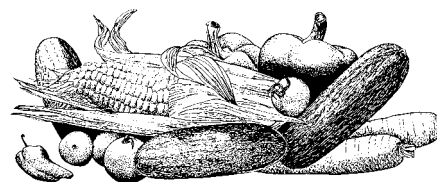


# California Vegetable Review



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## CONTRACTED PROCESSING TOMATO PRODUCTION

The 2002 California processing tomato production is forecast at 10.7 million tons, up 20 percent from 2001. The acreage, at 285 thousand, increased 12 percent from a year earlier. The yield is forecast to be 37.54 tons per acre, an increase of 10 percent from last year's 34.02 tons per acre. California experienced above normal temperatures in July, which lowered yields in some areas, caused some sunburned fruit, and accelerated maturity in mid-season plantings. Early varieties have shown better than average color, while cooler weather has slowed development of some later varieties.

U.S. contracted tomato production is forecast at 11.2 million tons, 23 percent above last year's comparable states. Based on comparable states between 2001 and 2002, a 13 percent increase in contracted acreage was accompanied by an increased yield of 3.21 tons per acre. Indiana yields are lower due to hot and dry weather conditions. Michigan's tomato harvest is underway with high yields expected. Ohio growers delayed planting because of wetter than normal conditions through mid-June. Drier than normal conditions during July, combined with delayed planting, have contributed to the low yields.

## TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING BY STATE AND U.S.

State	Acreage Harvested				Yield Per Acre			Production			
	2000 Total	2001		Indicated 2002 Contract 1/	2000 Total	2001 Total	Indicated 2002 Contract 1/	2000 Total	2001		Indicated 2002 Contract 1/
		Total	Contract 1/						Total	Contract 1/	
Acres				Tons							
California	271,000	254,000	251,000	285,000	37.96	34.02	37.54	10,286,500	8,640,140	8,563,570	10,700,000
Indiana	6,600	8,000	8,000	8,200	34.70	31.39	29.60	229,020	251,120	251,120	242,720
Michigan	2,800	3,000	3,000	2,900	30.00	29.00	34.00	84,000	87,000	87,000	98,600
Ohio	5,400	6,200	6,010	6,400	29.39	26.55	22.85	158,710	164,610	159,580	146,240
Pennsylvania	1,400	1,600	1,600	2/	30.40	39.57	2/	42,560	63,310	63,310	2/
Other States 3/ 4/	2,400	1,960	1,960	2,400	23.94	21.44	23.01	57,450	42,030	42,030	55,230
U.S.	289,600	274,760	271,570	304,900	37.49	33.66	36.87	10,858,240	9,248,210	9,166,610	11,242,790

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ 2000 - DE, MD, NJ, NY and VA; 2001 - DE, MD, NJ and VA; 2002 - NJ and PA.

4/ In-season forecasts for MD are not available. Estimates to be published in the January 2003 annual. DE and VA estimates discontinued in 2002.

## ASPARAGUS PRODUCTION

The California 2002 asparagus production is estimated at 945 thousand cwt., 11 percent below the previous year. The yield is estimated at 28 cwt., down 7 percent from last year. The harvested acreage, at 33.9 thousand acres, decreased 4 percent from 2001. Asparagus harvest in California's Stockton-Delta region was delayed two weeks because of cold weather conditions. However, improved weather conditions made for an excellent harvest with no major delays and good quality reported. Due to low prices, some growers plowed under their crop.

Nationally, production of the 2002 asparagus crop is forecast at 1.79 million cwt., down 12 percent from comparable states in 2001. Harvested acreage, at 65.9 thousand, is down 6 percent from the 2001 comparable states. Total value of the crop, at 164 million dollars, is down 27 percent from comparable states in 2001. Michigan's harvest was hindered by hard frost damage early in the season. Harvest continued until late June with few problems. Harvest in Washington was delayed two weeks by cool and windy conditions. Growers are reducing acreage as profitability in domestic asparagus continues to decline.

## ASPARAGUS BY SELECTED STATES AND U.S. 1/

State and U.S.	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		Value Per Cwt.		Total Value	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		Dollars		\$1,000	
California	37,800	36,400	35,300	33,900	30	28	1,059	945	156.00	114.00	165,204	107,730
Michigan	17,000	16,000	16,000	15,000	18	15	287	219	43.10	53.40	12,369	11,703
New Jersey 2/	1,100	---	1,100	---	24	---	26	---	85.00	---	2,210	---
Oregon 2/	750	---	750	---	37	---	28	---	53.20	---	1,489	---
Washington	20,000	18,000	19,000	17,000	36	37	684	629	71.50	71.40	48,910	44,893
U.S.	76,650	70,400	72,150	65,900	29	27	2,084	1,793	110.00	91.60	230,182	164,326

1/ Includes Fresh Market and Processing.

2/ Estimates discontinued in 2002.

### SPRING ONION PRODUCTION

California's 2002 spring onion production is estimated at 2.57 million cwt., down 2 percent from the previous year. The yield calculates to 485 cwt. per acre, up 2 percent from last year. Harvest in the Imperial Valley was initially slowed by cooler than normal temperatures, nevertheless, quality is good-to-excellent with average yields reported.

The U.S. end-of-season spring onion production estimate, at 9.42 million cwt., is down 15 percent from last year. Harvested acreage, at 33,300, is down 8 percent from a year ago, and yield, at 283 cwt. per acre, is down 23 cwt. per acre. The value of the spring crop is estimated at 190

million dollars, 6 percent less than last year. The Arizona growing season was long and dry, but overall quality and yield were good due to the use of irrigation. In Georgia, temperature extremes and a fast spreading fungal disease reduced onion production. Seed stems and other defects became evident following a cold snap in February and a week of unusually warm weather in early April. Heavy rains in mid-April helped to spread stemphyllium fungus. Late planted onions escaped some of the damage. The Texas spring onion season started and progressed on schedule. Dry conditions along the Rio Grande Valley and in South Texas adversely affected yields, but good quality was reported.

#### SPRING ONIONS BY SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		Value Per Cwt.		Total Value	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		Dollars		\$1,000	
Arizona <sup>1/</sup>	3,100	1,600	3,000	1,500	430	460	1,290	690	8.00	8.37	10,320	5,775
California	5,700	5,500	5,500	5,300	475	485	2,613	2,571	13.50	14.20	35,276	36,508
Georgia	14,500	14,700	13,500	11,500	190	125	2,565	1,438	27.50	32.20	70,538	46,304
Texas	15,200	16,200	14,200	15,000	325	315	4,615	4,725	18.50	21.40	85,378	101,115
U.S.	38,500	38,000	36,200	33,300	306	283	11,083	9,424	18.20	20.10	201,512	189,702

<sup>1/</sup> Includes a small amount of processing.