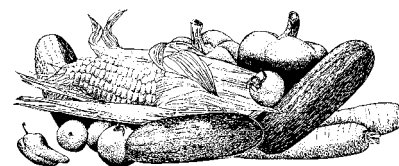


# California Vegetable Review



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## WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

**Broccoli:** California acreage is forecast at 29.0 thousand acres, 9 percent above 2003 and 14 percent greater than 2002. The broccoli crop is a week to 10 days ahead of schedule as a result of mild weather conditions during the fall and early winter. Yields are expected to be good. No major pest or disease problems have been reported this season.

**Carrots:** Winter harvested acreage is forecast at 22.0 thousand acres, down 2 percent from last year and 7 percent below two years ago. The California crop is growing well in the cooler weather with very few problems. High demand for baby carrots continues.

**Cauliflower:** California acreage is forecast at 8.80 thousand acres, up 4 percent from 2003, but the same as 2002. Weather conditions have been variable, hindering crop development in some areas. No disease or pest problems have developed.

**Celery:** The winter celery crop for harvest in California is forecast at 7.60 thousand acres, up 1 percent from last year and the year before. The quality of the celery crop is good with no pest or disease problems. Hot weather in October could delay the southern California desert harvest by a couple of weeks. Yields are reported as normal to above normal in most growing areas of the central coast.

**Head Lettuce:** Area for harvest is forecast at 63.5 thousand acres, up 1 percent from last year, but 2 percent below two years ago. Growing conditions in western Arizona have varied greatly. California growers in the Imperial Valley experienced cool nighttime temperatures during December 2003, which hindered crop development. Harvest progressed more slowly than usual as a result. However, warmer weather followed causing accelerated growth of the lettuce crop and increased supplies.

## SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS 1/

State	Area Planted		2004 Intentions
	2002	2003	
Acres			
Arizona	1,600	1,500	1,600
California	6,400	6,900	6,700
Georgia	14,700	14,000	14,000
Texas	16,200	12,800	13,300
4-STATE TOTAL	38,900	35,200	35,600

1/ Primarily fresh market.

## WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvesting Period	Area Harvested		2004 Forecast	2004/2003
		2002	2003		
Acres				Percent	
<b>Broccoli:</b> 1/ California	Jan-Mar	25,500	26,500	29,000	109
<b>Carrots:</b> California	Jan-Mar	21,500	21,500	21,000	98
Texas	Dec-Mar	2,100	1,000	1,000	100
TOTAL		23,600	22,500	22,000	98
<b>Cauliflower:</b> 1/ California	Jan-Mar	8,800	8,500	8,800	104
<b>Celery:</b> 1/ California	Jan-Mar	7,500	7,500	7,600	101
<b>Lettuce, Head:</b> Arizona, Western	Nov-Apr	50,000	47,000	47,500	101
California	Jan-Mar	14,500	16,000	16,000	100
TOTAL		64,500	63,000	63,500	101

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

## UNITED STATES LIMA BEANS FOR PROCESSING UTILIZATION 1/

Utilization	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
Acres				Tons				
Canning	7,200	4,300	6,700	4,200	1.23	1.33	8,230	5,580
Fordhooks	4,500	4,400	4,400	4,300	1.71	1.70	7,520	7,310
Baby Limas	40,800	37,300	40,300	37,300	1.24	1.27	49,790	47,290
Freezing	45,300	41,700	44,700	41,600	1.28	1.31	57,310	54,600
UNITED STATES TOTAL	52,500	46,000	51,400	45,800	1.28	1.31	65,540	60,180

1/ 2002 and 2003 - CA, DE, IL, MD, OR, TN, WA, and WI.

**2003 VEGETABLE CROP SUMMARY**

California fresh market and dual utilization vegetable crop production (excluding potatoes and mushrooms) was 11.5 million tons, 3 percent more than the previous year. California continued to be the leading fresh market State, accounting for 44 percent of the harvested area, 49 percent of production, and 55 percent of the value for the United States.

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

**CALIFORNIA FRESH MARKET AND DUAL UTILIZATION VEGETABLE CROPS**

Crop and Use <sup>1/</sup>	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Cwt. <sup>2/</sup>		Total Value	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Artichokes	8,200	7,200	115	140	943	1,008	71.50	73.40	67,425	73,987
Asparagus	34,000	36,000	30	31	1,020	1,116	114.00	122.00	116,280	136,152
Beans, Snap	6,500	6,000	100	100	650	600	62.60	53.50	40,690	32,100
Broccoli	118,500	125,000	140	150	16,590	18,750	29.30	31.80	486,192	596,617
Cabbage	12,500	13,500	400	390	5,000	5,265	14.00	13.50	70,000	71,078
Carrots,										
Fresh	77,000	73,500	290	350	22,330	25,725	20.30	20.30	453,299	522,218
Processing	2,100	3,500	574	646	1,205	2,261	5.40	5.00	6,509	11,305
Total	79,100	77,000	298	363	23,535	27,986	19.54	19.06	459,808	533,523
Cauliflower	37,800	39,000	160	195	6,048	7,545	29.50	32.90	178,194	248,509
Celery	25,000	25,300	710	700	17,750	17,710	12.70	13.50	225,405	239,697
Corn, Sweet	26,000	28,500	175	190	4,550	5,415	19.40	21.10	88,270	114,257
Cucumbers	4,300	4,000	240	270	1,032	1,080	27.80	33.30	28,690	35,964
Garlic	27,000	29,000	175	185	4,725	5,365	29.60	24.90	140,056	133,583
Lettuce,										
Head	130,000	135,000	380	350	49,400	47,250	14.90	21.10	736,060	996,975
Leaf	48,000	50,000	240	200	11,520	10,000	27.70	29.80	319,104	298,000
Romaine	47,000	51,000	315	300	14,805	15,300	19.50	30.60	288,698	468,180
Melons,										
Cantaloupe	52,000	49,000	250	245	13,000	120,005	16.70	15.40	217,100	184,877
Honeydew	20,400	19,500	185	185	3,774	3,608	16.80	17.40	63,403	62,779
Watermelon	11,500	12,400	510	480	5,865	5,952	12.70	12.10	74,486	72,019
Mushrooms (Agaricus)	524	520	2,460	2,455	1,289	1,276	133.56	133.29	172,168	170,124
Onions,										
Spring	6,200	6,700	475	490	2,945	3,283	14.20	22.90	41,819	75,181
Summer (Storage)	30,400	33,400	410	405	12,464	13,527	7.27	7.22	88,846	95,827
Summer (Non-Storage)	7,200	7,500	480	500	3,456	3,750	12.90	13.70	44,582	51,375
Peppers,										
Bell	19,000	20,500	370	375	7,030	7,688	28.50	28.80	200,618	221,122
Chili	2,800	3,000	230	230	644	692	27.90	19.30	17,948	13,388
Potatoes,										
Winter	9,000	8,500	270	310	2,430	2,635	24.00	<sup>3/</sup>	58,320	<sup>3/</sup>
Spring	19,000	19,000	405	440	7,695	8,360	19.80	<sup>3/</sup>	152,361	<sup>3/</sup>
Summer	7,300	7,200	360	400	2,628	2,880	19.10	<sup>3/</sup>	50,195	<sup>3/</sup>
Fall	8,200	8,400	520	410	4,264	3,444	8.45	<sup>3/</sup>	36,031	<sup>3/</sup>
Total	43,500	43,100	391	402	17,017	17,319	17.50	<sup>3/</sup>	296,907	<sup>3/</sup>
Pumpkins	5,500	4,900	280	230	1,540	1,127	11.50	13.60	17,710	15,327
Spinach	24,000	26,000	155	175	3,720	4,550	34.60	41.20	128,712	187,460
Squash	7,900	7,700	190	190	1,501	1,463	20.90	19.90	31,384	29,179
Tomatoes	36,000	33,000	315	280	11,340	9,240	25.30	36.00	286,902	332,640

<sup>1/</sup> Fresh Market Usage, except where specified.

<sup>2/</sup> 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.

<sup>3/</sup> Available September 2004. Total value of potatoes is based on estimated sales, a component of total production.

**CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES**

California's processing tomato production in 2003 was 9.25 million pay tons, and a 16 percent decrease from the 2002 production.

Harvested acreage is 274 thousand acres, down 6 percent from a year earlier. The yields were 33.77 tons per acre, down 11 percent from 2002.

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

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre 1/		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	Acres				Tons			
California	296,000	289,000	291,000	274,000	37.99	33.77	11,056,000	9,252,000
Indiana	8,200	8,400	8,100	8,200	31.66	24.67	256,450	202,290
Michigan	3,300	3,200	3,200	3,100	35.00	38.00	112,000	117,800
Ohio	6,400	6,400	6,300	5,700	23.75	30.40	149,630	173,280
Other States 2/	3,200	2,830	3,200	2,720	25.86	24.54	82,740	66,740
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>317,100</b>	<b>309,830</b>	<b>311,800</b>	<b>293,720</b>	<b>37.39</b>	<b>33.41</b>	<b>11,656,820</b>	<b>9,812,110</b>

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

2/ 2002 and 2003 --- MD, NJ, and PA.

**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			
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003		
	Acres		Tons		Dollars				1,000 Dollars			
Tomatoes	291,000	274,000	37.99	33.77	11,056,000	9,252,000	50.30	50.20	56.80	57.20	627,981	529,214

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

2/ Revised 2002 data.

**CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES BY COUNTY, 2003 CROP**

County	Contracted and Open Market					
	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre	Production 1/
	Acres		Tons		Tons	Tons
Colusa	18,800		16,900		38.34	648,000
Fresno	104,300		102,200		35.87	3,666,000
Kings	18,600		17,900		29.17	522,200
Madera	1,400		1,400		32.50	45,500
Merced	16,500		15,700		32.56	511,200
Sacramento	3,700		3,200		28.03	89,700
San Joaquin	34,400		33,500		32.45	1,087,000
Solano	11,000		10,600		34.01	360,500
Stanislaus	14,800		14,600		31.98	466,900
Sutter	8,000		6,800		30.99	210,700
Yolo	39,200		34,400		32.65	1,123,000
Other Counties 2/	18,300		16,800		31.03	521,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>289,000</b>		<b>274,000</b>		<b>33.77</b>	<b>9,252,000</b>

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, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, 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.

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