



California Vegetable Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Fall Fresh Market Vegetable and Melon Acreage.....	1
Summer Onion Acreage, Yield, and Production	1
Cash Farm Income by Commodity Groups.....	2

FALL FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Broccoli: California's area for fall harvest is forecast at 28,000 acres, unchanged from 2007. Harvest of the fall crop is underway and is reported to range between very good to excellent condition. Production volume is expected to remain strong throughout the growing season.

Cantaloupe: California producers expect to harvest 8,100 acres, 1 percent below last year. Ideal temperatures benefitted the melon crop. No major insect or disease problems have been reported. Nationally, fall cantaloupe area for harvest is forecast at 12,100 acres, unchanged from 2007.

Carrots: California growers intend to harvest 19,200 acres, up 2 percent from 2007. In California, baby carrots are still in high demand. Harvest is underway and the crop is reported to be in good condition with no unusual disease or insect problems. Nationally, acreage for fresh market harvest is forecast at 19,300 acres, up 1 percent from last year.

Cauliflower: Area for fall harvest in California is forecast at 7,900 acres, down 5 percent from last year. Ideal growing conditions contributed to excellent sizing and crop quality. Harvest is underway with no disease or insect problems reported.

Celery: California's fall area for harvest is forecast at 7,000 acres, down 1 percent from 2007. Growing conditions have been favorable for the early fall celery crop.

Corn, Sweet: California growers expect to harvest 3,300 acres for the October-December quarter, down 20 percent from last year. The crop is in excellent condition due to favorable weather during the summer and early fall. Nationally, fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 8,800 acres, up 6 percent from last year. In Florida, during late August, rainfall from Tropical Storm Fay delayed some fieldwork. In early September, some growers delayed planting due to persistent standing water in their fields. By mid-September, fields began to dry out allowing growers to proceed with planting.

Honeydew: California producers intend to harvest 1,500 acres during the October-December quarter, up 25 percent from the previous year. The fall melon crop is progressing well due to ideal temperatures. No major insect or disease problems have been reported. Nationally, fresh market acreage for fall harvest is forecast at 3,500 acres, up 6 percent from last year.

Lettuce, Head: Lettuce producers in California intend to harvest 30,000 acres, 9 percent below 2007. Early planted lettuce fields have begun to emerge and fields were being fertilized and treated to control insects.

Tomatoes: Fresh market tomato growers in California expect to harvest 11,500 acres through the October-December period, 5 percent above a year ago. Harvesting of fall tomatoes was delayed in Fresno County due to water shortages. Nationally, fresh market acreage for fall harvest is forecast at 19,000 acres, up 3 percent from 2007.

FALL SEASON FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area Harvested		For Harvest 2008	2008 2007	
		2006	2007			
					Acres	Percent
BROCCOLI 1/						
California	Oct-Dec	30,000	28,000	28,000	100	
CANTALOUPE						
Arizona	Oct-Dec	8,400	8,200	8,100	99	
California	Oct-Dec	4,000	3,900	4,000	103	
TOTAL		12,400	12,100	12,100	100	
CARROTS						
California	Oct-Dec	15,000	18,900	19,200	102	
Texas	Oct-Dec	200	200	100	50	
TOTAL		15,200	19,100	19,300	101	
CAULIFLOWER 1/						
California	Oct-Dec	8,500	8,300	7,900	95	
CELERY 1/						
California	Oct-Dec	6,800	7,100	7,000	99	
CORN, SWEET						
California	Oct-Dec	3,500	4,100	3,300	80	
Florida	Sep-Dec	1,700	4,200	5,500	131	
TOTAL		5,200	8,300	8,800	106	
HONEYDEW						
Arizona	Oct-Dec	1,300	1,200	1,500	125	
California	Oct-Dec	2,300	2,100	2,000	95	
TOTAL		3,600	3,300	3,500	106	
LETTUCE, HEAD						
California	Oct-Dec	31,000	33,000	30,000	91	
New Jersey 2/		100	200	---		
TOTAL		31,100	33,200	30,000	90	
TOMATOES						
California	Oct-Dec	11,000	11,000	11,500	105	
Florida	Sep-Dec	10,000	7,400	7,500	101	
TOTAL		21,000	18,400	19,000	103	

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

2/ Estimates discontinued in 2008.

SUMMER ONIONS

California's 2008 summer storage onion production is estimated at 12.9 million cwt., 1 percent below 2007. Harvested area is expected to be 30,000 acres, 2 percent less than last year. The yield is estimated at 430 cwt. per acre, 5 cwt. above the previous year. Planting of California's storage onion crop was on schedule. However, cool temperatures during the growing season delayed harvest. No major disease problems were reported.

Nationally, summer storage onion production is forecast at 51.5 million cwt., down 10 percent from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 99,620 acres, down 8 percent from 2007. The yield, at 517 cwt. per acre, is down 15 cwt. from last year.

SUMMER ONION ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Commodity	Harvested		For Harvest 2008	Yield Per Acre			Production		
	2006	2007		2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
	Acres			Cwt. Per Acre			1,000 Cwt.		
Non-Storage Total	19,900	20,700	19,600	531	548	529	10,562	11,347	10,378
Storage Total	110,480	107,780	99,620	466	532	517	51,487	57,305	51,505
California Storage 1/	31,800	30,500	30,000	425	425	430	13,515	12,975	12,900
U.S. TOTAL ONIONS 2/	164,980	159,480	148,220	444	495	492	73,177	78,882	72,883

1/ Primarily for dehydrated and other processing.

2/ Includes spring and summer onions.

Cash Income by Commodity Groups, California, 2005-2007 1/

Source of Income	2005	2006	2007
	\$1,000		
VEGETABLE CROPS			
Artichokes	39,453	44,814	49,339
Asparagus	80,850	61,124	70,180
Beans, Snap, Fresh	46,728	38,100	48,338
Broccoli, All	519,788	620,400	669,405
Cabbage	70,291	77,213	85,944
Carrots, All	462,476	451,165	494,916
Cauliflower	178,804	177,992	198,300
Celery	248,816	330,534	401,206
Corn, Sweet	103,918	82,598	107,827
Cucumbers, Fresh	23,637	22,750	20,535
Garlic	194,388	138,029	203,260
Lettuce	1,416,117	2,054,302	2,178,041
Melons, Cantaloupe	167,688	189,540	149,301
Melons, Honeydew	66,534	55,143	56,112
Melons, Watermelon	76,146	74,343	77,224
Mushrooms, Agaricus	172,301	174,215	181,603
Onions	194,539	207,182	345,042
Peppers, Chili	40,184	44,049	61,884
Peppers, Green	239,715	212,548	178,618
Pumpkins	14,355	15,105	13,356
Spinach, All	129,559	148,691	175,981
Squash	38,756	31,427	36,902
Tomatoes, Fresh	347,200	505,120	392,370
Tomatoes, Processing	572,160	660,802	849,365
Other Vegetable Crops	991,682	993,007	928,266
TOTAL	6,436,085	7,410,194	7,973,315

Source of Income	2005	2006	2007
	\$1,000		
FIELD CROPS	2,891,205	2,726,872	3,254,083
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	10,884,057	10,233,284	10,535,273
CHRISTMAS TREES	9,026	8,785	8,700
NURSERY, GREENHOUSE, AND FLORICULTURE	3,706,441	3,889,917	4,068,566
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, AND PRODUCTS	8,425,628	7,547,271	10,734,914
TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS	32,352,441	31,816,324	36,574,850
FARM RELATED INCOME 2/	2,382,123	2,799,247	2,519,230
GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING	34,734,564	34,615,571	39,094,080

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

Source: USDA's Economic Research Service

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