SPRING	---- Acres ----				-- Cwt. --		-- 1,000 Cwt. --	
Arizona	2,100	1,700	1,900	1,700	400	350	760	595
California	7,500	7,000	7,200	6,800	380	410	2,736	2,788
Georgia	16,000	16,200	14,700	15,800	120	220	1,764	3,476
Texas	15,300	12,400	13,000	8,100	310	205	4,030	1,661
TOTAL SPRING	40,900	37,300	36,800	32,400	252	263	9,290	8,520
SUMMER								
<u>Non-Storage</u>								
Nevada	1,900	---	1,900	---	580	---	1,102	---
New Mexico	7,200	6,600	7,100	6,600	460	425	3,266	2,805
Texas	4,400	3,900	4,200	3,700	220	260	924	962
Washington	900	900	700	900	380	370	266	333
TOTAL	14,400	11,400	13,900	11,200	400	366	5,558	4,100
<u>Storage 1/ 2/</u>								
Colorado	18,000	18,000	16,000	17,000	325	---	5,200	---
Idaho	8,800	8,400	8,600	8,200	650	---	5,590	---
Michigan	6,200	6,200	5,800	6,000	310	---	1,798	---
Minnesota	530	600	520	590	220	---	114	---
New York	12,300	12,200	11,400	11,600	240	---	2,736	---
Ohio	500	470	490	460	380	---	186	---
Oregon- Malheur	12,200	12,200	12,000	12,000	590	---	7,080	---
- West	6,500	7,600	6,300	7,400	380	---	2,394	---
Utah	2,200	2,400	2,100	2,300	470	---	987	---
Washington	13,000	14,300	12,700	13,500	510	---	6,477	---
Wisconsin	1,800	1,900	1,700	1,800	370	---	629	---
TOTAL	82,030	84,270	77,610	80,850	428	---	33,191	---
California 3/	31,000	29,000	31,000	29,000	430	---	13,330	---
TOTAL SUMMER	127,430	124,670	122,510	121,050	425	---	52,079	---
U.S. - ALL ONIONS	168,330	161,970	159,310	153,450	385	---	61,369	---

1/ Estimates for 1996 revised.

2/ Yield and production for 1997 will be published September 10, 1997.

3/ Primarily processing.

PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE AND TONNAGE INTENTIONS

California tomato processors contracted 9.70 million tons of tomatoes from growers, 8 percent below a year earlier. Area under contract at 270,000 acres, is 14 percent below a year ago.

Nationally, production is forecast at 10.3 million tons, down 8 percent from last year. Area contracted, at 292,760 acres, was down 14 percent from 1996. Producers in Colorado did not plant this year due to the current level of tomato stocks. The crop in Michigan had a rough spring with cold temperatures and frost, but warm weather in June helped improve conditions. In California, harvest started in Fresno County.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING, BY STATE, 1995-97

State	Area Planted				Contract Change <u>1997</u> 1996	Production				Contract Change <u>1997</u> 1996
	1995 Total	1996		1997 Contract Intentions <u>1/</u>		1995 Total	1996		1997 Contract Intentions <u>1/</u>	
		Total	Contract <u>1/</u>				Total	Contract <u>1/</u>		
	----- Acres -----				Percent	----- Tons -----				Percent
California	331,000	318,000	315,000	270,000	86	10,606,820	10,660,780	10,540,000	9,700,000	92
Colorado	220	220	220			1,840	3,900	3,900		
Indiana	6,900	6,600	6,600	6,500	98	157,450	180,480	180,480	170,530	94
Michigan	4,600	4,600	4,400	3,600	82	135,000	143,000	138,600	116,000	84
Ohio	11,000	10,900	10,800	9,100	84	269,670	307,650	304,750	258,000	85
Pennsylvania	1,500	1,100	1,100	1,100	100	36,600	22,300	22,300	28,810	129
Other States <u>2/</u>	4,260	3,950	3,850	2,460	64	78,660	90,630	87,780	63,400	72
U.S.	359,480	345,370	341,970	292,760	86	11,286,040	11,408,740	11,277,810	10,336,740	92

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ 1995 - DE, IL, MD, NJ, NY, SC, TX and VA.

1996 - DE, IL, MD, NJ, NY, SC, and VA.

1997 - DE, IL, MD, NJ, NY, SC, and VA.