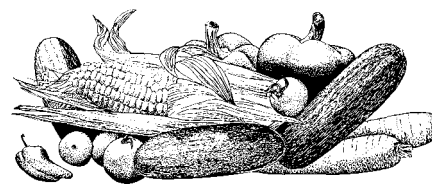


California Vegetable Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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CONTRACTED PROCESSING TOMATO PRODUCTION

The 1998 California processing tomato production is forecast at 9.10 million tons, 2 percent less than 1997. The acreage, at 275 thousand acres, increased 7 percent from a year earlier, while the yield of 33.00 tons per acre decreased 8 percent from last year's yield of 35.96 tons per acre. California's harvest is 2-3 weeks behind schedule due to cool spring weather. This cool weather was also causing problems with mold and delayed ripening.

U.S. contracted tomato production is forecast at 9.60 million tons, 3 percent below last year and 16 percent less than 1996. A 5 percent increase in acreage was offset by a 2.60 ton decrease in yield. Cool, wet spring conditions delayed tomato maturity in the western half of the Nation. This cool weather was also causing problems with mold and delayed ripening. Michigan harvest is in full swing with about 25 percent of the crop harvested. Yields are lower this year due to dry conditions. In Ohio, some flood damage was caused by excess rains.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING BY STATE AND U.S., 1996-98

State	Acreage Harvested				Yield Per Acre			Production			
	1996 Total	1997		Indicated 1998 Contract 1/	1996 Total	1997 Total	Indicated 1998 Contract	1996 Total	1997		Indicated 1998 Contract
		Total	Contract 1/						Total	Contract 1/	
	---- Acres ----				--- Tons ---			---- Tons ----			
California	313,000	260,000	257,000	275,000	34.06	35.96	33.00	10,660,780	9,349,600	9,241,720	9,100,000
Colorado	220	---	---	---	17.72	---	---	3,900	---	---	---
Indiana	6,400	6,400	6,400	7,000	28.20	24.60	22.50	180,480	157,440	157,440	157,500
Michigan	4,400	3,800	3,800	2,200	32.50	32.50	30.00	143,000	123,500	123,500	66,000
Ohio	10,500	8,900	8,900	6,000	29.30	28.39	25.40	307,650	252,670	252,670	152,400
Pennsylvania	800	1,100	1,100	1,200	27.88	24.55	26.50	22,300	27,010	27,010	31,800
Other States 2/	3,800	3,170	3,170	2,320	23.85	19.69	27.50	90,630	62,430	62,430	63,800
U.S.	339,120	283,370	280,370	293,720	33.64	35.19	32.59	11,408,740	9,972,650	9,864,770	9,571,500

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ 1996-97 - DE, IL, MD, NJ, NY, TX, and VA.
1998 - DE, MD, NJ, and NY.

SPRING ONION PRODUCTION

The season end report of U.S. spring onions places production at 9.30 million cwt., up 2 percent from last year and slightly above 1996. Acres harvested, at 34,600, are up 4 percent from a year ago, but yield is 269

cwt. per acre, down 5 cwt. The value of the spring crop is estimated at 205 million dollars, 19 percent greater than last year.

SPRING ONIONS BY SELECTED STATES, 1997-98 1/

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		Value Per Cwt.		Total Value	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	---- Acres ----				-- Cwt. --		-- 1,000 Cwt. --		-- Dollars --		-- 1,000 Dollars --	
Arizona	2,100	2,500	2,100	2,500	355	470	746	1,175	12.60	15.30	9,403	17,978
California	7,400	7,000	7,200	6,800	445	440	3,204	2,992	14.30	18.40	45,817	55,053
Georgia	16,200	15,000	15,800	13,900	220	160	3,476	2,224	25.60	30.90	88,990	68,722
Texas	12,400	12,000	8,100	11,400	205	255	1,661	2,907	16.90	21.70	28,071	63,082
U.S.	38,100	36,500	33,200	34,600	274	269	9,087	9,298	19.00	22.00	172,281	204,835

1/ Primarily fresh market.

SUMMER ONION PRODUCTION

California production is forecast at 11.5 million cwt., 10 percent less than last year and 14 percent less than two years ago. Acres harvested, at 28,000, are 3 percent less than last year. The yield, at 410 cwt. per acre, is 30 cwt. less than in 1997.

Nationally, production of summer storage onions (excluding California) is forecast at 35.6 million cwt., 7 percent less than 1997, but 7 percent more than in 1996. Harvested acreage, at 78,780, is 5 percent less than last year, and the yield is 451 cwt. per acre, 10 cwt. less than in 1997. The Wisconsin crop has received warm conditions and adequate amounts of moisture during August. However, dry weather in July decreased some grower yields. In

Idaho, onion harvest is just beginning, with 7 percent complete by the end of August. Michigan yields are lower than a year ago due to near drought conditions since planting. New York onion growers have had a tough year. After receiving hail damage on May 31 of this year, some growers decided to plow under their fields. Most growers, however, have continued to raise their crop and are experiencing lower yields and small bulbs. Recent dry conditions are also a concern for this year's crop. Washington's onion crop is in average condition as the early hot weather resulted in smaller sizes than normal. Higher shrinkage may be a result of hail damage in some fields.

ONIONS FOR FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING

Crop and State	Area Harvested		For Harvest 1998	Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1996	1997		1996	1997	1998	1996	1997	1998
	--- Acres ---			--- Cwt. ---			--- 1,000 Cwt. ---		
SPRING TOTAL	36,800	33,200	34,600	252	274	269	9,290	9,087	9,298
Storage:									
Colorado	16,000	15,300	16,500	325	350	370	5,200	5,355	6,105
Idaho	8,600	8,200	8,000	650	690	630	5,590	5,658	5,040
Michigan	5,800	6,100	4,500	310	320	300	1,798	1,952	1,350
Minnesota	520	550	410	220	300	300	114	165	123
New York	11,400	12,200	7,500	240	300	280	2,736	3,660	2,100
Ohio	490	470	470	380	415	330	186	195	155
Oregon-Malheur	12,000	12,000	12,000	590	620	580	7,080	7,440	6,960
-West	6,300	7,400	7,500	380	450	430	2,394	3,330	3,225
Utah	2,100	2,400	2,400	470	485	430	987	1,164	1,032
Washington	12,700	16,500	17,500	510	520	500	6,477	8,580	8,750
Wisconsin	1,700	1,900	2,000	370	390	360	629	741	720
Storage Total 1/	77,610	83,020	78,780	428	461	451	33,191	38,240	35,560
Non-storage Total 2/	13,900	12,700	12,150	400	411	420	5,558	5,221	5,099
CALIFORNIA Total 3/	31,000	29,000	28,000	430	440	410	13,330	12,760	11,480
SUMMER TOTAL	122,510	124,720	118,930	425	451	438	52,079	56,221	52,139
U.S. ALL ONIONS	159,310	157,920	153,530	385	414	400	61,369	65,308	61,437

1/ Summer storage total, excluding California.

2/ Carried forward from earlier forecast.

3/ Primarily for processing.