



California Vegetable Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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SPRING SEASON FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Broccoli: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 36,000 acres, up 3 percent from 2007. The broccoli crop is developing well. There were no major pests or disease problems reported.

Cantaloupe: In California, the spring melon crop is progressing well. The Georgia crop is in fair to good condition. Nationally, acreage intended for harvest is forecast at 30,100 acres, down 4 percent from 2007.

Carrots: In California, the carrot crop is in good condition with very few problems reported. Nationally, intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 15,900 acres, down 3 percent from last year.

Cauliflower: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 7,800 acres, 5 percent below 2007. Spring weather conditions boosted crop growth and development. No major pests or diseases have been reported.

Celery: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 6,000 acres, up 5 percent from last year. Freezing temperatures in January reduced celery yields and production. Although plants survived the cold temperatures, the impact will be felt in the coming months, as seeder problems are anticipated through May.

Corn, Sweet: In California weather has been favorable for the sweet corn crop. No disease or pest problems were reported. In Florida, favorable weather conditions allowed planting and harvesting to progress on schedule. Nationally, acreage for harvest is forecast at 34,700 acres, up 7 percent from a year ago.

Honeydew: California's spring crop is progressing well. Nationally, acreage for harvest is forecast at 3,850 acres, unchanged from 2007.

Lettuce, Head: In California, planted acreage in the Bakersfield-Huron district has declined as a result of water rationing in the San Joaquin Valley. Growers are extending the desert season as well as planting earlier in Salinas. In New Jersey, field preparation and planting are behind schedule due to wet weather. Nationally, intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 36,000 acres, down 3 percent from 2007.

Tomatoes: In California, sporadic rainfall provided adequate water to promote plant growth. There have been no reports of significant pest infestations or diseases. Nationally, intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 24,500 acres, down 12 percent from 2007.

Watermelons: Expected California acreage is forecast at 3,600 acres, 6 percent more than a year ago. California's spring melon crop is progressing well. Nationally, acreage intended for harvest is forecast at 38,500 acres, down 1 percent from last year.

SPRING FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Harvested		For Harvest 2008	2008 2007
		2006	2007		
		Acres		Percent	
BROCCOLI: 1/					
California	Apr-Jun	34,500	35,000	36,000	103
CANTALOUPE:					
Arizona	May-Aug	14,300	14,200	12,500	88
California	Apr-Jun	11,000	11,200	10,700	96
Georgia	Apr-Jun	4,600	4,600	5,600	122
Texas	Apr-Jun	1,700	1,400	1,300	93
GROUP TOTAL		31,600	31,400	30,100	96
CARROTS:					
California	Apr-Jun	18,000	16,000	15,500	97
Texas	Apr-Jun	600	400	400	100
GROUP TOTAL		18,600	16,400	15,900	97
CAULIFLOWER: 1/					
California	Apr-Jun	8,500	8,200	7,800	95
CELERY: 1/					
California	Apr-Jun	5,600	5,700	6,000	105
CORN, SWEET:					
California	Apr-Jun	12,000	12,000	13,000	108
Florida	Apr-Jul	21,000	20,500	21,700	106
GROUP TOTAL		33,000	32,500	34,700	107
HONEYDEW:					
California	Apr-Jun	3,200	3,200	3,200	100
Texas	Apr-Jun	700	650	650	100
GROUP TOTAL		3,900	3,850	3,850	100
LETTUCE, HEAD:					
California	Apr-Jun	34,000	37,000	36,000	97
New Jersey 2/		300	200	---	---
GROUP TOTAL		34,300	37,200	36,000	97
TOMATOES:					
California	Apr-Jun	8,000	8,000	7,000	88
Florida	Apr-Jul	17,500	17,200	15,000	87
South Carolina	May-Aug	3,000	2,700	2,500	93
GROUP TOTAL		28,500	27,900	24,500	88
WATERMELON					
California	Apr-Jun	3,300	3,400	3,600	106
Florida	Apr-Jul	25,300	24,800	24,300	98
Texas	Apr-Jun	10,100	10,600	10,600	100
GROUP TOTAL		38,700	38,800	38,500	99

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

2/ Estimate discontinued in 2008.

PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE AND TONNAGE INTENTIONS

California production is forecast at 11.8 million tons, down 1 percent from 2007. Some growers intend to plant earlier maturing varieties due to water uncertainties in the upcoming season. California estimate is based on a survey of processors that was conducted in January. Updated acreage and production will be available May 30, 2008.

Nationally, contracts with growers cover 305,600 acres in 2008, down 3 percent from last year for comparable States. Contract production, at 12.3 million tons, is 2 percent below 2007 for comparable States. In Indiana, planting has been delayed due to very cold and wet weather.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING BY STATE

State	Area Planted				Contract Change <u>2008</u> 2007	Production				Contract Change <u>2008</u> 2007
	2006 Total	2007		2008		2006 Total	2007		2008	
		Total	Contract 1/	Contract Intentions 1/	Total		Contract 1/	Contract Intentions 1/		
	Acres				Percent	Tons				Percent
California	283,000	301,000	298,000	288,000	97	10,104,000	12,082,000	11,965,000	11,800,000	99
Indiana	8,000	8,500	8,500	8,500	100	225,500	294,000	294,000	266,000	90
Michigan	3,300	3,400	3,400	3,200	94	115,500	112,200	112,200	110,000	98
Ohio	6,400	6,400	6,400	5,900	92	166,820	171,690	171,690	169,000	98
UNITED STATES	300,700	319,300	316,300	305,600	97	10,611,820	12,659,890	12,542,890	12,345,000	98

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES

Table data for California are included in "Other States" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Nationally, pickle packers intend to contract 89,500 acres of cucumbers for pickles, up 4 percent from last year. Planting of the spring crop in Florida began in January. Favorable weather conditions have kept planting on schedule.

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES BY STATE

State	Area Planted				Contract Change <u>2008</u> 2007
	Total	Total	Contract 1/	Contract Intentions 1/	
	2006	2007	2007	2008	
	Acres				Percent
Florida	6,700	6,800	3,800	7,000	184
Indiana	1,600	1,500	1,500	1,500	100
Maryland 2/	3,200	---	---	---	---
Michigan	34,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	100
North Carolina	11,100	12,100	9,800	9,200	94
Ohio	3,100	2,800	2,690	2,500	93
South Carolina	3,500	3,000	3,000	2,500	83
Texas	8,200	7,000	6,700	8,000	119
Wisconsin	4,800	6,100	6,100	6,200	102
Other States 3/	31,200	29,300	22,600	22,600	100
UNITED STATES	107,400	98,600	86,190	89,500	104

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Includes AL, CA, DE, GA, MA, MO, and WA for 2006. Includes AL, CA, DE, GA, MD, MO, and WA for 2007 and 2008. Seasonal forecasts for WA are not available. Estimates will be published in the "Vegetables 2008 Summary" released in January 2009.

SPRING AND SUMMER ONIONS

California growers planted 7,600 acres of spring onions this year, unchanged from the previous year. Despite some reports of mildew, the spring onion crop is in good condition. California's summer storage onion planted acreage is estimated at 31,500 acres, a decrease of 1 percent from last year. Despite some minor problems with rain during planting, good growing conditions are currently being reported. The summer non-storage onion planted acreage is estimated at 9,000 acres, down 7 percent from last year. Despite some minor problems with rain during planting, good growing conditions are currently being reported.

Nationally, the total planted onion acreage for all seasons in 2008 is forecast at 155,750 acres, down 6 percent from last year. Spring onions were planted on 31,600 acres in 2008, decreasing 7 percent from 2007. The summer non-storage onion planted acreage, at 20,100 acres, is down 6 percent from a year ago. The total storage planted acreage is 104,050 acres, down 6 percent from 2007. The total summer onion acreage, at 124,150 acres, is 6 percent below the previous year.

SPRING AND SUMMER ONIONS, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES

Season and State	2006	2007	2008	<u>2008</u> <u>2007</u>
	Acres Planted			Percent
Spring 1/				
Arizona	1,000	1,200	1,500	125
California	8,100	7,600	7,600	100
Georgia	14,000	12,500	11,500	92
Texas	17,700	12,500	11,000	88
Spring Total	40,800	33,800	31,600	93
Summer 1/				
<u>Non-Storage</u>				
California	9,800	9,700	9,000	93
Nevada	2,600	2,800	2,900	104
New Mexico	6,000	6,300	5,500	87
Texas	1,000	1,100	800	73
Washington 2/	1,500	1,500	1,900	127
Non-Storage Total	20,900	21,400	20,100	94
<u>Storage</u>				
California 3/	33,100	31,700	31,500	99
Colorado	10,000	9,000	8,500	94
Idaho	9,700	9,300	8,600	92
Michigan	2,700	2,600	2,100	81
New York	14,100	13,000	12,400	95
Oregon				
Malheur County	11,700	11,500	9,900	86
Other	8,400	9,100	8,500	93
Washington	20,000	21,000	19,000	90
Wisconsin	2,100	1,900	1,800	95
Other States 4/	2,280	2,180	1,750	80
Storage Total	114,080	111,280	104,050	94
Summer Total	134,980	132,680	124,150	94
UNITED STATES TOTAL ONIONS	175,780	166,480	155,750	94

- 1/ Primarily fresh market.
- 2/ Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.
- 3/ Primarily dehydrated and other processing.
- 4/ Includes OH and UT for 2006-08.

ASPARAGUS

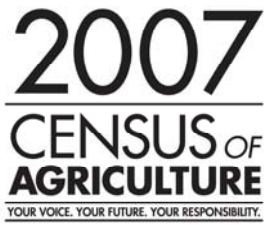
California's intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 16,600, down 17 percent from last year. The mid-January freeze had minimal impact on the crop.

Nationally, intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 34,100 acres, down 11 percent from 2007.

ASPARAGUS BY STATE 1/

State	Area Harvested		Area For Harvest	Yield Per Acre			Production		
	2006	2007		2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
	Acres			Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	22,500	20,000	16,600	23	29	---	518	580	---
Michigan	11,700	11,200	11,000	22	21	---	257	235	---
Washington	9,000	7,000	6,500	42	43	---	378	301	---
TOTAL	43,200	38,200	34,100	27	29	---	1,153	1,116	---

- 1/ Includes fresh market and processing.



Attention: Agricultural Producers

If you have not received the 2007 Census of Agriculture form, please make sure you are counted by calling our toll-free number at **1-888-4AG-STAT (1-888-424-7828).**

Your help is important – Thank you!

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