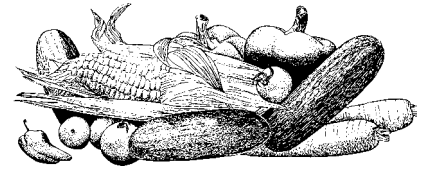


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SUMMER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

The prospective area for harvest of twelve selected fresh market vegetables during the summer quarter is forecast at 333,250 acres, up 2 percent from last year and 6 percent above 1996. Acreage increased for broccoli, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, and head lettuce. Showing acreage reductions were snap beans, carrots, cauliflower, eggplant, bell peppers, and tomatoes. The area forecast for melon harvest is 141,400 acres, down 4 percent from last year. Cantaloup acreage is forecast at 52,300 acres, down 1 percent from 1996. Honeydew acreage, forecast at 17,600 acres, is also off 1 percent. Watermelon acreage is forecast at 71,500 acres, down 7 percent from last year.

Broccoli: California's acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 33,000 acres, up 5 percent from last year and 14 percent above 1996. In California, rains hindered planting and required some replanting of fields. Harvest is now proceeding, with smaller head sizes reported due to the cooler weather.

Cantaloups: California growers expect to harvest 43,000 acres, up 2 percent from the comparable period a year ago. Nationally, summer cantaloup acreage for harvest is estimated at 52,300 acres, down 1 percent from last year, but 18 percent greater than in 1996. The acreage for harvest in Texas may decrease with the current drought conditions.

Carrots: California carrot producers expect to harvest 12,500 acres, 2 percent below a year earlier. Cooler temperatures have reduced sizes, but the carrots will continue to size up as the harvest proceeds. Nationally, acreage for fresh market harvest is forecast at 20,700 acres, down less than 1 percent from last year, but 20 percent greater than 1996.

Cauliflower: California growers expect to harvest 10,000 acres, 5 percent below last year. California's early harvest period will have a light volume, but will pick up in the mid to late harvests. Cooler weather caused smaller than normal heads, but quality appears good. Nationally, acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 11,200 acres, down 3 percent from last year, but 7 percent more than two years ago.

Celery: California's summer acreage for harvest is forecast at 5,600 acres. This was up 8 percent from 1997 and 12 percent greater than two years ago.

Sweet Corn: Harvest in California's San Joaquin Valley had begun by the end of June. Producers expect to harvest 12,800 acres, up 3 percent from July-September 1997. Nationally, fresh market acreage for harvest is estimated at 119,700 acres, up 2 percent from last year and 4 percent from 1996. Growers in New York were able to plant the crop early and spring weather was beneficial for growth. The start of harvest was expected for the 4th of July holiday, which is earlier than usual. Harvest also began then in Michigan, where yields may be reduced due to bacterial wilt.

Honeydews: The melons were growing well in California's San Joaquin Valley at the end of June. Producers expect to harvest 15,200 acres, 1 percent below a year ago. Nationally, fresh market acreage for summer harvest is forecast at 17,600 acres. This was down 1 percent from last year, but 8 percent greater than 1996.

Head Lettuce: California's May rainfall was above normal, but growers were able to plant their lettuce between showers. They expect to harvest 51,000 acres, up 4 percent from a year earlier. Nationally, acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 54,800 acres, up 6 percent from last year and 13 percent greater than 1996.

Tomatoes: Spring rains and cool temperatures delayed the planting of California's crop. The growth of plants was also delayed, and harvest will begin later as a result. Growers expect to harvest 19,500 acres, 1 percent below last year. Nationally, fresh market acreage for summer harvest is estimated at 38,350 acres. This was down 1 percent from last year and less than 1 percent below 1996.

Watermelons: California producers expect to harvest 12,500 acres, 6 percent below the comparable period a year ago. Nationally, summer acreage for harvest is forecast at 71,500 acres, down 7 percent from 1997 and 14 percent less than 1996. South Carolina's cool, wet spring delayed the crop and condition is now fair to good. Several days of intense heat and dry conditions caused small fruit to drop off and decrease yield prospects. The current drought in Texas may reduce the acreage for harvest as the season progresses.

SUMMER VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Crop And State	Usual Harvest Period	Area Harvested		Area For Harvest 1998	1998 1997
		1996	1997		
		--- Acres ---			Percent
BROCCOLI: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	29,000	31,500	33,000	105
CANTALOUPE:					
California	Jul-Sep	38,900	42,200	43,000	102
Georgia	Jul-Sep	3,000	4,200	4,000	95
Texas	Jul-Sep	2,500	6,300	5,300	84
GROUP TOTAL		44,400	52,700	52,300	99
CARROTS: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	9,600	12,800	12,500	98
Michigan	Jul-Nov	5,000	5,300	5,200	98
New York	Jul-Dec	600	600	700	117
Washington	Jul-Dec	2,000	2,100	2,300	110
GROUP TOTAL		17,200	20,800	20,700	100
CAULIFLOWER: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	9,500	10,500	10,000	95
New York	Jul-Dec	1,000	1,000	1,200	120
GROUP TOTAL		10,500	11,500	11,200	97
CELERY: 1/					
California	Jul-Sep	5,000	5,200	5,600	108
SWEET CORN:					
California	Jul-Sep	11,200	12,400	12,800	103
Connecticut	Jul-Oct	4,500	4,400	4,000	91
Illinois	Jul-Oct	7,600	7,500	7,600	101
Massachusetts	Jul-Oct	7,000	7,100	6,500	92
Michigan	Jul-Oct	10,500	11,500	10,500	91
New Jersey	Jul-Nov	9,000	8,600	9,000	105
New York	Jul-Oct	20,900	21,200	23,400	110
North Carolina	Jun-Aug	6,000	6,500	7,000	108
Ohio	Jul-Sep	14,700	14,200	15,400	108
Pennsylvania	Jul-Sep	17,000	16,000	16,000	100
Wisconsin	Jul-Sep	6,800	7,500	7,500	100
GROUP TOTAL		115,200	116,900	119,700	102
HONEYDEWS:					
Arizona	Jun-Sep	2,800	2,500	2,400	96
California	Jul-Sep	13,500	15,300	15,200	99
GROUP TOTAL		16,300	17,800	17,600	99
HEAD LETTUCE:					
California	Jul-Sep	45,000	49,000	51,000	104
Colorado	Jul-Sep	2,700	2,000	3,000	150
New York	Jun-Oct	800	700	800	114
GROUP TOTAL		48,500	51,700	54,800	106
TOMATOES:					
Alabama	Jul-Sep	2,700	2,500	2,300	92
Arizona	Jun Jul	500	550	650	118
California	Jul-Sep	18,800	19,700	19,500	99
Michigan	Jul-Sep	2,400	2,200	2,300	105
New Jersey	Jul-Nov	4,100	4,200	4,100	98
New York	Jul-Oct	1,900	2,600	2,800	108
Pennsylvania	Jul-Oct	4,400	3,800	3,400	89
Virginia	Jul-Sep	3,600	3,300	3,300	100
GROUP TOTAL		38,400	38,850	38,350	99
WATERMELONS:					
Alabama	Jul-Sep	6,600	4,800	4,500	94
California	Jul-Sep	11,100	13,300	12,500	94
Georgia	Jul-Sep	36,000	31,000	27,000	87
Mississippi	Jul-Aug	6,400	5,800	7,500	129
South Carolina	Jul-Sep	9,500	8,500	8,000	94
Texas	Jul-Sep	14,000	13,500	12,000	89
GROUP TOTAL		83,600	76,900	71,500	93

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES

Harvest of cucumbers for pickles is underway in California with good quality reported. California processors expect to contract 4,500 acres, 2 percent more than a year ago. Nationally, pickle processors contracted 95,580 acres for harvest in 1998. This was up 3 percent from last year.



CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES

State	Planted Area						1998 1997
	1996 Total	1997		1998 Contracts 2/			
		Total	Contracts 2/	Early	Late	All	
		----- Acres -----					%
California	6,300	4,400	4,400	1/	1/	4,500	102
Colorado	900	780	780	150	---	150	19
Florida	6,500	6,500	4,300	1/	1/	4,500	105
Georgia	---	---	---	1,800	1,200	3,000	---
Indiana	2,400	2,000	2,000	1,500	---	1,500	75
Michigan	28,000	26,000	22,500	23,000	---	23,000	102
N Carolina	14,100	18,300	13,300	12,500	1,500	14,000	105
Ohio	3,300	3,000	2,900	2,900	---	2,900	100
S Carolina	5,000	4,000	4,000	3,000	---	3,000	75
Texas	11,600	11,500	8,900	1/	1/	11,500	129
Wisconsin	5,000	3,700	3,700	3,900	---	3,900	105
Other States 3/	26,940	27,600	26,390	19,270	4,360	23,630	90
U.S.	110,040	107,780	93,170	74,620	20,960	95,580	103

1/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

2/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

3/ 1996-97 - AL, AR, DE, GA, IL, LA, MA, MD, MN, MO, NJ, NY, OR, VA and WA.

1998 - AL, DE, GA, LA, MA, MD, MN, MO, NJ, NY, OR, and WA..

ONION ACREAGE

In California, very few problems were reported for spring onions once fields had dried to allow harvesting. Growers were reporting large bulb sizes and high yields. Harvested acreage totaled 6,800, with a yield of 440 cwt. per acre. Total production was 2.99 billion pounds, 7 percent below last year. Nationally, production of spring onions in 1998 was estimated at 9.58 million cwt., up 5 percent from last year. The crop was produced on 35,200 acres, averaging 272 cwt. per acre. By mid-June in Georgia, harvest was nearly complete, only slightly behind normal. Condition of the crop was mostly fair to good through the season.

In California, very few problems were reported for summer non-storage onions once fields had dried to allow harvesting to start. California growers expect to harvest 31,000 acres, 7 percent above last year. Growers were reporting large bulb sizes and high yields. Nationally, production of non-storage onions is forecast at 5.10 million cwt., down 2 percent from last year's production, while the harvest area covers 12,150 acres, down 4 percent from last year. Washington's Walla Walla onion harvest started around mid-June, with yields less than normal as some seeders were occurring. Quality is good to above average.

Summer storage onion growers expect to harvest 80,810 acres (excluding California) this year, down 3 percent from 1997. New York's onion growing mucklands were hit hard by hail storms in late May and early June. Preliminary reports showed almost total crop failure in Orange County, which has approximately half the state's onion acreage. Most of the damage was from hail, but heavy rains also flooded fields. Michigan's crop was planted early due to favorable early spring weather. Wind damage was reported for some fields, but the crop is developing well at this time. Colorado's planting was right on schedule this year and recent warm days and cool nights have the crop in better condition than last year. Irrigation water supplies are adequate. Planting in Oregon was delayed due to a wet May, but growers did plant all the acreage they intended to plant. Weather since planting has been favorable.

The final tally of 1997 storage onion production was 38.2 million cwt. (excluding California). The average yield was 461 cwt. per acre.

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

Season And State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	---- Acres ----				-- Cwt. --		-- 1,000 Cwt. --	
SPRING								
Arizona	2,100	2,500	2,100	2,500	355	400	746	1,000
California	7,400	7,000	7,200	6,800	445	440	3,204	2,992
Georgia	16,200	15,000	15,800	14,500	220	185	3,476	2,683
Texas	12,400	12,000	8,100	11,400	205	255	1,661	2,907
TOTAL SPRING	38,100	36,500	33,200	35,200	274	272	9,087	9,582
SUMMER 1/ Non-Storage								
Nevada <u>2/</u>	1,800	---	1,700	---	540	---	918	---
New Mexico	6,600	7,300	6,400	7,300	470	500	3,008	3,650
Texas	3,900	4,200	3,700	4,000	260	290	962	1,160
Washington	900	850	900	850	370	340	333	289
TOTAL	13,200	12,350	12,700	12,150	411	420	5,221	5,099
Storage <u>3/</u>								
Colorado	18,000	19,000	15,300	18,500	350	---	5,355	---
Idaho	8,400	8,200	8,200	8,000	690	---	5,658	---
Michigan	6,200	4,900	6,100	4,500	320	---	1,952	---
Minnesota	600	460	550	440	300	---	165	---
New York	12,500	13,100	12,200	7,500	300	---	3,660	---
Ohio	480	480	470	470	415	---	195	---
Oregon- Malheur	12,200	12,200	12,000	12,000	620	---	7,440	---
- West	7,600	7,600	7,400	7,500	450	---	3,330	---
Utah	2,500	2,500	2,400	2,400	485	---	1,164	---
Washington	16,800	17,800	16,500	17,500	520	---	8,580	---
Wisconsin	2,000	2,100	1,900	2,000	390	---	741	---
TOTAL	87,280	88,340	83,020	80,810	461	---	38,240	---
California <u>4/</u>	30,000	33,000	29,000	31,000	440	---	12,760	---
TOTAL SUMMER	130,480	133,690	124,720	123,960	451	---	56,221	5,099
U.S. - ALL ONIONS	168,580	170,190	157,920	159,160	414	---	65,308	14,681

1/ Estimates for 1997 revised.

2/ Estimates to be published in "Vegetables 1998 Summary" in January 1999.

3/ Yield and production for 1998 will be published September 10, 1998.

4/ Primarily processing.

PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE AND TONNAGE INTENTIONS

In California's San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys, tomato growers were spraying for fungus and blight at the end of June. Growers expected to contract 280,000 acres, 5 percent more than 1997. Contracted production is expected to be 9.40 million tons of tomatoes, up 2 percent from last year.

Nationally, production is forecast at 9.90 million tons, up fractionally from last year's contracted production. Area contracted, at 297,420 acres, was up 2 percent from 1997.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING, BY STATE, 1996-98

State	Area Planted				Contract Change <u>1998</u> 1997	Production				Contract Change <u>1998</u> 1997
	1996 Total	1997		1998 Contract Intentions <u>1/</u>		1996 Total	1997		1998 Contract Intentions <u>1/</u>	
		Total	Contract <u>1/</u>				Total	Contract <u>1/</u>		
	----- Acres -----				Percent	----- Tons -----				Percent
California	318,000	270,000	267,000	280,000	105	10,660,780	9,349,600	9,241,720	9,400,000	102
Colorado	220	---	---	---	---	3,900	---	---	---	---
Indiana	6,600	6,400	6,400	7,100	111	180,480	157,440	157,440	187,660	119
Michigan	4,600	3,800	3,800	2,200	58	143,000	123,500	123,500	65,600	53
Ohio	10,900	9,100	9,100	5,800	64	307,650	252,670	252,670	149,000	59
Pennsylvania	1,100	1,200	1,200	1,200	100	22,300	27,010	27,010	32,700	121
Other States <u>2/</u>	3,950	3,200	3,200	1,120	35	90,630	62,430	62,430	60,380	97
U.S.	345,370	293,700	290,700	297,420	102	11,408,740	9,972,650	9,864,770	9,895,340	100

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ 1996-97 - DE, IL, MD, NJ, NY, SC, and VA.

1998 - DE, MD, NJ, and NY.