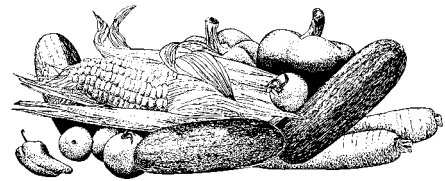


# California Vegetable Review



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## WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

**Broccoli:** California acreage is estimated at 31,000, 3 percent more than last year and 7 percent greater than 1996. According to producers, the crop was in good condition with very few problems experienced.

**Carrots:** California acreage for harvest was forecast at 18,200, down 21 percent from last year and 15 percent below 1996. In California, producers reported that the crop was in good condition with sizing about normal for this period. Very few problems were reported. Baby carrots remain in high demand.

**Cauliflower:** California acreage is forecast at 9,800 acres up 3 percent from 1997 and 15 percent above 1996. Producers reported that the crop was in good condition.

**Celery:** The winter celery crop acreage for harvest in California is estimated to be at 7,800 acres, 13 percent above 1997 and 22 percent above the 1996 crop. Rainfall and cool weather caused some fieldwork delays in Southern California.

**Lettuce:** Acreage for harvest in California was forecast at 17,500, 3 percent above last year and 6 percent above the 1996 crop. The crop was in generally good condition and no unusual problems were reported by growers.

## WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvesting Period	Area Harvested		Ind. 1998	1998 1997
		1996	1997		
--- Acres --- Percent					
<b>BROCCOLI: 1/</b>					
California	Jan-Mar	29,000	30,000	31,000	103
<b>CARROTS:</b>					
California	Jan-Mar	21,500	23,000	18,200	79
Florida	Nov-Mar	3,800	4,600	5,000	109
Texas	Dec-Mar	3,400	2,400	3,500	146
TOTAL		28,700	30,000	26,700	89
<b>CAULIFLOWER: 1/</b>					
California	Jan-Mar	8,500	9,500	9,800	103
<b>CELERY: 1/</b>					
California	Jan-Mar	6,400	6,900	7,800	113
<b>HEAD LETTUCE:</b>					
Arizona, Western	Nov-Apr	57,000	51,800	46,000	89
California	Jan-Apr	16,500	17,000	17,500	103
TOTAL		73,500	68,800	63,500	92

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

## SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS

Growers intend to plant 36,500 acres of spring onions for 1998, a decrease of 4 percent from 1997 and 11 percent less than the 1996 acres planted. Acreage increased in Arizona and California. California field conditions were excellent across the State through December. More recently, the crop could use warmer weather and more sunshine.

### SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS 1/

State	Area Planted		1998 Intentions
	1996	1997	
--- Acres ---			
Arizona	2,100	2,100	2,200
California	7,500	7,400	8,300
Georgia	16,000	16,200	14,500
Texas	15,300	12,400	11,500
4-STATE TOTAL	40,900	38,100	36,500

1/ Primarily fresh market.



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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

**UNITED STATES UTILIZATION OF LIMA BEANS FOR PROCESSING 1/**

Utilization	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	---- Acres ----				---- Tons ----			
Canning	9,560	12,520	9,350	11,800	1.10	1.13	10,270	13,360
Fordhooks	5,300	5,400	5,200	5,300	2.30	2.25	11,980	11,930
Baby Limas	35,140	36,170	34,650	34,630	1.46	1.47	50,460	50,990
Freezing	40,440	41,570	39,850	39,930	1.57	1.58	62,440	62,920
U. S. TOTAL	50,000	54,090	49,200	51,730	1.48	1.47	72,710	76,280

1/ 1996-97 - CA, DE, IL, MD, MN, NJ, OR, TN, WA, AND WI.

**1997 VEGETABLE CROP SUMMARY**

California fresh market and dual utilization vegetable crop production (excluding potatoes) was 25.5 million tons for 1997, 7 percent more than the previous year. California continued to be the leading fresh market State, accounting for 44 percent of the harvested area, 49 percent of production, and 53 percent of the value for the United States. Crops that had value increases were artichokes, asparagus, snap beans, bell peppers,

broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, fresh carrots, celery, garlic, head lettuce, leaf lettuce, cantaloupes, honeydew melons, watermelons, mushrooms, spring onions, spinach, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Crops showing a decrease in value were processing carrots, cauliflower, cucumbers, romaine lettuce, and summer onions.

**CALIFORNIA PROCESSING VEGETABLE CROPS**

Processing Crop	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Ton 1/				Total Value	
							First Delivery Point		Processing Plant Door			
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	-- Acres --		---- Cwt. ----		---- Tons ----		---- Dollars ----				-- 1,000 Dollars --	
CUCUMBERS	6,200	4,200	7.00	7.19	43,400	30,200	N/A	N/A	370.00	296.00	16,058	8,939
TOMATOES	313,000	260,000	34.06	35.96	10,660,780	9,349,600	53.45	50.85	61.10	59.50	651,374	556,301

**CALIFORNIA FRESH MARKET AND DUAL UTILIZATION VEGETABLE CROPS**

Crop & Use 1/	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Cwt. 2/		Total Value	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	-- Acres --		-- Cwt. --		-- 1,000 Cwt. --		-- Dollars --		-- 1,000 Dollars --	
ARTICHOKES	8,900	9,100	100	95	890	865	73.50	78.20	65,416	67,620
ASPARAGUS	29,000	30,100	26	27	754	813	85.80	115.00	64,691	93,224
SNAP BEANS	6,500	6,300	90	100	585	630	47.80	52.30	27,963	32,949
BELL PEPPERS	25,500	25,000	300	300	7,650	7,500	22.70	25.40	173,506	190,342
BROCCOLI	120,000	123,000	120	130	14,440	15,990	26.50	28.10	382,225	449,045
BRUSSELS SPROUTS	3,800	4,200	180	150	684	630	29.40	42.50	20,120	26,800
CABBAGE	10,000	11,500	350	355	3,500	4,083	12.60	15.00	44,100	61,245
CARROTS,										
Fresh	66,000	70,900	300	360	19,800	25,524	13.60	13.30	269,280	339,469
Processing	4,300	2,700	670	641	2,880	1,730	60.40	65.50	8,698	5,666
Total	70,300	73,600	323	370	22,680	27,254	12.26	12.66	277,978	345,135
CAULIFLOWER	40,000	41,200	140	130	5,600	5,356	33.20	30.20	180,140	161,497
CELERY	23,600	23,900	720	690	16,992	16,491	10.70	15.10	181,078	249,356
CUCUMBERS	6,000	5,700	330	315	1,980	1,796	28.20	23.50	55,836	42,206
GARLIC	35,000	37,000	175	150	6,125	5,550	32.10	47.10	196,333	261,519
LETTUCE,										
Head	135,500	141,000	350	350	47,425	49,350	15.40	19.20	730,345	947,520
Leaf	36,000	35,700	210	210	7,560	7,497	25.10	25.40	189,756	190,424
Romaine	23,500	24,000	275	265	6,463	6,360	18.60	17.80	120,212	113,208
MELONS,										
Cantaloupe	59,000	65,500	220	220	12,980	14,410	17.90	17.60	232,342	253,616
Honeydew	20,300	23,200	170	200	3,451	4,640	16.50	18.60	56,942	86,304
Watermelon	17,100	18,200	440	450	7,524	8,190	10.50	10.90	79,002	89,271
MUSHROOMS (Agaricus)	514	523	2,549	2,489	1,310	1,302	108.92	119.52	142,642	155,554
ONIONS,										
Spring	7,200	7,200	380	445	2,736	3,204	9.80	14.30	26,813	45,817
Summer	31,000	29,000	430	440	13,330	12,760	7.71	7.84	100,736	98,052
POTATOES,										
Winter	5,700	6,600	250	240	1,425	1,584	21.10	3/	30,068	3/
Spring	20,100	20,700	375	400	7,538	8,280	13.00	3/	97,994	3/
Summer	5,800	5,900	360	360	2,088	2,124	13.40	3/	27,979	3/
Fall	11,500	10,500	400	400	4,600	4,200	4.85	3/	22,310	3/
Total	43,100	43,700	363	370	15,651	16,188	11.50	3/	178,351	3/
SPINACH	7,000	7,100	150	175	1,050	1,243	30.90	30.50	32,445	37,912
SWEET CORN	24,100	27,000	155	145	3,736	3,915	17.60	16.80	65,754	65,772
TOMATOES	37,400	40,800	280	285	10,472	11,628	24.80	27.00	259,706	313,956

1/ Fresh Market Usage, except where specified.

2/ For processing crops and the processed segment of the dual utilization crops, price is based on equivalent returns at the processing plant door. For fresh market crop, price is on a packed and loaded basis, f.o.b. shipping point.

3 Available September 1998. Total value of potatoes is based on estimated sales, a component of total production.

### FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND JANUARY 1 STOCKS

Stocks of fall potatoes in California storage as of January 1, 1998 were estimated at 2.80 million cwt., 7 percent fewer potatoes than last year. The amount in storage on January 1 represents 67 percent of production, up two percentage points from a year ago.

The 15 major states held 241 million cwt. of potatoes on January 1, 1998, down 8 percent from a year ago, but 8 percent above two years ago. Storage accounted for 59 percent of fall production, the same as a year earlier. Stocks by type were 2 percent reds, 15 percent whites, and 83 percent russets, with more russets and fewer whites and reds than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to January 1 totaled 166 million cwt. this season, down 8 percent from last year and 2 percent below two years ago. Carry-overs from last year's record large crop, and a shift to later maturing varieties for processing, resulted in lighter disappearance. December's disappearance of 33.4 million cwt. was 1 percent above the last two years. Shrink and loss of 18.2 million cwt. was 14 percent below last year and 9 percent below two years ago.

### FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND JANUARY 1 STOCKS

State	Crop of 1996			Crop of 1997			
	Production	Total Stocks Jan. 1, 1997	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Dec. 1, 1997	Total Stocks Jan. 1, 1998	Percent of Production
	---- 1,000 Cwt. ----			---- 1,000 Cwt. ----			
	Percent			Percent			
California	4,600	3,000	65	4,200	3,400	2,800	67
Colorado	29,175	20,700	71	25,377	19,900	17,500	69
Idaho	142,800	92,000	64	135,430	97,000	86,500	64
Maine	21,175	15,300	72	19,170	15,600	14,100	74
Michigan	13,800	6,600	48	14,250	8,500	7,000	49
Minnesota	24,600	14,900	61	20,440	13,500	12,000	59
Montana	3,213	2,950	92	3,328	3,180	3,080	93
Nebraska	4,402	2,800	64	7,527	5,580	4,850	64
New York	7,980	2,400	30	8,408	4,000	2,800	33
North Dakota	28,820	18,000	62	21,525	16,000	13,800	64
Ohio	1,275	170	13	1,175	290	120	10
Oregon	30,124	21,500	71	27,161	21,500	19,000	70
Pennsylvania	4,208	1,800	43	3,190	1,600	1,200	38
Washington	94,990	42,000	44	88,060	47,000	41,500	47
Wisconsin	31,590	18,000	57	27,923	17,200	14,600	52
15-STATE TOTAL	442,752	262,120	59	407,164	274,250	240,850	59

### WINTER POTATO PRODUCTION

Winter production for California was forecast at 1.50 million cwt., 5 percent below last year's crop, but 5 percent above 1996. Harvested acreage is up at 7,500 acres, but yields are expected to be down from last year at 200 cwt. per acre.

Nationally, production of winter potatoes in 1998 is forecast at 2.94 million cwt. This is down 6 percent from 1997 and 10 percent below 1996. Area for harvest is estimated at 15,500 acres, up 1 percent from a year ago and 7 percent above two years ago. The average yield is projected to be 190 cwt. per acre, 13 cwt. lower than last year.

### WINTER POTATO PRODUCTION

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	1997	Ind. 1998	1997	Ind. 1998	1997	Ind. 1998	1996	1997	Ind. 1998
	--- 1,000 Acres ---				--- Cwt. ---		--- 1,000 Cwt. ---		
California	6.6	7.5	6.6	7.5	240	200	1,425	1,584	1,500
Florida	9.0	8.5	8.8	8.0	175	180	1,848	1,540	1,440
TOTAL	15.6	16.0	15.4	15.5	203	190	3,273	3,124	2,940

### SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

California sweet potato production for 1997 was forecast at 1.99 million cwt., 8 percent below a year ago. Growers harvested 9,700 acres in 1997, compared to 9,600 acres in 1996. The yield of 205 cwt. per acre was 9 percent below the 225 cwt. per acre for 1996.

Nationally, production of sweet potatoes is estimated at 13.0 million cwt., down 3 percent from 1996, but 1 percent above 1995. Growers harvested 83,500 acres in 1997, down 2 percent from 1996. The average yield was 156 cwt. per acre, down 3 cwt. from 1996. A cool, wet spring and dry summer weather restricted yields in the southeastern states.

### SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	---- 1,000 Acres ----				--- Cwt. ---		--- 1,000 Cwt. ---	
Alabama	4.4	4.1	4.3	3.8	170	150	731	570
California	9.6	9.7	9.6	9.7	225	205	2,160	1,989
Georgia	2.1	1.7	2.0	1.6	200	150	400	240
Louisiana	22.0	21.0	21.0	20.0	160	160	3,360	3,200
Mississippi	8.3	8.6	8.1	8.4	160	130	1,296	1,092
New Jersey	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	130	105	156	116
North Carolina	33.0	32.0	31.0	31.0	140	150	4,340	4,650
South Carolina	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	125	100	200	150
Texas	5.9	6.3	5.5	5.8	135	160	743	928
Virginia	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	140	150	70	90
UNITED STATES	89.1	86.9	84.8	83.5	159	156	13,456	13,025

**PROCESSING TOMATO PRODUCTION**

California's processing tomato production in 1997 was 9.35 million pay tons, a 12 percent decrease from the 1996 production. Harvested

acreage is 260,000 acres, down 17 percent from a year earlier. The yields increased 6 percent to 35.96 tons per acre.

**TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING**

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	---- Acres ----				---- Tons ----			
California	318,000	270,000	313,000	260,000	34.06	35.96	10,660,780	9,349,600
Colorado	220	----	220	----	17.72	----	3,900	----
Indiana	6,600	6,400	6,400	6,400	28.20	24.60	180,480	157,440
Michigan	4,600	3,800	4,400	3,800	32.50	32.50	143,000	123,500
Ohio	10,900	9,100	10,500	8,900	29.30	28.39	307,650	252,670
Pennsylvania	1,100	1,200	800	1,100	27.88	24.55	22,300	27,010
Other States <u>1/</u>	3,950	3,200	3,800	3,170	23.85	19.69	90,630	62,430
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>345,370</b>	<b>293,700</b>	<b>339,120</b>	<b>283,370</b>	<b>33.64</b>	<b>35.19</b>	<b>11,408,740</b>	<b>9,972,650</b>

1/ 1996/97: Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Virginia.

**CALIFORNIA TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING BY COUNTY, 1997 CROP**

County	Contracted and Open Market			
	Area Planted	Area Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production <u>1/</u>
	-- Acres --		-- Tons --	
Colusa	22,200	22,000	33.58	738,800
Sacramento	5,300	5,200	33.63	174,900
Solano	14,500	14,400	34.90	502,500
Sutter	16,000	14,700	33.46	491,800
Yolo	52,900	49,200	33.61	1,653,400
Fresno	95,500	92,700	38.41	3,560,800
Kern	2,300	2,000	36.75	73,500
Merced	10,900	10,400	37.40	389,000
San Joaquin	26,600	26,100	34.43	898,600
Stanislaus	13,000	13,000	38.31	498,000
Other Counties <u>2/</u>	10,800	10,300	35.76	368,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>260,000</b>	<b>35.96</b>	<b>9,349,600</b>

1/ On the basis of PAID FOR TONNAGE purchased from growers as reported by processors, dockage not included.

2/ To avoid disclosure of individual operations, OTHER COUNTIES includes: Contra Costa, Madera, Monterey, Kings, San Benito, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura.