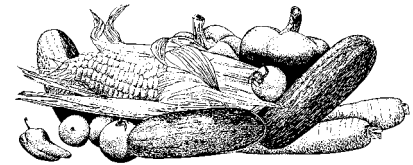


California Vegetable Review



Frequency: Jan., Apr., July, Sept. & Oct.
Released: January 31, 2005

(USPS 598-210)
VOL. 26 NO. 1



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Winter Fresh Market Acreage — Spring Onions Beans	1
Processing Lima Beans	1
Crop Summary for 2004	2
Processing Tomatoes	3

WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Broccoli: California acreage is forecast at 29.0 thousand acres, 5 percent above 2004 and 14 percent greater than 2003. Weather conditions have been favorable for early development of the broccoli crop this season. However, in late December, a series of storms brought cold and wet weather to the southern growing areas. Growers have allocated the most fertile fields to vegetables and expect good yields as conditions improve.

Carrots: U.S. winter harvested acreage is forecast at 21.7 thousand acres, up 3 percent from last year and 6 percent above two years ago. The California crop is growing well with very few problems. High demand for baby carrots continues. The carrot crop is progressing well in the San Antonio-Winter Garden area.

Cauliflower: California acreage is forecast at 8.60 thousand acres, up 1 percent from 2004 and 15 percent greater than 2003. Weather conditions have been favorable for the winter desert crop early in the season. No disease or pest problems have developed.

Celery: The winter celery crop for harvest in California is forecast at 7.50 thousand acres, down 1 percent from last year, but unchanged from the year before. The quality of the celery crop is good at this time. However, there were delays early in the season when rain disrupted transplanting. Heavy rainfall in December disrupted harvest and there was some flood damage in the Oxnard area. The excess moisture has leached nutrients from the soil and farmers will have to take measures to avoid pith problems in the coming weeks.

Lettuce, Head: U.S. area for harvest is forecast at 63.5 thousand acres, up 2 percent from last year and 1 percent above 2003. The California desert lettuce crop is experiencing quality problems due to cold, wet weather conditions. Misshapen heads and ground rot have been reported. Some areas have had freezing temperatures, which are expected to have a negative effect on quality. Supplies have been plentiful, but poor quality has lowered prices causing growers to curtail harvest in an attempt to strengthen the market.

SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS

Growers intend to plant 40.3 thousand acres of spring onions for 2005, up 1 percent from 2004 and 12 percent above 2003. In Arizona, planting has begun in the eastern areas of the State and will continue throughout the month of January. Harvest is expected to begin sometime in April. In California, planting began in early November under varied conditions. Some areas are two weeks behind due to below normal temperatures and rain. Other areas reported mild temperatures and good planting conditions. In general, onion fields are in good condition and recent rains have promoted good development. In Georgia, wetter than normal conditions in November have slowed transplanting. Temperatures have been normal to slightly above normal. No weather related damage or disease problems have been reported. Texas growers intend to plant more onions this season. Excessive rainfall in October caused some delays, but drier conditions returned in November.

SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS 1/

State	Area Planted		2005 Intentions
	2003	2004	
	Acres		
Arizona	1,500	1,600	2,300
California	7,700	7,300	7,800
Georgia	14,000	16,500	15,000
Texas	12,800	14,500	15,200
4-STATE TOTAL	36,000	39,900	40,300

1/ Primarily fresh market.

WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvesting Period	Area Harvested		2005 Forecast	2005/2004
		2003	2004		
		Acres			
Broccoli: 1/					
California	Jan-Mar	25,500	27,500	29,000	105
Carrots:					
California	Jan-Mar	19,500	20,000	19,800	99
Texas	Dec-Mar	1,000	1,100	1,900	173
TOTAL		20,500	21,100	21,700	103
Cauliflower: 1/					
California	Jan-Mar	7,500	8,500	8,600	101
Celery: 1/					
California	Jan-Mar	7,500	7,600	7,500	99
Lettuce, Head:					
Arizona, Western	Nov-Apr	47,000	46,500	45,500	98
California	Jan-Mar	16,000	16,000	18,000	113
TOTAL		63,000	62,500	63,500	102

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

UNITED STATES LIMA BEANS FOR PROCESSING UTILIZATION 1/

Utilization	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Acres				Tons			
Canning	4,300	3,600	4,200	3,500	1.33	1.33	5,580	4,650
Freezing:	41,700	38,800	41,600	38,100	1.31	1.28	54,600	48,900
Fordhooks	4,400	1,800	4,300	1,700	1.70	1.80	7,310	3,060
Baby Limas	37,300	37,000	37,300	36,400	1.27	1.26	47,290	45,840
UNITED STATES TOTAL	46,000	42,400	45,800	41,600	1.31	1.29	60,180	53,550

1/ 2003 and 2004 – CA, DE, IL, MD, OR, TN, WA, and WI.

2004 VEGETABLE CROP SUMMARY

California fresh market and dual utilization vegetable crop production (excluding potatoes and mushrooms) was 23.7 million tons, 3 percent more than the previous year. California continued to be the leading fresh market State, accounting for 43 percent of the harvested area, 49 percent of production, and 53 percent of the value for the United States.

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

CALIFORNIA FRESH MARKET AND DUAL UTILIZATION VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop and Use ^{1/}	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Cwt. ^{2/}		Total Value	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Artichokes	7,200	7,500	140	110	1,008	825	75.10	87.30	75,701	72,023
Asparagus	27,000	24,000	34	34	918	816	122.00	141.00	111,996	115,056
Beans, Snap	5,800	7,000	100	110	580	770	55.70	66.80	32,306	51,436
Broccoli	120,000	128,000	150	150	18,000	19,200	32.00	32.60	575,224	625,721
Cabbage	13,500	13,600	390	410	5,265	5,576	16.00	18.20	84,240	101,483
Carrots,										
Fresh	68,000	66,500	300	300	20,400	19,950	20.40	21.60	416,160	430,920
Processing	3,500	4,300	646	640	2,261	2,752	5.00	5.55	11,305	15,274
Total	71,500	70,800	317	321	22,661	22,702	18.86	19.65	427,465	446,194
Cauliflower	34,000	36,000	160	165	5,440	5,940	35.30	31.90	192,210	189,675
Celery	25,300	25,100	715	700	18,090	17,570	13.20	15.10	239,554	265,081
Corn, Sweet	28,500	28,000	190	210	5,415	5,880	21.80	29.50	118,047	173,460
Cucumbers	4,000	3,400	200	185	800	629	33.30	41.80	26,640	26,292
Garlic	29,000	26,000	185	180	5,365	4,680	27.20	27.70	146,038	129,522
Lettuce,										
Head	132,000	139,000	375	375	49,500	52,125	21.00	15.10	1,039,500	787,088
Leaf	49,000	47,000	230	230	11,270	10,810	31.80	25.90	358,386	279,979
Romaine	60,000	64,000	300	320	18,000	20,480	29.70	19.30	534,600	395,264
Melons,										
Cantaloupe	49,000	51,000	245	250	12,005	12,750	15.40	13.80	184,877	175,950
Honeydew	18,500	17,900	200	220	3,700	3,938	17.50	17.80	64,750	70,096
Watermelon	11,700	13,500	480	510	5,616	6,885	12.10	10.60	67,954	72,981
Mushrooms (Agaricus)	520	489	2,456	2,505	1,277	1,225	133.00	141.00	170,234	172,683
Onions,										
Spring	7,500	7,100	490	505	3,675	3,586	22.90	15.10	84,158	54,149
Summer (Storage)	35,000	28,500	420	430	14,700	12,255	7.54	7.90	108,904	94,795
Summer (Non-Storage)	7,500	8,400	530	560	3,975	4,704	13.70	13.20	54,458	62,093
Peppers,										
Bell	18,500	21,000	390	380	7,215	8,003	28.60	34.60	206,606	277,120
Chili	4,800	5,300	230	245	1,104	1,310	33.50	42.10	36,999	55,122
Potatoes,										
Winter	8,500	13,000	310	250	2,635	3,250	24.00	3.00	63,240	^{3/}
Spring	19,000	17,500	440	475	8,360	8,313	19.80	3.00	165,528	^{3/}
Summer	7,200	7,000	385	380	2,772	2,660	19.10	3.00	52,945	^{3/}
Fall	8,300	7,600	425	510	3,528	3,876	8.45	3.00	29,812	^{3/}
Total	43,000	45,100	402	401	17,295	18,099	17.50	3.00	302,663	^{3/}
Pumpkins	4,900	4,400	250	250	1,225	1,100	12.40	15.30	15,190	16,830
Spinach	26,000	28,000	160	170	4,160	4,760	40.70	42.00	169,312	199,920
Squash	7,500	7,500	195	210	1,463	1,575	22.70	29.20	33,241	45,973
Tomatoes	34,000	37,000	300	290	10,200	10,730	35.90	39.20	366,180	420,616

^{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 2005. Total value of potatoes is based on estimated sales, a component of total production.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES

California's processing tomato production in 2004 was 11.7 million pay tons, a 26 percent increase from the 2003 production. Harvested acreage is 281

thousand acres, an increase of 3 percent from a year earlier. The yield was 41.54 tons per acre, up 23 percent from 2003.

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

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre 1/		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Acres				Tons			
California	289,000	301,000	274,000	281,000	33.77	41.54	9,252,000	11,672,000
Indiana	8,400	8,400	8,200	8,300	24.67	33.11	202,290	274,810
Michigan	3,400	3,600	3,300	3,500	38.00	31.00	125,400	108,500
Ohio	6,400	6,600	5,700	6,200	30.40	28.60	173,280	177,320
Other States 2/	2,830	1,630	2,720	1,620	24.54	20.85	66,740	33,780
UNITED STATES	310,030	321,230	293,920	300,620	33.41	40.80	9,819,710	12,266,410

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

2/ 2003 — MD, NJ, and PA

2004 — MD and NJ

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

Processing Crop	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Ton 1/				Total Value	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	First Delivery Point		Processing Plant Door		2003	2004
	Acres		Tons		Tons		2003	2004	2003	2004	1,000 Dollars	
Tomatoes	274,000	281,000	33.77	41.54	9,252,000	11,672,000	50.20	50.20	57.20	57.40	529,214	669,973

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

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES BY COUNTY, 2004 CROP

County	Contracted and Open Market					
	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre	Production 1/
	Acres		Tons		Tons	Tons
Colusa	22,900	20,500	43.02	881,900		
Fresno	106,200	103,300	43.51	4,495,000		
Glenn	100	100	40.00	4,000		
Kings	22,900	22,500	37.34	840,200		
Madera	1,800	1,500	41.20	61,800		
Merced	16,700	15,600	41.09	641,000		
Sacramento	2,400	2,200	35.91	79,000		
San Joaquin	38,500	35,000	40.03	1,401,000		
Stanislaus	13,800	12,400	42.07	521,700		
Sutter	6,300	6,200	41.81	259,200		
Yolo	44,000	37,300	40.00	1,492,000		
Other Counties 2/	25,400	24,400	40.79	995,200		
Total	301,000	281,000	41.54	11,672,000		

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, San Benito, Santa Clara, Solano, and Tulare.