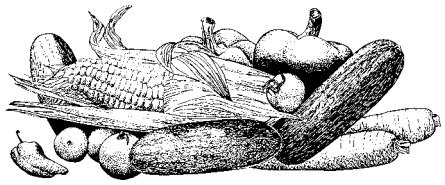
California Vegetable Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

CONTRACTED PROCESSING TOMATO PRODUCTION

The 2001 California processing tomato production is forecast at 8.90 million tons, down 12 percent from 2000. The acreage, at 250 thousand acres, decreased 6 percent from a year earlier. The yield is forecast to be 35.60 tons per acre, a decrease of 6 percent from last year's 37.96 tons per acre.

The decrease in yields is due to frost and hail during mid-March and April, as well as a May heat wave, with temperatures in excess of 100 degrees, causing bloom loss. However, quality and color are good.

U.S. contracted tomato production is forecast at 9.50 million tons, 11 percent below last year's comparable states. Based on comparable states between 2000 and 2001, a 5 percent decrease in contracted acreage was accompanied by a 2.36 ton per acre reduction in yields. Indiana weather has been favorable and yields are expected to be better than average. Michigan growers experienced drought-like conditions for several weeks before harvest began causing below average yields. Ohio harvest has begun and is progressing well.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING BY STATE AND U.S.

State	Acreage Harvested				Yield Per Acre			Production			
	1999 Total	2000 Total	2000 Contract 1/	Indicated 2001 Contract 1/	1999 Total	2000 Total	Indicated 2001 Contract 1/	1999 Total	2000 Total	2000 Contract 1/	Indicated 2001 Contract 1/
	Acres				Tons						
California	329,000	271,000	267,000	250,000	37.20	37.96	35.60	12,239,300	10,286,500	10,131,000	8,900,000
Indiana	7,200	6,600	6,600	8,600	29.88	34.70	33.30	215,140	229,020	229,020	286,380
Michigan	2,900	2,800	2,800	3,100	30.00	30.00	27.00	87,000	84,000	84,000	83,700
Ohio	7,800	5,400	5,400	6,000	27.22	29.39	29.30	212,320	158,710	158,710	175,800
Pennsylvania	1,400	2/	2/	2/	22.50	2/	2/	31,500	2/	2/	2/
Other States 3/ 4/	2,110	3,800	3,800	2,400	24.06	26.32	23.31	50,760	100,010	100,010	55,950
U.S.	350,410	289,600	285,600	270,100	36.63	37.49	35.18	12,836,020	10,858,240	10,702,740	9,501,830

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.
2/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Data for 2000 and 2001 are included in "Other States."
3/ 1999 - DE, MD, NJ, NY and TX; 2000 - DE, MD, NJ, PA and VA; 2001 - NJ and PA.
4/ In-season forecasts for DE, MD, and VA discontinued in 2000. Estimates to be published in the "Vegetable 2001 Summary," released January 2002.

SUMMER ONION PRODUCTION

California production is forecast at 12.6 million cwt., 22 percent less than last year and 26 percent less than two years ago. Harvested acreage, at 29,200, is 20 percent less than last year. Yield, at 430 cwt. per acre, is 15.0 cwt. less than in 2000. California growers reduced acreage as a result of poor prices in 2000. In addition, cold winter weather slowed planting and growth of the crop. Processing onions are progressing well with many yellow and white varieties nearly ready for harvest.

Nationally, production of summer storage onions (including California) is forecast at 47.0 million cwt., 8 percent less than 2000 and 16 percent below 1999. Harvested acreage, at 104,890, is down 3 percent from last year, and yield, at 448 cwt. per acre, is 23.0 cwt. less than in 2000. Colorado growers have experienced normal weather conditions during the past two months and are expecting a good crop. Idaho growers report the size of onion bulbs is smaller due to drought conditions. Michigan had cool and wet conditions in June, which slowed crop development. This was followed by hot, dry weather in July and early August that adversely affected some acreage. Minnesota had wet conditions during planting, followed by hot, dry conditions. The New York muck regions report hot, dry conditions, which are causing small bulb size and low soil moisture. New York growers report that a third of the onions are small, while two-thirds are of average size. The Ohio crop is good with no problems reported. Oregon growers report lower yields due to dry conditions. Irrigation water is still available in Malheur County, but growers are being held to their allotments. In Utah, growers have mixed expectations. Some expect an above average crop, while others report damage from frost and strong winds. The Washington onion crop is slightly behind schedule due to cooler than normal spring temperatures. Some fields experienced hail damage in June followed by the appearance of bacterial soft rot. Overall, quality should be good with bulb size down slightly. Lower yields are expected in Wisconsin due to a pattern of cool weather during planting, followed by hot and dry conditions in July and August.

ONIONS FOR FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING

Crop and State	Area Harvested		For Harvest	Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
	Acres			Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
SPRING TOTAL	37,500	36,200	36,000	299	326	306	11,222	11,812	11,014
Summer: Non-Storage 1/	14,400	21,500	20,600	454	410	486	6,541	8,823	10,012
Storage:									
California 2/	39,000	36,300	29,200	435	445	430	16,965	16,154	12,556
Colorado	14,500	11,500	14,500	375	355	355	5,438	4,083	5,148
Idaho	7,900	7,400	7,500	700	650	630	5,530	4,810	4,725
Michigan	4,000	3,500	3,400	270	270	280	1,080	945	952
Minnesota	420	90	210	280	210	250	118	19	53
New York	12,600	12,300	12,700	280	380	320	3,528	4,674	4,064
Ohio	480	480	480	285	350	350	137	168	168
Oregon-Malheur	12,900	11,600	11,400	670	600	560	8,643	6,960	6,384
-Other	7,200	6,100	7,000	500	520	500	3,600	3,172	3,500
Utah	2,700	2,400	2,200	465	475	470	1,256	1,140	1,034
Washington	18,000	15,000	14,500	490	550	540	8,820	8,250	7,830
Wisconsin	1,800	1,800	1,800	380	395	330	684	711	594
Total	121,500	108,470	104,890	459	471	448	55,799	51,086	47,008
SUMMER TOTAL	135,900	129,970	125,490	459	461	454	62,340	59,909	57,020
UNITED STATES TOTAL	173,400	166,170	161,490	424	432	421	73,562	71,721	68,034

1/ Carried forward from earlier forecast.
2/ Primarily for dehydrated and other processing.

SPRING ONION PRODUCTION

California's 2001 spring onion production is estimated at 2.54 million cwt., down 18 percent from the previous year. The yield calculates to 480 cwt. per acre, up 10 percent from last year. California experienced a cold winter, which delayed planting and slowed growth. However, warm and sunny conditions later in the growing season allowed the crop to progress well.

The season-end report of spring onions places production at 11.0 million cwt., down 7 percent from last year. Acreage harvested, at 36,000, is down 1 percent from a year ago. The yield, at 306 cwt. per acre, is down 20.0 cwt. per acre. The value of the spring crop is estimated at 201 million dollars, 3 percent more than last year. Arizona growers reported a cooler than normal winter, which put the crop two to three weeks behind schedule, but above average temperatures during late May allowed the crop to catch up. In Georgia, cold weather damaged some onions and delayed maturity. Also, dry weather during early spring reduced bulb size. Texas harvest has ended and the crop did well overall.

SPRING ONIONS BY SELECTED STATES AND U.S. 1/

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		Value Per Cwt.		Total Value	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
	Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		Dollars		$1,000	
Arizona 2/	3,300	3,100	3,200	3,000	430	430	1,376	1,290	5.80	8.00	7,981	10,320
California	7,200	5,500	7,100	5,300	435	480	3,089	2,544	10.60	13.50	32,743	34,344
Georgia	15,000	14,500	12,400	13,500	255	190	3,162	2,565	26.00	27.50	82,212	70,538
Texas	15,900	15,200	13,500	14,200	310	325	4,185	4,615	17.20	18.50	71,982	85,378
U.S.	41,400	38,300	36,200	36,000	326	306	11,812	11,014	16.50	18.20	194,918	200,580

1/ Primarily fresh market.
2/ Includes a small amount of processing.