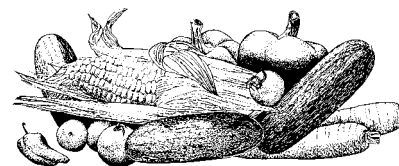


California Vegetable Review



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WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Broccoli: California acreage is estimated at 30,300 acres, 1 percent below last year, but 1 percent more than 1997. According to producers, the crop has done well despite cold weather in late December which affected final floret sizing.

Carrots: California growers intend to harvest 22,000 acres during the January-March quarter, 5 percent above the same quarter a year ago. California harvest was reported to be on schedule. The crop appears to be in good condition despite cold weather which hindered late sizing.

Cauliflower: California acreage is forecast at 9,800 acres, up 3 percent from both 1997 and 1998. Producers reported that head size was reduced due to cold weather in late December. Despite smaller heads, the quality was good.

Celery: The winter celery crop for harvest in California is estimated to be 7,400 acres, 1 percent above last year and 7 percent above the year before. Harvest is on schedule, despite recent cold temperatures.

Head Lettuce: Acreage for harvest in California was forecast at 20,500, 17 percent above the 1998 crop. Below freezing temperatures for a few nights in late December kept desert area growers from harvesting until early afternoon. The frost affected the external quality of the lettuce and head weights dropped, while losses were minimal.

SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS

Growers intend to plant 38,400 acres of spring onions for 1999, an increase of 5 percent from 1998, but 5 percent lower than 1997. California field conditions have been good to date. Planting is just getting underway and will continue for the next couple of months. In Texas, some areas were planting late due to adverse weather conditions. At this time, the crop is generally in good shape.

SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS 1/

State	Area Planted		1999 Intentions
	1997	1998	
	Acres		
Arizona	2,100	2,500	2,600
California	9,900	7,000	7,700
Georgia	16,200	15,000	15,000
Texas	12,400	12,000	13,100
4-STATE TOTAL	40,600	36,500	38,400

1/ Primarily fresh market.

WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvesting Period	Area Harvested		Ind. 1999	1999/1998
		1997	1998		
		Acres			
Broccoli: 1/ California	Jan-Mar	30,000	30,500	30,300	99
Carrots:					
California	Jan-Mar	23,000	21,000	22,000	105
Florida	Jan-Mar	4,600	4,100		
Texas	Dec-Mar	2,400	2,300	2,800	122
TOTAL		30,000	27,400	24,800	91
Cauliflower: 1/ California	Jan-Mar	9,500	9,500	9,800	103
Celery: 1/ California	Jan-Mar	6,900	7,300	7,400	101
Head Lettuce:					
Arizona, Western	Nov-Apr	51,800	51,000	52,000	102
California	Jan-Mar	17,000	17,500	20,500	117
TOTAL		68,800	68,500	72,500	106

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

U.S. LIMA BEANS FOR PROCESSING UTILIZATION 1/

Utilization	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	Acres				Tons			
Canning	12,520	10,780	12,400	10,570	1.13	1.39	14,070	14,680
Fordhooks	5,400	3,300	5,300	3,200	2.25	2.00	11,930	6,400
Baby Limas	38,270	38,800	36,730	36,970	1.47	1.43	54,070	52,880
Freezing	43,670	42,100	42,030	40,170	1.57	1.48	66,000	59,280
U. S. TOTAL	56,190	52,880	54,430	50,740	1.47	1.46	80,070	73,960

1/ 1997-98 - CA, DE, IL, MD, MN, NJ, OR, TN, WA, AND WI.

1998 VEGETABLE CROP SUMMARY

California fresh market and dual utilization vegetable crop production (excluding potatoes) was 25.6 million tons, 4 percent less than the previous year. California continued to be the leading fresh market state, accounting for 44 percent of the harvested area, 49 percent of the production, and 51 percent of the value for the United States. Crops that had value increases were asparagus, snap beans, bell peppers, broccoli,

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

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING VEGETABLE CROPS

Processing Crop	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Ton 1/				Total Value	
							First Delivery Point		Processing Plant Door			
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	Acres				Tons				Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Cucumbers	4,200	4,200	7.19	7.15	30,200	30,030	N/A	N/A	296.00	324.00	8,939	9,730
Tomatoes	260,000	280,000	35.93	31.76	9,342,309	8,892,800	50.85	54.65	59.50	62.60	555,867	556,689

1/ The processing 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.

CALIFORNIA FRESH MARKET AND DUAL UTILIZATION VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop & Use 1/	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Cwt. 2/		Total Value	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	Acres				1,000 Cwt.		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
			Cwt.							
Artichokes	9,300	10,700	100	85	930	910	79.50	69.10	73,910	62,899
Asparagus	30,100	32,200	27	28	813	902	115.00	140.00	93,224	126,024
Snap Beans	4,500	4,700	100	95	450	447	52.00	62.90	23,400	28,116
Bell Peppers	21,000	22,000	300	285	6,300	6,270	24.60	27.20	155,040	170,374
Broccoli	119,000	121,000	130	140	15,470	16,940	27.90	29.70	431,301	502,875
Brussels Sprouts	3,200	3,200	160	160	512	512	41.40	43.50	21,180	22,249
Cabbage	13,800	14,000	340	350	4,692	4,900	14.90	16.10	69,911	78,890
Carrots,										
Fresh	83,200	86,500	360	345	29,998	29,843	13.00	11.50	389,974	343,195
Processing	2,700	4,500	641	628	1,730	2,826	3.28	3.35	5,666	9,453
Total	85,900	91,000	264	299	31,728	32,669	17.44	12.94	395,640	352,648
Cauliflower	37,500	40,000	140	150	5,280	6,000	30.20	32.80	162,980	196,696
Celery	24,000	24,500	695	700	16,680	17,150	14.80	12.10	247,371	207,515
Cucumbers	6,300	6,300	315	300	1,985	1,890	24.70	29.80	49,030	56,322
Garlic	33,000	34,000	170	145	5,610	4,930	47.90	34.80	268,776	171,621
Lettuce,										
Head	141,000	142,000	350	315	55,650	44,730	19.40	14.70	1,079,610	657,531
Leaf	42,000	42,000	205	215	8,660	9,030	28.30	30.80	245,385	278,124
Romaine	25,000	29,000	280	280	7,000	8,120	19.20	22.00	134,400	178,640
Melons,										
Cantaloupe	62,300	63,000	210	220	13,083	13,860	17.70	18.00	231,569	249,480
Honeydew	20,500	20,500	180	190	3,690	3,895	18.50	19.30	68,265	75,174
Watermelon	17,000	16,900	460	400	7,820	6,760	10.90	12.30	85,283	83,148
Mushrooms (Agaricus)	529	561	2,461	2,385	1,302	1,338	119.52	118.51	155,554	158,529
Onions,										
Spring	9,600	6,800	450	440	4,320	2,992	14.30	17.30	61,776	51,762
Summer	31,300	30,000	440	440	13,772	13,200	7.80	9.20	105,829	119,140
Potatoes,										
Winter	6,600	7,000	235	220	1,551	1,540	18.10	3/	28,073	3/
Spring	20,700	18,500	390	335	8,073	6,198	9.85	3/	79,519	3/
Summer	5,900	6,100	360	370	2,124	2,257	14.20	3/	30,161	3/
Fall	10,500	10,300	400	360	4,200	3,708	7.70	3/	32,340	3/
Total	43,700	43,700	365	370	15,948	16,188	10.70	3/	170,644	3/
Spinach	15,200	15,000	175	160	2,660	2,400	31.20	36.10	82,992	86,640
Sweet Corn	27,000	28,800	145	145	3,915	4,176	17.20	15.80	67,338	65,981
Tomatoes	34,000	32,000	285	270	9,860	8,640	26.50	32.80	261,630	283,392

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 1999. 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, 1999 were estimated at 2.4 million cwt., a 4 percent increase from last year. The amount in storage on January 1 represents 65 percent of production, up ten percentage points from a year ago.

long white; and 84 percent russets; with more russets, but fewer long whites than a year ago.

The 15 major potato states held 246 million cwt. of potatoes on January 1, 1999, down slightly from last year and 6 percent below 1997. Storage accounted for 58 percent of 1998 fall production, down 2 percent from a year ago. Stocks by type were 2 percent reds; 10 percent round whites; 4 percent

Disappearance from the start of harvest to January 1 totaled 179 million cwt. this season, up 7 percent from last year, but 2 percent below the record high two years ago. December disappearance of 36.1 million cwt. was a record high for the month. Shrink and loss of 20.0 million cwt. was up 12 percent from last year, but 4 percent below two years ago.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND JANUARY 1 STOCKS

State	Crop of 1997			Crop of 1998			
	Production	Total Stocks Jan. 1, 1998	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Dec. 1, 1998	Total Stocks Jan. 1, 1999	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
California	4,200	2,300	55	3,708	2,900	2,400	65
Colorado	24,993	17,000	68	25,360	18,800	16,300	64
Idaho	140,314	91,500	65	139,650	101,000	90,500	65
Maine	19,080	14,100	74	18,060	14,100	12,500	69
Michigan	14,250	7,000	49	14,725	8,800	7,200	49
Minnesota	20,440	12,000	59	21,170	13,500	12,000	57
Montana	3,328	3,080	93	3,180	3,050	2,980	94
Nebraska	7,761	4,300	55	8,175	5,480	4,830	59
New York	7,150	2,500	35	7,290	3,800	2,500	34
North Dakota	22,000	13,800	63	28,670	20,500	16,000	56
Ohio	1,170	170	15	1,200	270	110	9
Oregon	27,319	19,000	70	26,229	20,000	17,500	67
Pennsylvania	3,173	1,500	47	3,360	1,400	1,100	33
Washington	88,160	41,500	47	93,225	49,000	43,500	47
Wisconsin	30,175	16,800	56	30,895	19,700	16,800	54
15-STATE TOTAL	413,513	246,550	60	424,897	282,300	246,220	58

WINTER POTATO PRODUCTION

Winter production for California was forecast at 1.48 million cwt., 4 percent below last year's crop. Harvested acreage of 7,800 acres is up 11 percent, but yields are expected to be below last year's at 190 cwt. per acre. High temperatures at planting caused poor stands and low yields. Harvest of 1999 California winter potatoes began in mid-December.

Nationally, production of winter potatoes in 1999 is forecast at 3.08 million cwt. This is up 3 percent from 1998, but 10 percent below 1997. Area for harvest is estimated at 16,700 acres, up 11 percent from a year ago and 4 percent above two years ago. The average yield is projected at 185 cwt. per acre, 14 cwt. below last year.

WINTER POTATO PRODUCTION

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	1998	Ind. 1999	1998	Ind. 1999	1998	Ind. 1999	1997	1998	Ind. 1999
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		
California	7.0	7.8	7.0	7.8	220	190	1,551	1,540	1,482
Florida	8.5	9.2	8.0	8.9	180	180	1,880	1,440	1,602
TOTAL	15.5	17.0	15.0	16.7	199	185	3,431	2,980	3,084

SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

California sweet potato production for 1998 was forecast at 1.87 million cwt., 6 percent below a year ago. Growers harvested 9,100 acres in 1998, compared to 9,700 acres in 1997. The yield of 205 cwt. per acre remained the same as the previous year.

Nationally, the 1998 production of sweet potatoes is estimated at 11.9 million cwt., down 11 percent from last year and 10 percent below 1996. Growers harvested 83,800 acres, a gain of 2 percent from last year. The average yield of 142 cwt. per acre fell 20 cwt. Dry summer weather hurt fields from South Carolina to Texas.

SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
Alabama	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.7	150	170	540	629
California	9.7	9.1	9.7	9.1	205	205	1,989	1,866
Georgia	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	150	100	120	70
Louisiana	21.0	21.0	20.0	20.0	170	100	3,400	2,000
Mississippi	8.6	9.8	8.4	9.7	130	140	1,092	1,358
New Jersey	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	105	105	116	105
North Carolina	32.0	33.0	31.0	32.0	160	170	4,960	5,440
South Carolina	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	110	90	121	99
Texas	6.3	6.4	5.8	6.0	155	35	899	210
Virginia	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	150	220	90	110
UNITED STATES	85.6	86.8	82.1	83.8	162	142	13,327	11,887

PROCESSING TOMATO PRODUCTION

California's processing tomato production in 1998 was 8.89 million pay tons, a 5 percent decrease from the 1997 production. Harvested acreage is

280,000 acres, an increase of 8 percent from a year earlier. The yield was 31.76 tons per acre, a decrease of 12 percent from 1997.

PROCESSING TOMATOES

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre 1/		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	Acres				Tons			
California	270,000	282,000	260,000	280,000	35.93	31.76	9,342,309	8,892,800
Indiana	6,400	7,200	6,400	7,100	24.60	22.00	157,440	156,200
Michigan	4,300	2,300	4,300	2,300	31.00	36.00	133,300	82,800
Ohio	9,100	6,700	8,900	6,300	28.39	26.84	252,670	169,090
Pennsylvania	1,200	1,300	1,100	1,300	24.55	26.00	27,010	33,800
Other States 2/	2,720	2,760	2,690	2,760	22.50	21.78	60,530	60,120
UNITED STATES	293,720	302,260	283,390	299,760	35.19	31.34	9,973,259	9,394,810

1/ Yield per acre may not equal production divided by area harvested due to rounding.

2/ 1997/98: Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Virginia.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES BY COUNTY, 1998 CROP

County	Contracted and Open Market			
	Area Planted	Area Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production 1/
	Acres		Tons	
Colusa	23,200	23,000	30.81	708,600
Sacramento	6,000	6,000	28.78	172,700
Solano	11,800	11,700	30.95	362,100
Sutter	16,500	16,400	29.73	487,600
Yolo	57,000	56,600	29.17	1,651,300
Fresno	99,600	98,900	33.72	3,334,800
Kern	2,700	2,700	34.33	92,700
Merced	11,600	11,500	31.99	367,900
San Joaquin	27,300	27,100	31.41	851,300
Stanislaus	15,500	15,400	33.42	514,600
Other Counties 2/	10,800	10,700	32.64	349,200
TOTAL	282,000	280,000	31.76	8,892,800

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.