

California Vegetable Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Broccoli: California acreage is forecast at 23.5 thousand acres, 7 percent above 2002, but 20 percent below 2001. Weather conditions have been favorable for the winter desert broccoli crop. High yields and good quality are reported. Mild fall and early winter weather have stimulated development causing the crop to be a week to ten days ahead of schedule.

Carrots: Winter harvested acreage is forecast at 21.5 thousand acres, unchanged from last year, but 6 percent below two years ago. The California crop is reported in good condition with no major problems. High demand for baby carrots continues. In Texas, growers are expecting better yields due to a new hybrid carrot planted this season.

Cauliflower: California acreage is forecast at 9.00 thousand acres, up 13 percent from 2002, but 5 percent below 2001. Weather conditions have been favorable to winter cauliflower and good yields are expected as growers allocated the most fertile fields to vegetables. No disease or pest problems have developed.

Celery: The winter celery crop for harvest in California is forecast at 7.50 thousand acres, unchanged from last year, but 3 percent below 2001. The quality of this season's celery crop is good with no pest or disease problems.

Head Lettuce: Area for harvest is forecast at 67.0 thousand acres, up 4 percent from last year, but virtually unchanged from two years ago. California's harvest began early in some areas of the Imperial Valley. Harvest typically runs December 15 through March 15, but began the last week of November this year. The crop is reported in good condition, but wet conditions did slow field activity in some areas the last two weeks of December.

SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS ^{1/}

| State | Area Planted | | 2003 Intentions |
|---------------|--------------|--------|-----------------|
| | 2001 | 2002 | |
| | Acres | | |
| Arizona | 3,100 | 1,600 | 1,700 |
| California | 6,400 | 6,400 | 6,200 |
| Georgia | 14,500 | 14,700 | 14,000 |
| Texas | 15,200 | 16,200 | 12,500 |
| 4-STATE TOTAL | 39,200 | 38,900 | 34,400 |

^{1/} Primarily fresh market.

WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

| Crop and State | Usual Harvesting Period | Area Harvested | | 2003 Forecast | 2003/2002 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|--------|---------------|-----------|
| | | 2001 | 2002 | | |
| | | Acres | | | Percent |
| Broccoli: ^{1/} California | Jan-Mar | 29,500 | 22,000 | 23,500 | 107 |
| Carrots: California | Jan-Mar | 23,000 | 21,500 | 21,500 | 100 |
| Texas | Dec-Mar | 2,000 | 2,100 | 2,000 | 95 |
| TOTAL | | 25,000 | 23,600 | 23,500 | 100 |
| Cauliflower: ^{1/} California | Jan-Mar | 9,500 | 8,000 | 9,000 | 113 |
| Celery: ^{1/} California | Jan-Mar | 7,700 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 100 |
| Lettuce, Head: Arizona, Western | Nov-Apr | 51,800 | 50,000 | 52,000 | 104 |
| California | Jan-Mar | 15,000 | 14,500 | 15,000 | 103 |
| TOTAL | | 66,800 | 64,500 | 67,000 | 104 |

^{1/} Includes fresh market and processing.

UNITED STATES LIMA BEANS FOR PROCESSING UTILIZATION ^{1/ 2/}

| Utilization | Area Planted | | Area Harvested | | Yield Per Acre | | Production | |
|---------------------|--------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------------|------|------------|--------|
| | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 |
| | Acres | | | | Tons | | | |
| Canning | 7,700 | 7,200 | 6,900 | 6,700 | 1.18 | 1.23 | 8,160 | 8,230 |
| Fordhooks | 5,800 | 4,500 | 5,700 | 4,400 | 1.46 | 1.71 | 8,320 | 7,520 |
| Baby Limas | 39,300 | 37,900 | 38,600 | 37,400 | 1.31 | 1.27 | 50,680 | 47,470 |
| Freezing | 45,100 | 42,400 | 44,300 | 41,800 | 1.33 | 1.32 | 59,000 | 54,990 |
| UNITED STATES TOTAL | 52,800 | 49,600 | 51,200 | 48,500 | 1.31 | 1.30 | 67,160 | 63,220 |

^{1/} 2001 - CA, DE, IL, MD, NJ, OR, TN, WA, and WI.

2002 - CA, DE, IL, MD, OR, TN, WA, and WI.

^{2/} Estimates for New Jersey were discontinued in 2002.

2002 VEGETABLE CROP SUMMARY

California fresh market and dual utilization vegetable crop production (excluding potatoes and mushrooms) was 10.9 million tons, 1 percent less than the previous year. California continued to be the leading fresh market state, accounting for 42 percent of the harvested area, 48 percent of the production, and 47 percent of the value for the United States.

Crops that had value increases were artichokes, snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, fresh carrots, sweet corn, leaf lettuce, romaine lettuce, watermelons, mushrooms, spring onions, summer onions, bell peppers, chili peppers, spinach, squash, and tomatoes. Crops showing a decrease in value were asparagus, processing carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, garlic, head lettuce, cantaloupe, honeydew melons, and pumpkins.

CALIFORNIA FRESH MARKET AND DUAL UTILIZATION VEGETABLE CROPS

| Crop and Use ^{1/} | Area Harvested | | Average Yield | | Production | | Price Per Cwt. ^{2/} | | Total Value | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 |
| | Acres | | Cwt. | | 1,000 Cwt. | | Dollars | | 1,000 Dollars | |
| Artichokes | 8000 | 8,200 | 125 | 115 | 1000 | 943 | 58.60 | 70.80 | 58559.00 | 66,764 |
| Asparagus | 35000 | 34,000 | 30 | 30 | 1050 | 1,020 | 156.00 | 114.00 | 163800.00 | 116,280 |
| Beans, Snap | 5400 | 6,500 | 80 | 80 | 432 | 520 | 64.40 | 62.30 | 27821.00 | 32,396 |
| Broccoli | 122000 | 115,000 | 140 | 140 | 17080 | 16,100 | 25.70 | 30.30 | 439387.00 | 488,442 |
| Brussels Sprouts | 2200 | <u>3/</u> | 180 | <u>3/</u> | 396 | <u>3/</u> | 36.50 | <u>3/</u> | 14,471 | <u>3/</u> |
| Cabbage | 12000 | 12,500 | 380 | 380 | 4560 | 4,750 | 13.80 | 14.00 | 62928.00 | 66,500 |
| Carrots, | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fresh | 81000 | 77,000 | 290 | 290 | 23490 | 22,330 | 18.10 | 20.30 | 425169.00 | 453,299 |
| Processing | 3300 | 2,100 | 586 | 574 | 1,934 | 1,205 | 4.52 | 5.43 | 8750.00 | 6,539 |
| Total | 84300 | 79,100 | 302 | 298 | 25,424 | 23,535 | 17.07 | 19.54 | 433919.00 | 459,838 |
| Cauliflower | 38500 | 37,000 | 155 | 150 | 5968 | 5,550 | 28.10 | 30.20 | 167504.00 | 167,491 |
| Celery | 25500 | 25,000 | 695 | 710 | 17723 | 17,750 | 14.40 | 12.80 | 255841.00 | 227,130 |
| Corn, Sweet | 22000 | 24,000 | 170 | 170 | 3740 | 4,080 | 22.30 | 24.00 | 83402.00 | 97,920 |
| Cucumbers | 4700 | 4,300 | 240 | 240 | 1128 | 1,032 | 30.00 | 28.60 | 33840.00 | 29,515 |
| Escarole/Endive | 2400 | <u>3/</u> | 150 | <u>3/</u> | 360 | <u>3/</u> | 35.50 | <u>3/</u> | 12,780 | <u>3/</u> |
| Eggplant | 1400 | <u>3/</u> | 235 | <u>3/</u> | 329 | <u>3/</u> | 24.50 | <u>3/</u> | 8,061 | <u>3/</u> |
| Garlic | 30000 | 27,000 | 170 | 175 | 5100 | 4,725 | 31.50 | 29.20 | 160420.00 | 138,146 |
| Greens, | | | | | | | | | | |
| Collard | 700 | <u>3/</u> | 170 | <u>3/</u> | 119 | <u>3/</u> | 38.80 | <u>3/</u> | 4,617 | <u>3/</u> |
| Kale | 2800 | <u>3/</u> | 190 | <u>3/</u> | 532 | <u>3/</u> | 28.70 | <u>3/</u> | 15,268 | <u>3/</u> |
| Mustard | 3400 | <u>3/</u> | 140 | <u>3/</u> | 476 | <u>3/</u> | 36.90 | <u>3/</u> | 17,564 | <u>3/</u> |
| Lettuce, | | | | | | | | | | |
| Head | 128000 | 129,000 | 380 | 375 | 48640 | 48,375 | 18.50 | 15.20 | 899840.00 | 735,300 |
| Leaf | 46000 | 49,000 | 215 | 215 | 9890 | 10,535 | 24.90 | 28.10 | 246261.00 | 296,034 |
| Romaine | 40500 | 42,000 | 280 | 295 | 11340 | 12,390 | 17.50 | 19.90 | 198450.00 | 246,561 |
| Melons, | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cantaloupe | 54500 | 54,900 | 245 | 245 | 13353 | 13,451 | 18.90 | 16.60 | 252372.00 | 223,287 |
| Honeydew | 20000 | 20,400 | 185 | 185 | 3700 | 3,774 | 19.70 | 16.80 | 72890.00 | 63,403 |
| Watermelon | 11800 | 11,800 | 530 | 510 | 6254 | 6,018 | 10.90 | 12.70 | 68169.00 | 76,429 |
| Mushrooms (Agaricus) | 526 | 523 | 2,457 | 2,454 | 1,292 | 1,283 | 126.18 | 132.61 | 162988.00 | 170,159 |
| Onions, | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spring | 6200 | 6,200 | 430 | 460 | 2666 | 2,852 | 13.50 | 14.20 | 35991.00 | 40,498 |
| Summer (Storage Only) | 29800 | 30,400 | 405 | 405 | 12069 | 12,312 | 7.26 | 7.12 | 85748.00 | 85,847 |
| Peppers, | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bell | 22000 | 21,000 | 325 | 330 | 7150 | 6,930 | 25.50 | 28.60 | 182343.00 | 197,987 |
| Chili | 2600 | 2,800 | 225 | 230 | 585 | 644 | 30.30 | 27.80 | 17697.00 | 17,914 |
| Potatoes, | | | | | | | | | | |
| Winter | 9000 | 9,000 | 310 | 270 | 2790 | 2,430 | 19.70 | <u>4/</u> | 54,963 | <u>4/</u> |
| Spring | 15500 | 19,000 | 390 | 405 | 6045 | 7,695 | 12.40 | <u>4/</u> | 74,958 | <u>4/</u> |
| Summer | 8000 | 8,000 | 355 | 390 | 2840 | 3,120 | 15.10 | <u>4/</u> | 42,884 | <u>4/</u> |
| Fall | 3200 | 8,900 | 445 | 500 | 1424 | 4,450 | 8.15 | <u>4/</u> | 11,606 | <u>4/</u> |
| Total | 35700 | 44,900 | 367 | 394 | 13,099 | 17,695 | 14.20 | <u>4/</u> | 184,411 | <u>4/</u> |
| Pumpkins | 6100 | 6,000 | 240 | 250 | 1464 | 1,500 | 11.20 | 10.90 | 16397.00 | 16,350 |
| Radishes | 1100 | <u>3/</u> | 230 | <u>3/</u> | 253 | <u>3/</u> | 24.50 | <u>3/</u> | 6,199 | <u>3/</u> |
| Spinach | 17000 | 20,000 | 155 | 160 | 2635 | 3,200 | 32.60 | 35.20 | 85901.00 | 112,640 |
| Squash | 8000 | 8,300 | 190 | 190 | 1520 | 1,577 | 18.50 | 21.00 | 28060.00 | 33,049 |
| Tomatoes | 38000 | 38,500 | 270 | 300 | 10260 | 11,550 | 24.90 | 25.40 | 255474.00 | 293,370 |

^{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/} Estimates discontinued in 2002.

^{4/} Available September 2003. Total value of potatoes is based on estimated sales, a component of total production.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES

California's processing tomato production in 2002 was 11.1 million tons, a 28 percent increase from the 2001 production.

Harvested acreage is 291 thousand acres, an increase of 15 percent from a year earlier. The yield was 37.99 tons per acre, up 12 percent from 2001.

U.S. PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

| State | Area Planted | | Area Harvested | | Yield Per Acre 1/ | | Production | |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 |
| | Acres | | | | Tons | | | |
| California | 258,000 | 296,000 | 254,000 | 291,000 | 34.02 | 37.99 | 8,640,140 | 11,056,000 |
| Indiana | 8,600 | 8,200 | 8,000 | 8,100 | 31.39 | 31.66 | 251,120 | 256,450 |
| Michigan | 3,300 | 3,300 | 3,100 | 3,200 | 34.00 | 35.00 | 105,400 | 112,000 |
| Ohio | 6,370 | 6,400 | 6,200 | 6,300 | 26.55 | 23.75 | 164,610 | 149,630 |
| Other States 2/ 3/ | 3,660 | 3,200 | 3,560 | 3,200 | 24.56 | 25.86 | 87,450 | 82,740 |
| UNITED STATES | 279,930 | 317,100 | 274,860 | 311,800 | 33.65 | 37.39 | 9,248,720 | 11,656,820 |

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

2/ 2001: DE, MD, NJ, PA, and VA.

2002: MD, NJ, and PA.

3/ Delaware and Virginia estimates were discontinued in 2002.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

| Processing Crop | Area Harvested | | Average Yield | | Production | | Price Per Ton 1/ | | | | Total Value | |
|-----------------|----------------|---------|---------------|-------|------------|------------|-------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-------------|---------|
| | | | | | | | First Delivery Point 2/ | | Processing Plant Door | | | |
| | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | | |
| | Acres | | Tons | | Dollars | | | | 1,000 Dollars | | | |
| Tomatoes | 254,000 | 291,000 | 34.02 | 37.99 | 8,640,140 | 11,056,000 | 49.40 | 50.30 | 57.50 | 57.20 | 496,808 | 632,403 |

1/ The processing crops price is based on equivalent returns at the processing plant door.

2/ Revised 2001 data.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES BY COUNTY, 2002 CROP

| County | Contracted and Open Market | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------|--|----------------|--|-------------------|--|
| | Area Planted | | Area Harvested | | Yield Per Acre | | Production 1/ | |
| | Acres | | Tons | | Tons | | Tons | |
| Colusa | 19,000 | | 18,700 | | 40.84 | | 763,800 | |
| Fresno | 107,800 | | 106,900 | | 39.29 | | 4,200,000 | |
| Glenn | 1,000 | | 1,000 | | 34.30 | | 34,300 | |
| Kings | 14,000 | | 13,400 | | 37.87 | | 507,400 | |
| Merced | 19,200 | | 18,200 | | 35.91 | | 653,500 | |
| Sacramento | 3,900 | | 3,900 | | 44.62 | | 174,000 | |
| San Joaquin | 32,700 | | 32,600 | | 36.99 | | 1,206,000 | |
| Solano | 12,600 | | 12,600 | | 37.45 | | 471,900 | |
| Stanislaus | 16,700 | | 16,600 | | 36.45 | | 605,000 | |
| Sutter | 9,400 | | 9,100 | | 36.89 | | 335,700 | |
| Yolo | 41,800 | | 41,600 | | 36.18 | | 1,505,000 | |
| Other Counties 2/ | 17,900 | | 16,400 | | 36.55 | | 599,400 | |
| Total | 296,000 | | 291,000 | | 37.99 | | 11,056,000 | |

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, Imperial, Kern, Madera, San Benito, Santa Clara, and Tulare.

For information on part-time jobs collecting agricultural data in your local area, please call 1-800-851-1127.

Attention: Agricultural Producers
If you have not received the Ag Census form,
please make sure you are counted by calling our toll-free number at
1-888-4AG-STAT or 1-888-424-7828.

Your name, address and information are confidential by law (Title 7, US Code).
It cannot be given to any individual or organization, including other government agencies.

Your help is important. - Thank You!