



United States
Department
of Agriculture

VGS-301

Feb. 26, 2004



Vegetables and Melons Outlook

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Processing Tomato Crop To Rise in 2004

According to early contract intentions, California tomato processors are looking for a larger crop in 2004. Intentions call for a California crop of 11 million short tons—up 20 percent from the weather-reduced crop of last year. This would also be the second-largest contract tomato crop on record. Contracts cover 95-99 percent of all processing tomatoes annually in the United States. The impact of larger supplies on tomato product prices will likely be muted by reduced beginning stocks, continued strong exports, and improved domestic demand.

Florida tomato growers expect to harvest 12,000 acres this winter—down 5 percent from a year ago and the smallest winter tomato area since 1998. Although area is down, Florida's shipments of round tomatoes, plum tomatoes, and cherry tomatoes have been running well above the lows of a year ago. With the exception of cherry tomatoes (for which volume is even with last winter), imports of both round and roma tomatoes from Mexico have been running 20-30 percent below last winter, due largely to delays caused by an earlier frost and a cooler-than-normal winter. Import volume is expected to rise in the month ahead.

In 2003, the U.S. trade balance in potatoes and potato products moved into deficit for the first time. Total U.S. exports were valued at \$646 million in 2003 (down 11 percent from 2002), while imports were valued at \$682 million (up 19 percent). The \$36 million deficit comes after a decades-long surplus, which peaked in 1995 at \$437 million.

Although there are strong market disincentives at work against dry beans this spring (weak dry bean prices and strong prices for competing crops), seeded area for dry edible beans is still expected to increase as much as one-tenth in 2004. However, it is likely that the increase in harvested area compared with a year ago will be smaller because an unusually large percentage of seeded area was harvestable in 2003. The 2003/04 season average grower price was estimated at \$17.80 per hundredweight (cwt), up just 4 percent from a year ago.

The income security provided by the marketing loan program, strong prices for peas and lentils, and the long term benefits of having pulses in a crop rotation may result in increased acreage being devoted to dry peas and lentils this spring. Much of the increase in area could occur in the upper Midwest and be primarily focused on dry peas.

This issue includes a commodity highlight focusing on fresh-market cucumbers.

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The next release is
April 21, 2004

Approved by the
World Agricultural
Outlook Board

Industry Overview

Fresh market vegetables: With periods of cool weather slowing growth in California, Arizona, and Mexico, shipments of most fresh vegetables have been running well below a year earlier. For the winter quarter (Jan.-Mar.), shipping-point prices for fresh-market vegetables are expected to average one-tenth above those of a year ago. The outlook for the spring quarter suggests fresh-market volume will increase and prices will average one-tenth below the highs of last spring.

Processing vegetables: Early processor intentions for the 2004 California processing tomato crop point to a 20-percent larger crop. However, an improved economy, reduced imports, and continued strong exports may limit any buildup in stocks and help mute price impacts implied by these intentions. Thus far, persistent rains have delayed seeding of the early crop of processing tomatoes.

Potatoes: Disappearance (usage) of potatoes through February 1 is down 2 percent from a year ago while shrink and loss is up 1 percent. In the nine major States, processors have used 101 million cwt, down 5 percent from last year but 5 percent more than 2 years ago. In January, the U.S. retail price for all white potatoes was \$0.457 per pound, down 5 percent from a year earlier.

Dry beans: Despite dwindling stocks for some classes, processors may be having a tough time convincing growers to plant dry beans this year. Relative to alternative crops, current dry bean prices are not attractive. Although prices are expected to move seasonally higher this spring, prices remain in the winter doldrums. With a small crop outweighing limited price gains, the preliminary estimate of the farm value of the 2003 dry bean was \$412 million, down 20 percent from a year ago.

Dry peas and lentils: The first estimate of Dec. 1 stocks of dry peas, lentils, and small chickpeas indicated that there were 2.876 million cwt of dry peas and 1.233 million cwt of lentils stored in all positions. Lentil prices remain strong, with dealer prices for brewers in mid-February averaging \$24.50/cwt—up 2 percent from a year ago. Dealer prices for green split peas were averaging \$17.50/cwt—2 percent below the strong year-earlier prices but 31 percent above the average of the previous 5 years.

Mushrooms: During the first half (July-December) of the 2003/04 crop year, the value of U.S. imports for all mushrooms increased 11 percent to \$102 million. The value of fresh-market imports rose 22 percent to \$36 million, while canned imports rose 9 percent to \$53 million. With higher export unit values, the value of all exports rose 88 percent during this time to \$19 million.

Table 1--U.S. vegetable industry: Area, production, crop value, unit value, trade, and per capita use, 2002-04 1/

Item	Unit	2002	2003	2004
<i>Area harvested</i>	1,000 ac.	6,877	6,564	6,720
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	1,000 ac.	1,945	1,946	1,950
Processing	1,000 ac.	1,347	1,344	1,340
Potatoes	1,000 ac.	1,270	1,250	1,260
Dry beans	1,000 ac.	1,727	1,347	1,455
Other 2/	1,000 ac.	587	677	715
<i>Production</i>	Mil. cw t	1,326	1,292	1,306
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	Mil. cw t	464	463	450
Processing	Mil. cw t	344	315	335
Potatoes	Mil. cw t	460	459	465
Dry beans	Mil. cw t	30	23	25
Other 2/	Mil. cw t	28	32	31
<i>Crop value</i>	\$ mil.	15,618	15,432	15,368
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	9,452	9,665	9,500
Processing	\$ mil.	1,396	1,371	1,390
Potatoes	\$ mil.	3,064	2,687	2,800
Dry beans	\$ mil.	514	412	468
Other 2/	\$ mil.	1,193	1,297	1,210
<i>Unit value 3/</i>	\$/cw t	11.79	11.88	11.77
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$/cw t	20.39	20.86	21.11
Processing	\$/cw t	4.06	4.36	4.15
Potatoes	\$/cw t	6.69	5.85	5.90
Dry beans	\$/cw t	17.10	17.80	19.00
Other 2/	\$/cw t	42.26	40.30	38.72
<i>Trade</i>				
<i>Imports</i>	\$ mil.	4,818	5,431	5,595
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	2,617	3,024	3,125
Processing	\$ mil.	1,189	1,276	1,290
Potatoes	\$ mil.	575	682	700
Dry beans	\$ mil.	67	49	60
Other 4/	\$ mil.	369	400	420
<i>Exports</i>	\$ mil.	3,274	3,318	3,413
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	1,204	1,298	1,345
Processing	\$ mil.	798	799	823
Potatoes	\$ mil.	723	646	655
Dry beans	\$ mil.	180	164	165
Other 4/	\$ mil.	369	411	425
<i>Per capita use</i>	Pounds	437	444	446
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	Pounds	170	171	173
Processing	Pounds	119	121	122
Potatoes	Pounds	132	135	135
Dry beans	Pounds	7	7	7
Other 2/	Pounds	9	9	9

1/ ERS forecasts for 2004. 2/ Other includes sweet potatoes, dry peas, lentils, and mushrooms. 3/ Ratio of total value to total production. 4/ Other includes mushrooms, dry peas, lentils, sweet potatoes, and vegetable seed.

Sources: ERS and National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Fresh-Market Vegetables

Winter Acreage Up 1 Percent

Although cool temperatures have done little damage to vegetables this winter, the resulting erratic growth rates have complicated harvest and shipping schedules and added more uncertainty to day-to-day market volume. Although prices for crops such as head lettuce have experienced the usual winter-season variations, the highs may have been moderated by cooler demand in eastern population centers suffering a colder-than-usual winter.

Winter season (largely Jan.-Mar.) prospective fresh market vegetable area for harvest was forecast to rise 1 percent to 181,400 acres. Area increased in California (up 3 percent) and Arizona (up 1 percent), remained constant in Texas, but declined in Florida (down 3 percent). Although carrots (down 2 percent) were the only California crop expecting to harvest fewer acres, the majority of the gain in that State came from a 2,500-acre increase in broccoli. Area for harvest dropped 3 percent in Florida as only sweet corn (up 6 percent) growers expected to harvest more area than a year ago. Although there have been periods of heavy rains and cool temperatures, Florida appears poised to pass another winter without a killing frost.

Florida growers expect to harvest 5 percent fewer acres of tomatoes this winter. At 12,000 acres, this is the smallest winter tomato area since 1998 and is 25 percent less than area harvested in 1999. Although area is down, Florida's shipments of round tomatoes, plum tomatoes, and cherry tomatoes have been running well above the lows of a year ago since the start of the new year. With the exception of cherry tomatoes (for which volume is even with last winter), imports of round and roma tomatoes from Mexico have been running 20-30 percent

Table 3--Winter-season fresh-market vegetable area 1/

Item	2002	2003	2004	Change
				2003-04
		--Acres--	--Acres--	Percent
Snap beans	12,000	11,600	11,000	-5
Broccoli	25,500	26,500	29,000	9
Cabbage	12,400	12,300	12,500	2
Carrots	23,600	22,500	22,000	-2
Cauliflower	8,800	8,500	8,800	4
Celery	7,500	7,500	7,600	1
Sweet corn	8,400	7,900	8,400	6
Head lettuce	64,500	63,000	63,500	1
Bell pepper	5,600	5,800	5,100	-12
Spinach	2,200	1,700	1,500	-12
Tomatoes	12,500	12,600	12,000	-5
Total	183,000	179,900	181,400	1

1/ Selected crops for harvest largely during Jan.-Mar.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

below last winter, due largely to delays caused by an earlier frost and a cooler-than-normal winter. Import volume is expected to increase in the month ahead.

During the first quarter, shipping-point prices for all fresh-market vegetables are expected to average about one-tenth above those of a year earlier. Since the farm price accounts for roughly 25 percent of the retail price of fresh vegetables, any impact on retail prices this winter is likely to be small.

The outlook for the spring quarter currently suggests fresh vegetable shipping-point prices are likely to average 5 to 10 percent below the highs of a year earlier. Although prices during April to June could average higher for asparagus, celery, and sweet corn, lower f.o.b. prices for crops such as lettuce, tomatoes, and snap beans are projected to be more than offsetting.

Table 2--U.S. quarterly f.o.b. shipping-point prices, selected vegetables, 2003-2004

Commodity	2003				2004				Change First Q 1/ Percent
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	First *	Second *	Third *	Fourth *	
	--- Dollars per 100 lb ---								
Asparagus	99.73	116.33	162.33	145.00	140.00	125.00	156.00	--	40.4
Broccoli	27.47	27.13	35.30	44.70	32.00	26.25	33.10	37.00	16.5
Carrots	19.03	19.73	20.13	21.70	21.00	19.50	18.40	18.00	10.4
Cauliflower	28.63	37.80	30.90	54.73	33.50	35.30	28.65	41.00	17.0
Celery	10.90	12.45	12.43	17.27	19.00	17.10	12.75	13.75	74.3
Sweet corn	23.97	15.60	19.13	24.77	25.50	18.05	20.05	24.00	6.4
Cucumbers	24.90	20.60	23.00	17.00	26.00	18.85	22.50	17.75	4.4
Lettuce, head	10.88	22.50	19.10	32.40	15.00	18.00	18.25	17.00	37.9
Onions, dry bulb	16.60	32.33	14.90	14.73	17.00	25.00	14.00	12.00	2.4
Snap beans	58.43	58.43	52.87	49.70	61.00	45.20	56.90	53.25	4.4
Tomatoes, field-grown	43.43	32.67	40.63	33.17	33.00	29.50	28.50	36.00	-24.0
All vegetable index 2/	778	960	899	1,093	872	905	890	875	12.1

-- = not available. * = ERS forecast. 1/ Change for first-quarter 2004 over first-quarter 2003. 2/ Index base is 1910-14=100.

Source: Derived from data published by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 4--Selected fresh-market vegetable shipments 1/

Item	December	January		Change
	2003	2003	2004	2003-04
		--1,000 cwt--		Percent
Snap beans	307	267	236	-12
Broccoli	822	1,142	949	-17
Cabbage	1,331	1,438	1,289	-10
Cantaloup	1,251	1,417	1,072	-24
Carrots	796	981	745	-24
Cauliflower	322	550	515	-6
Celery	1,676	1,617	1,534	-5
Sweet corn	336	455	391	-14
Eggplant	189	215	163	-24
Head lettuce	3,112	3,509	2,566	-27
Dry onions	3,914	4,291	3,699	-14
Bell pepper	1,098	1,446	1,246	-14
Spinach	110	132	94	-29
Tomatoes	3,943	4,994	4,330	-13
Cherry tomato	343	352	444	26
Watermelon	541	656	655	0
Total	19,207	22,454	18,829	-16

1/ Data for 2003 and 2004 are preliminary.

Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

Spring Onion Area Up 1 Percent

Fresh-market onion prices were exceptionally strong during the spring of 2003 due to reduced shipments caused primarily by reduced area in south Texas due to drought. Shipping-point prices averaged \$32.33 per cwt during Apr.-June 2003—double that of the previous year. There have been reports of a foliar disease in a few fields of the Georgia Vidalia onion crop but any possible impact on yield and production cannot be determined at this time. Even if this disease does not affect yields greatly this year, the growing weather this season has been less than ideal and may set the stage for another year of above-average spring onion prices. Although prices could exceed the average of the past several years, it is unlikely that prices will breach last year's spring-season record-high.

Meanwhile, the Texas spring onion crop is said to be in good condition and progressing well in the Rio Grande Valley (which accounts for two-thirds of the acreage) and in the Winter Garden and Laredo areas. Texas is the largest domestic source of spring-season onions, accounting for 42 percent of output during 2001-03. Spring onions account for one-sixth of all onions grown annually and typically feature some of the highest prices of all onions grown. These strong prices helped produce an average farm value of \$230 million during 2001-03—more than one-fourth of the national onion crop value.

Import and Export Value Rise Again

During January-December 2003, the volume of fresh-market vegetable imports (excluding potatoes,

mushrooms, melons, and pulses) rose 6 percent from a year earlier. With unfavorable weather paring supplies and pushing domestic prices up from the spring through the end of the year, the value of imports jumped 18 percent to \$2.8 billion. The following were the top ten fresh import crops in terms of Jan.-Dec. volume (in rank order):

1. Tomatoes (all), up 9 percent from 2002;
2. Cucumbers, up 2 percent;
3. Onions (dry-bulb), up 9 percent;
4. Bell peppers (non-pungent), up 1 percent;
5. Squash (excl. calabaza), up 17 percent;
6. Chile peppers, up 14 percent;
7. Asparagus, up 18 percent;
8. Carrots, down 2 percent;
9. Broccoli, down 6 percent;
10. Garlic, down 5 percent.

Fresh-market asparagus imports surged in 2003 despite a 10-percent increase in domestic production. Greater import volume also reflected higher average shipping-point prices (up 5 percent) and increasing consumer demand. Americans consumed 323 million pounds of fresh-market asparagus in 2003 or 1.1 pounds per capita—the highest since 1947. Peru was the leading foreign supplier with 55 percent of 2003 imports followed by Mexico with 42 percent. Imports accounted for 66 percent of fresh-market disappearance in 2003—up from 47 percent in 1993 and 20 percent in 1983.

Fresh-market vegetable export volume declined 1 percent in calendar 2003 as higher shipping-point prices likely offset the benefits of a weaker dollar. In terms of value, fresh exports rose 9 percent to \$1.2 billion. Fresh melon export value rose 1 percent despite an 8-percent reduction in volume.

Table 5--Selected fresh-market import volume

Item	January - December			Change
	2001	2002	2003	2002-03
	--1,000 cwt--			Percent
Asparagus	1,568	1,803	2,125	18
Snap beans	544	592	567	-4
Broccoli	1,141	1,253	1,178	-6
Cabbage	1,134	996	778	-22
Carrots	2,014	1,902	1,872	-2
Cauliflower	150	200	198	-1
Celery	810	907	597	-34
Sweet corn	490	521	497	-5
Cucumbers	8,115	8,457	8,660	2
Lettuce, head	458	1,066	941	-12
Onions, all	6,326	5,954	6,463	9
Tomatoes	18,156	18,962	20,707	9
Cantaloupes	10,701	11,086	10,764	-3
Watermelon	4,835	4,514	4,892	8

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Processing Vegetables

Larger Tomato Crop In Prospect for 2004

According to an early contract intentions estimate, California tomato processors may be looking for a larger crop in 2004. Intentions call for a California crop of 11 million short tons—up 20 percent from the weather-reduced crop of last year. This would also be the second-largest contract crop on record. Tomato yields in the Golden State have been trending higher but were sliced 12 percent in 2003 from the previous year to 33.77 short tons—the lowest since 1998. The 2004 intentions were based on a trend yield of 37.8 tons, which would be the third highest after that of 2002 (37.99 tons) and 2000 (37.96 tons). Processing tomato contract area planted would rise 2 percent to 291,000 in 2004—the highest since 1999. Little change in grower price is expected.

This industry-funded early survey, which more often indicates a larger crop than is finally realized, is a precursor to the April 2 USDA intentions report and gives firms within the industry a chance to rethink initial supply positions prior to final commitment. Contracts cover 95-99 percent of all processing tomato area annually in the United States. California accounted for 94 percent of annual U.S. processing tomato output in 2003.

Assuming California produces 11 million tons and another 500,000 tons comes from other States, a crop of 11.5 million tons in 2004 may result in an increase of less than 10 percent in December 1 stocks. Although the crop size and beginning stocks would be similar to 2002, Dec. 2004 stocks would be much lower than in 2002 because imports (although likely higher than 2003) are expected to be lower, exports are expected to remain relatively strong, and domestic demand will be supported by the slowly recovering general economy.

On a calendar year basis, 2003 export volume for processed tomato products was record large. Low prices, a more favorable exchange rate, and production shortfalls in some countries led to the 19-percent increase in volume (expressed on a fresh-weight basis) over 2002. Greater volume was shipped to Mexico, Canada, Japan, and Australia. Exports to Mexico were valued at \$31 million—exceeding the 2001 record-high. Although exports to Japan rose 19 percent to \$21 million, exports remain well below the 1995 peak of \$36 million.

Table 7--Value of processed vegetable trade 1/

Item	January - December			Change 2002-03 Percent
	2001	2002	2003	
--Million dollars--				
Imports:				
Canned	532	606	643	6
Frozen	305	347	398	15
Dehydrated 2/	183	236	235	0
Exports:				
Canned	523	512	522	2
Frozen	162	160	154	-4
Dehydrated 2/	128	126	123	-2

1/ Excludes potatoes and mushrooms. 2/ Includes dried.

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 8--Production of selected canning crops

Year	2001	2002	2003	Change 2002-03 2/
	1,000 short tons			Percent
Tomatoes	9,248.7	11,656.8	9,812.1	-16
Sweet corn	1,517.6	1,428.0	1,556.3	9
Snap beans	441.2	562.9	503.5	-11
Green peas	155.8	137.7	209.1	52
Cucumbers	581.5	619.3	648.4	5
Total	11,944.8	14,404.7	12,729.4	-12

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 6--Processing vegetables: Consumer and producer price indexes

Item	Jan. 2004	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2003	Change previous:		July-Sep. 2003	Oct.-Dec. 2002 2003		Change previous:	
	Index			Month	Year	2003	2002	2003	Quarter	Year
Consumer Price Indexes (12/97=100)										
Processed fruits and vegetables	115	112	113	2.4	1.9	116	113	113	-2.2	0.4
Canned vegetables	116	112	114	3.5	1.7	118	115	114	-3.5	-0.4
Frozen vegetables (1982-84=100)	176	173	169	1.8	4.3	175	170	173	-1.4	1.6
Dry beans, peas, lentils	109	109	110	-0.3	-1.1	109	111	109	0.1	-1.4
Olives, pickles, relishes	108	105	105	2.6	2.8	107	111	107	-0.4	-3.6
Producer Price Indexes (1982=100)										
Canned vegetables and juices	--	131	129	--	--	129	129	131	1.4	1.5
Pickles and products	--	180	180	--	--	180	180	180	0.0	-0.2
Tomato catsup and sauces 1/	--	126	123	--	--	124	123	125	1.3	2.2
Canned dry beans	--	125	124	--	--	123	124	124	0.7	0.6
Vegetable juices 1/	--	111	111	--	--	109	111	110	0.8	-0.7
Frozen vegetables	--	135	133	--	--	134	132	135	0.5	2.1
Dried/dehydrated vegetables 2/	--	156	182	--	--	164	184	156	-5.1	-15.4

-- = Not available. 1/ Index base year is 1987. 2/ Includes fruit as of 1/04. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor.

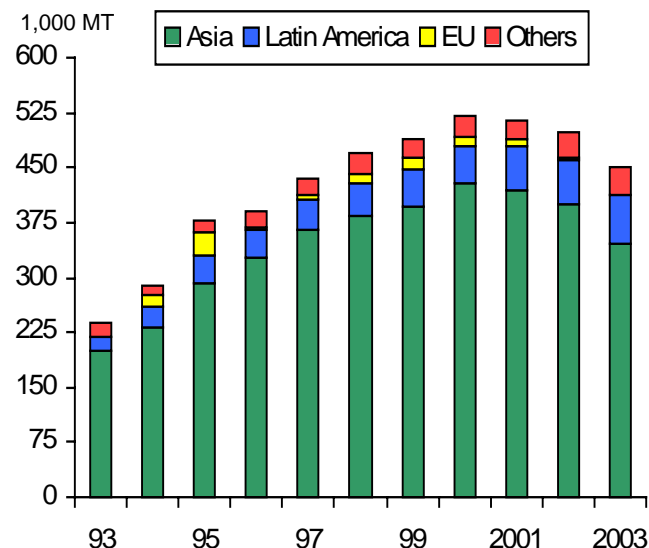
First-Ever Annual Potato Trade Deficit

In 2003, the U.S. trade balance in potatoes and potato products was in deficit for the first time ever. Total U.S. exports were valued at \$646 million in 2003 (down 11 percent from 2002), while imports were valued at \$682 million (up 19 percent). The \$36 million deficit came after a decades-long surplus, which peaked in 1995 at \$437 million.

The ever-increasing surpluses had been led primarily by the growth of frozen french fry exports, which were spurred on by the boom of quick service restaurants around the world. However, over the past 10 to 15 years, Canadian production of frozen potato products has expanded tremendously, and imports of Canadian fries to the U.S. have grown an average of 23 percent annually (volume) since 1989, totaling 1,525 million pounds in 2003 valued at \$435 million. Total U.S. exports of frozen fries, conversely, have grown at an average of 9 percent annually since 1989. However, frozen fry exports have actually declined for the past 2 years, totaling 936 million pounds in 2003, with an export value of \$313 million.

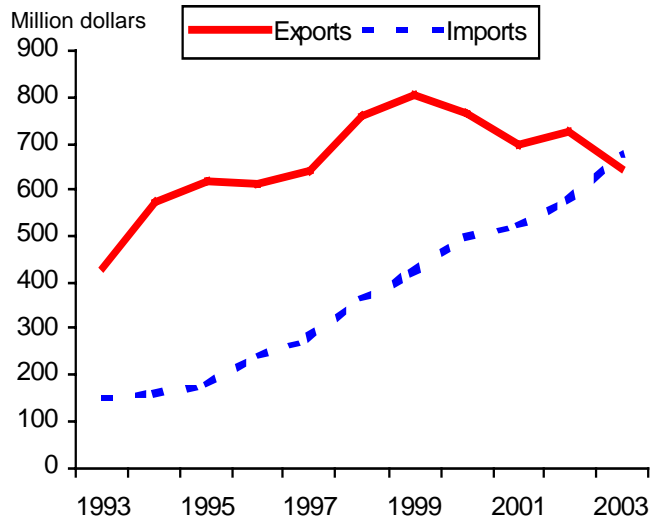
This is also the third consecutive year total frozen potato product exports have declined (fig.#1). While overall weaker economies and increased competition from other major frozen potato producing countries such as Canada and the Netherlands can explain part of the decline, it appears that overall demand for frozen potato products may be in decline. U.S. exports of frozen potato products to Asia have led the decline since 2000, with

Figure 1
U.S. frozen potato export volume, selected regions



Source: USDA, ERS, FATUS.

Figure 2
U.S. potato import and export value



Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

the largest drop coming in exports to Japan, the leading single-country U.S. frozen potato export market. Export volume to Japan declined between 2 and 4 percent annually from 1999 to 2002, and declined by 13 percent in 2003. However, several Asian countries, particularly China and India, still show vast potential for increased demand for frozen potato products in the coming years, and could help to spur growth in U.S. exports once again.

Exports for most other potato categories in 2003 were also down from year-previous levels, perhaps most notably for fresh potatoes (volume down 16 percent, value down 29 percent), and potato chips (volume down 21 percent, value down 13 percent). Fresh exports to Canada (the largest U.S. fresh export market) fell 25 percent below 2002 levels, while the largest declines in chip exports in 2003 were to Canada, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, and Hong Kong.

The only potato categories to exhibit increased export value in 2003 were seed (volume down 2 percent, value up 10 percent), other frozen (volume up 10 percent, value up 7 percent), other preserved potatoes (volume up 2 percent, value up 5 percent), and flakes and granules (volume up 54 percent, value up 19 percent). Much of the increased exports of flakes and granules were destined for Mexico where they were used to manufacture a new potato chip product which was then exported back to the United States. Exports of flakes and granules to Mexico rose from 9 million pounds in 2002 to 46 million pounds in 2003, while imports of potato chips from Mexico rose from just 103,491 pounds in 2002 to 23 million pounds in 2003.

Acreage May Rise Modestly in 2004

Seeded area for dry edible beans (including garbanzo beans) is expected to increase as much as one-tenth in 2004. However, it is likely that the increase in harvested area will be less than that of planted area. In 2003, an unusually large percentage of seeded area was harvested (96 percent—the highest since 1991). It is likely that national acreage abandonment will return to the average of the previous 10 years (9 percent). Assuming average yields, this could have a moderating influence on potential dry bean supplies in the coming year. USDA will release the first survey-based estimate of planting intentions on March 31.

There are strong disincentives at work against dry beans this spring. Key factors arguing against planting dry beans include low, sluggish prices for most dry bean classes, very attractive prices for soybeans, and favorable prices for corn, wheat, and other grains. In addition, domestic dry bean disappearance appears to be under some pressure. There may be confusion and hesitation among some consumers regarding diet and health with all the media and food industry hype surrounding low-carb diets. Per capita dry bean use during the first 4 years of this decade (2000-03) averaged about 3 percent less than during 1990-93.

At this time, the outlook for 2004 dry bean area calls for increased acreage for classes such as navy, black, dark red kidney, cranberry, and pinto beans, with reduced area expected for Great Northern and blackeye beans. Marginal changes (favoring slight gains) are expected for small red, light red kidney, limas, and pink beans.

The farm value of the 2003 dry bean crop was estimated to be down 20 percent to \$412 million, as output fell 25 percent and the season average price for all dry beans was estimated to have risen just 4 percent to \$17.80/cwt.

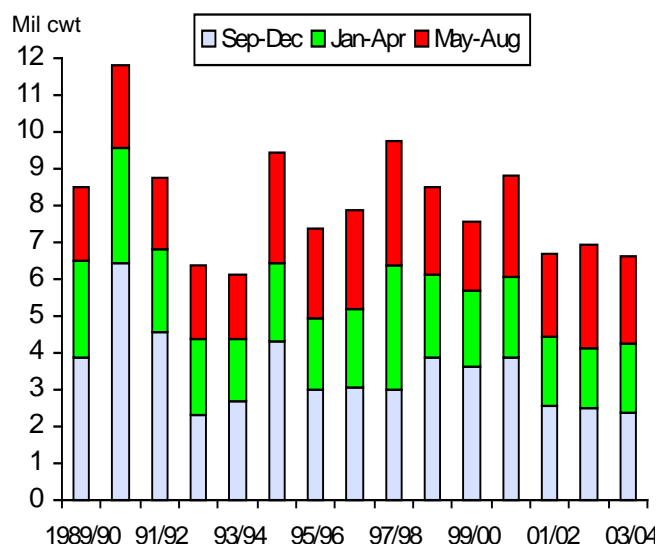
Table 9--U.S. dry beans: Monthly grower prices for selected classes, 2002-2004

Commodity	2002		2003		2004	Change from prev year:			
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	--- Cents per pound ---					--- Percent ---			
All dry beans	15.90	16.10	16.40	19.20	17.20	17.40	20.8	6.8	6.1
Pinto (ND/MN)	14.00	13.83	13.00	14.38	14.50	14.63	2.7	4.8	12.5
Navy (pea bean) (MI)	11.00	11.00	11.00	17.75	17.67	17.50	61.4	60.6	59.1
Great Northern (NE/WY)	18.00	18.00	18.00	15.25	15.00	15.00	-15.3	-16.7	-16.7
Black (MI)	11.50	11.50	11.50	18.25	18.25	18.25	58.7	58.7	58.7
Light red kidney (MI)	21.50	21.50	21.50	22.75	22.75	22.75	5.8	5.8	5.8
Dark red kidney (MN/WI)	17.00	17.00	17.00	21.00	21.50	21.75	23.5	26.5	27.9
Small red (ID)	20.00	20.00	20.00	21.00	20.50	21.00	5.0	2.5	5.0
Baby lima (CA)	30.25	29.92	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	-0.8	0.3	0.0
Large lima (CA)	41.00	40.67	40.50	41.00	41.00	41.00	0.0	0.8	1.2
Blackeye (CA)	31.38	31.33	32.08	28.25	28.00	28.00	-10.0	-10.6	-12.7
Pink (ID)	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cranberry (MI)	17.50	17.50	17.00	21.00	20.50	20.63	20.0	17.1	21.4

Source: *Bean Market News*, AMS, USDA.

Figure 3

U.S. dry beans: Export volume, 1989/90-2003/04 *



* ERS forecasts for 2003/04.

Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

North Dakota growers received 29 percent of U.S. crop value with \$119 million—down 22 percent from a year ago. Nebraska's dry bean crop was valued 17 percent lower at \$54 million. California was third largest in terms of dry bean crop value at \$49 million—17 percent of the national total.

Export Volume Down 14 Percent

With lower pinto, navy, and red kidney volume, U.S. dry bean exports dropped 14 percent from a year earlier during September to December 2003. Black and Great Northern volume was up. Although dry bean volume shipped to Mexico was about even and sales to Japan were up 21 percent, movement to the United Kingdom (down 48 percent) and Canada (down 12 percent) fell.

Dry Peas and Lentils

Increased Area Likely This Spring

The income security provided by the marketing loan program, strong prices for peas and lentils, and the long term benefits of having pulses in a crop rotation may result in increased acreage being devoted to dry peas and lentils this spring. This will likely occur despite strong prices this January for competing grains such as soybeans (up 42 percent from a year ago), corn, and flax. Partly offsetting this are lower prices for many classes of wheat (including durum and other spring), barley, and potatoes. It appears that much of the increase in pulse crop area could occur within the industry growth areas of the upper Midwest and be primarily focused on dry peas—a crop which is also saleable in world animal feed markets. Although lentil area is projected to show an increase of 4 to 8 percent due to a second consecutive year of strong prices, area planted to dry peas could rise more than a fourth as grower prices have strengthened and available stocks are apparently being closely held.

After two consecutive years of declining area, chickpea acreage is also expected to increase modestly, but most of this gain will be in the large-seeded kabulis. Small chickpea demand remains relatively limited in the United States. The first USDA release indicating 2004 acreage for dry peas and lentils will be released in the July 12 *Crop Production* report.

Loan Deficiency Payments Update

As expected, the majority of producers eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan for 2003 crop dry peas opted to forgo the loan and instead obtain a loan deficiency payment (LDP). Through February 18, there were 3,554 LDPs made covering 5.1 million cwt of dry peas. With

Table 11--U.S. dry peas & lentils: Export volume by class

Item	Sept.-Aug.	Sept.-Dec.		Percent change
	2002/03	2002	2003	
--Million pounds--				
Green peas	158.2	57.1	58.8	3
Yellow peas	29.5	7.1	12.1	71
Split peas	12.7	4.0	3.2	-19
Chickpeas	34.5	14.8	3.7	-75
Austrian winter	2.0	1.3	0.9	-36
Misc. dry peas	24.4	11.5	8.1	-30
Lentils	188.4	70.3	69.1	-2
Total	449.7	166.1	155.9	-6

Excludes planting seed. Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

an average payment rate of \$2.68/cwt, the value of these LDPs was \$13.7 million. About half of the payments went to North Dakota (a third of this to Divide and McLean counties), with 45 percent spread among growers in Washington, Idaho, and Montana. There have been no LDPs for 2003 crop lentils due to strong market prices and only \$107,000 of 2003 crop chickpea LDPs. LDPs for the 2003 dry pea, lentil, and small chickpea crops will be available until May 31.

Crop Value Up in 2003/04

Based on preliminary estimates of season average prices, the value of U.S. dry pea (including Austrian winter peas) and lentil production totaled \$76 million in 2003—up 8 percent from a year earlier and the highest since 1998. Dry pea crop value increased 4 percent to \$34 million as increased production outweighed an estimated 15-percent drop in the season average price. The value of lentil production rose 12 percent as the estimated season average price increased 15 percent to \$16.40/cwt.

Table 10--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Selected monthly dealer and grower prices, 2002-2004

Commodity	2002		2003	2003		2004	Change from prev. year:		
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
--- Cents per pound ---							--- Percent ---		
<i>Dealer prices:</i>									
Green peas, whole	13.50	13.75	14.75	13.88	14.00	14.31	2.8	1.8	-3.0
Yellow peas, whole	12.56	13.83	13.42	12.00	12.25	12.56	-4.5	-11.4	-6.4
Green peas, split	16.50	16.75	17.83	16.25	16.25	16.56	-1.5	-3.0	-7.1
Yellow peas, split	15.56	14.92	16.83	14.81	15.00	15.50	-4.8	0.5	-7.9
Lentils, brewer	18.63	19.46	22.08	22.38	22.50	23.38	20.1	15.6	5.9
Lentils, pardina	17.28	17.38	20.67	25.81	26.50	26.31	49.4	52.5	27.3
Austrian winter peas	17.75	17.25	--	17.97	18.00	--	1.2	4.3	--
<i>Grower prices:</i>									
Green peas, whole	7.91	8.33	8.25	8.84	9.13	9.56	11.8	9.6	15.9
Yellow peas, whole	7.34	7.58	8.60	7.53	7.75	7.91	2.6	2.2	-8.0
Lentils, brewer	13.81	14.25	14.33	16.88	16.50	17.00	22.2	15.8	18.6
Austrian winter peas	9.83	10.50	13.45	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.9	4.8	-18.2

-- = not available. Source: Simple average of weekly PNW data from *Bean Market News*, AMS, USDA.

Fresh Imports Up, Exports Flat

During the first half of the 2003/04 marketing year, fresh market imports of mushrooms rose 13 percent. If this growth rate continues during the second half of the marketing year, fresh market imports will reach a record 61 million pounds—double the levels of 1999. In 2002/03, imports accounted for 7 percent of fresh mushroom consumption—up from less than 1 percent a decade earlier.

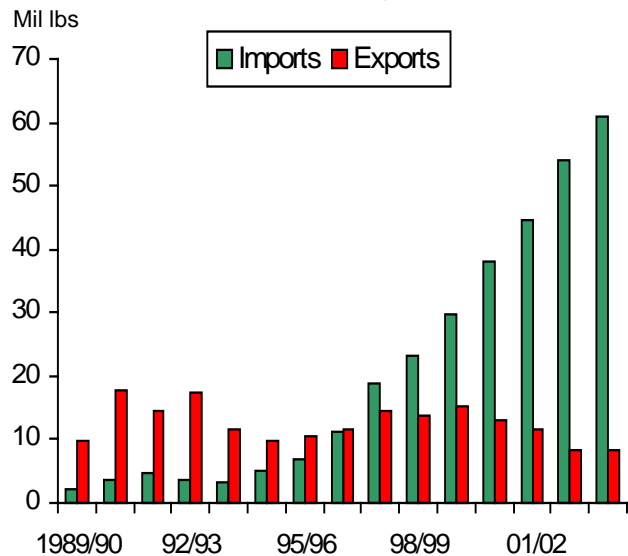
Fresh imports have been moving higher since the mid-1990s with the majority of the volume (more than 90 percent) coming from Canada. Since the mid-1990s, rising demand for fresh mushrooms and the strong U.S. dollar vis-a-vis the Canadian dollar has benefited Canadian exporters. Most of the volume coming in from Canada consists of traditional white button (*Agaricus*) mushrooms.

In 2002/03, Canada (95 percent), Mexico (just under 3 percent) and China (just under 2 percent) were the top three sources of fresh *Agaricus* mushrooms. Small quantities also came from nine other countries. China (55 percent), Canada (21 percent), and South Korea (8 percent) were the top three foreign sources of fresh market specialty mushrooms in 2002/03. Imports of U.S. specialty mushrooms originated in 21 countries last season.

During the first 6 months of 2003/04, the volume of fresh mushroom exports were running even with the previous year. However, export value was much greater due to higher unit values, especially during the Oct.-Dec. period. In 2002/03, about 86 percent of U.S. mushroom export volume consisted of *Agaricus*

Figure 4

U.S. fresh mushrooms: Trade, 1989/90-2003/04



Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

mushrooms. About 97 percent of these were shipped to Canada. Another 2 percent were shipped to Mexico, with the remaining 1 percent split among seven other countries. Specialty mushroom exports were shipped to Canada (55 percent), Japan (28 percent), and Taiwan (5 percent), with the remainder split among 17 countries.

The trend in fresh export volume has failed to keep pace with domestic supplies over the past decade. In 2002/03, about 1 percent of domestic mushroom supplies were exported. Export share, which averaged 2.4 percent during the 1990s (up from 0.6 percent in the 1980s), has been trending lower since peaking at 3.4 percent in 1990.

Fresh Output Trending Higher

Fresh-market mushroom production has been trending higher since data were first reported by USDA in 1965. Between 1980 and 2000, fresh mushroom production registered a strong upward trend of about 18 million pounds annually. Based on this trend, estimated production for the 2003/04 year would be about 725 million pounds (*Agaricus* and specialties). However, output this season may fall below trend due to adverse weather conditions this past fall.

Table 12--Value of mushroom trade 1/

Item	Crop year 2002/03	July - December		Change 2002-03
		2002	2003	
--Million dollars--				
Imports:				
Fresh	61.6	29.4	35.7	22
Canned	110.1	48.6	52.9	9
Frozen	3.9	1.6	3.1	93
Dehydrated	21.7	10.1	8.0	-20
Exports:				
Fresh	11.4	7.1	12.4	73
Canned	2.1	1.2	2.2	77
Dehydrated	3.3	1.8	4.7	155

1/ Includes specialties but excludes spawn and truffles.

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Commodity Highlight: Fresh-market Cucumbers

Originating in India, cucumbers were brought to the New World by Columbus, and cucumbers have been grown in the U.S. for several centuries. Cucumbers are members of the cucurbit family and are related to gourds, gherkins, pumpkins, squash, and watermelon.

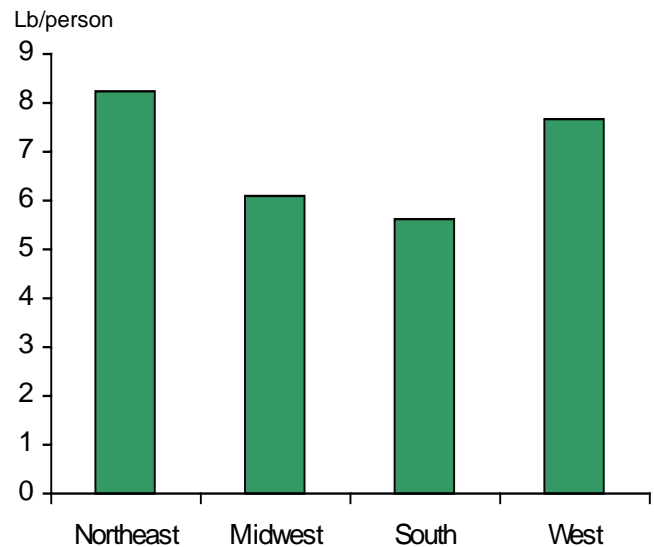
The U.S. produces 3 percent of the world's cucumbers, ranking fourth behind China (62 percent), Turkey, and Iran. Produced year-round, U.S. fresh-market cucumber production reached a record-high in 1999 but has trended lower since. Florida and Georgia are the leading fresh-market cucumber States, each with about 25 percent of the Nation's output during 2001-03.

There is limited overlap between the U.S. fresh and processing cucumber industries because of differences in varieties and methods of production and marketing. Fresh-market cucumbers are hand-harvested, while many pickling cucumbers are harvested by machine.

Fresh prices are generally higher January to April (because of limited domestic supplies and higher production costs) and lowest in June when supplies are available from many areas. The farm price (f.o.b. shipping-point) generally accounts for about 25 percent of the retail value for fresh cucumbers.

Imports are strongest January and February when U.S. production is limited by cool weather and weakest in summer during the height of the domestic season. Imports accounted for 45 percent of U.S. fresh cucumber consumption during 2001-03—up from 38 percent in the 1990s and 37 percent in the 1980s. In 2003, the majority of imports came from Mexico (86 percent) and Canada (9 percent). During 2001-03, about 3 percent of fresh export volume was exported, compared with about 5 percent in both the 1980s and 1990s. Canada takes 98 percent of U.S. fresh cucumber exports.

Figure 5
U.S. fresh-market cucumbers: Use by region, 2002



Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

About 60 percent of cucumber consumption is in fresh form, with the remainder in processed (largely pickled) products. Per-capita use of all cucumbers has risen during each of the past four decades. Per capita use averaged 10.9 pounds during 2000-03, up from 10.2 in the 1990s, 9.8 in the 1980s and 8.9 pounds in the 1970s. Fresh-market use has accounted for all the growth over the past 20 years, because pickling use has been on a slow decline since peaking in 1976 at 6.1 pounds. Fresh use reached a record-high 6.8 pounds in 1999, 44 percent higher than 1989. This level was nearly matched in 2002 (6.7 pounds).

According to the USDA 1994-1996 Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals, 85 percent of fresh cucumbers are consumed at home. This may reflect limited uses for fresh cucumbers in fast food establishments and on mainstream restaurant menus.

Table 13--U.S. fresh-market cucumbers: Supply, utilization, and price

Period	Supply			Utilization			Season-average price		
	Production 1/	Imports 2/	Total	Exports 2/	Domestic	Per capita use	Current dollars 1/	Constant dollars 3/	
	-- Million pounds --						Pounds	-- \$/cwt --	
1970-79	499.7	205.1	704.8	29.6	675.2	3.13	9.88	25.07	
1980-89	735.7	394.1	1,129.8	60.8	1,069.0	4.49	14.30	20.03	
1990-99	996.2	566.0	1,562.2	72.7	1,489.5	5.60	18.02	18.69	
2000-02	1,104.0	806.9	1,910.9	58.0	1,852.9	6.49	19.43	17.84	
2003	1,011.3	866.0	1,877.3	47.6	1,829.7	6.27	19.50	17.19	
2004 f	1,080.0	885.0	1,965.0	57.0	1,908.0	6.47	--	--	

-- = Not available. f = ERS forecast. 1/ Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. 2/ Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. For 1978-89, exports were adjusted by ERS using Canadian import data. 3/ Constant dollar prices were calculated using the GDP deflator, 1996=100.

Articles

The following are links to articles released on subjects directly related to the vegetable and melon industry. These articles are in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format.

1. Factors Affecting Spinach Consumption

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/VGS/jan04/vgs30001/>

Analyzes U.S. fresh-market and processed spinach demand, shedding new light on the distribution of U.S. spinach consumption across different market channels, geographic regions, and population groups. The analysis indicates that consumption is greatest in the Northeast and West and strongest among Asians, highest among women 40 and older, and weakest among teenage girls.

2. Produce, Food Safety, and International Trade

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aer828/aer828g.pdf>

Reviews the private and public responses to food safety problems of imported produce by examining three cases: Guatemalan raspberries, Mexican strawberries, and Mexican cantaloupe. Outbreaks of foodborne illness associated with imports affect U.S. consumers, growers of the contaminated product, and frequently U.S. producers. While the three cases focus on fruit, the lessons learned also apply to vegetables.

3. Factors Affecting U.S. Mushroom Consumption

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/VGS/mar03/vgs29501/>

Examines the consumption distribution of fresh-market and processed mushrooms in the United States. The analysis indicates that per capita mushroom use is greatest in the West and Midwest. A little more than half of fresh-market mushrooms are purchased at retail and consumed at home, while three-fourths of processed mushrooms are consumed at home.

4. U.S. Fresh Produce Markets: Marketing Channels, Trade Practices, and Retail Pricing Behavior

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aer825/>

Synthesizes results of a multiphase project that examined the dynamics of produce markets, produce shipper-retailer relationships, and the relative market influence of producers, retailers, and consumers. In the past decade, retail consolidation, changing consumer demand, marketing practices, and new technology have transformed U.S. fresh fruit and vegetable markets. For additional information, see the [ERS produce markets project](#) page in the Food Market Structures briefing room.

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Potatoes, sweet potatoes, long-run outlook

Subscription Information

Subscribe to ERS' e-mail notification service at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/updates/> to receive timely notification of newsletter availability. Printed copies may be purchased from the USDA Order Desk by calling 1-800-999-6779 (specify the issue number or series SUB-VGS-4039).

Data Tables

The following links provide the most recent data on vegetables and melons. You may choose links for Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) table compilations or the original Excel 97 workbook (spreadsheet) tables.

1. Per capita use (consumption)

PDF file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/percap.pdf>
Excel file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/percap.xls>

2. Fresh vegetables and melons

PDF file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/fresh.pdf>
Excel file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/fresh.xls>

3. Processing vegetables

PDF file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/proc.pdf>
Excel file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/proc.xls>

4. Potatoes

PDF file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/potat.pdf>
Excel file:
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/potat.xls>

Data Tables (continued)

5. Sweet potatoes

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/swpot.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/swpot.xls>

6. Dry edible beans

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drybn.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drybn.xls>

7. Mushrooms

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/mush.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/mush.xls>

8. Vegetable and melon trade

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/trade.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/trade.xls>

9. Vegetable prices

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/price.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/price.xls>

10. Dry peas and lentils

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drypea.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/drypea.xls>

11. World vegetable production

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/world.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/world.xls>

12. Mexican and Canadian vegetable production

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Mexcan.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Mexcan.xls>

13. U.S. farm cash receipts and cost indicators

PDF file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Receipt.pdf>

Excel file:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/tables/Receipt.xls>

Web Sites

Vegetables and Melons: ERS' Vegetables and Melons Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/vegetables/>.

Potatoes: ERS' Potato Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/potatoes/>.

Tomatoes: ERS' Tomato Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/tomatoes/>.

Dry Beans: ERS' Dry Bean Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/drybeans/>.

USDA Market News: Agricultural Marketing Service's web site containing fresh shipments, f.o.b. and terminal market prices, weekly truck rates, annual reports, and more. <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/mnocs/index.htm>

NASS Vegetables: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service's annual & quarterly reports on vegetables & melons. <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/fruit/pvg-bb/>

FAS, HTP: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service's Horticultural and Tropical Products web site. <http://www.fas.usda.gov/http/default.htm>

ERS Farm Bill Web Site: USDA, ERS site which lays out the 2002 farm bill provisions and economic implications. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Features/FarmBill/>

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Price table 1--Commercial vegetables and potatoes: Indexes of prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1995-2004 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
--1910-14=100--														
Commercial vegetables 2/	1995	803	772	989	1,161	1,037	808	653	680	781	651	658	678	806
	1996	631	742	986	818	691	774	661	775	679	727	747	643	740
	1997	740	700	789	754	710	751	747	817	794	971	817	911	792
	1998	816	775	837	1,042	859	736	806	764	760	886	756	779	818
	1999	702	749	806	870	786	732	696	709	700	650	654	776	736
	2000	654	572	718	905	873	785	795	862	956	834	963	768	807
	2001	815	987	920	915	953	796	828	960	895	681	675	1,006	869
	2002	1,055	1,270	1,807	808	801	740	779	799	791	711	776	1,030	947
	2003	766	751	811	906	942	1,021	792	933	969	967	1,226	1,082	931
	2004	924												
Potatoes 3/	1995	466	450	484	505	529	612	729	586	497	539	548	547	541
	1996	564	589	633	668	696	707	700	521	482	461	452	434	576
	1997	426	431	433	433	477	431	499	544	440	433	457	477	457
	1998	491	524	554	546	559	539	517	481	449	415	450	475	500
	1999	489	497	520	546	532	557	610	517	451	429	474	463	507
	2000	475	496	519	545	529	511	559	464	406	384	383	395	472
	2001	409	450	437	466	453	486	532	632	516	461	538	578	497
	2002	622	647	718	701	748	802	856	684	528	471	529	547	654
	2003	549	561	555	630	604	539	539	531	438	419	475	481	527
	2004	489												
--1990-92=100--														
Commercial vegetables 2/	1995	120	116	148	174	155	121	98	102	117	97	98	101	121
	1996	94	111	147	122	103	116	99	116	102	109	112	96	111
	1997	111	105	118	113	106	112	112	122	119	145	122	136	118
	1998	122	116	125	156	129	110	121	114	114	133	113	117	123
	1999	105	112	121	130	118	110	104	106	105	97	98	116	110
	2000	98	86	107	135	131	117	119	129	143	125	144	115	121
	2001	122	148	138	137	143	119	124	144	134	102	101	151	130
	2002	158	190	270	121	120	111	117	120	118	106	116	154	142
	2003	115	112	121	136	141	153	118	140	145	145	184	162	139
	2004	138												
Potatoes 3/	1995	92	89	96	100	105	121	144	116	98	106	108	108	107
	1996	111	116	125	132	138	140	138	103	95	91	89	86	114
	1997	84	85	86	85	94	85	99	107	87	85	90	94	90
	1998	97	104	109	108	111	106	102	95	89	82	89	94	99
	1999	97	98	103	108	105	110	121	102	89	85	94	91	100
	2000	94	98	103	108	105	101	110	92	80	76	76	78	93
	2001	81	89	86	92	90	96	105	125	102	91	106	114	98
	2002	123	128	142	138	148	158	169	135	104	93	105	108	129
	2003	108	111	110	124	119	107	106	105	86	83	94	95	104
	2004	97												

1/ Prices for 2004 are preliminary. 2/ Includes fresh and processing vegetables. 3/ Includes fresh potatoes and dry edible beans.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Price table 2--Fresh vegetables: U.S. monthly and season-average f.o.b. shipping-point prices, 1997-2004 1/

Commodity	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average	Prct Change
															Jan-Jan
--Dollars per cwt--															
Asparagus	1997	161.00	140.00	116.00	109.00	97.50	109.00	101.00	--	--	--	--	--	108.00	--
	1998	179.00	158.00	144.00	130.00	105.00	115.00	126.00	211.00	199.00	152.00	148.00	--	124.00	11.2
	1999	141.00	119.00	178.00	124.00	112.00	119.00	141.00	--	--	--	--	--	131.00	-21.2
	2000	147.00	99.70	98.60	136.00	121.00	112.00	141.00	205.00	--	--	--	--	117.00	4.3
	2001	219.00	256.00	147.00	146.00	114.00	99.70	107.00	145.00	--	137.00	129.00	--	140.00	49.0
	2002	218.00	162.00	119.00	99.60	112.00	103.00	118.00	--	--	--	--	--	110.00	-0.5
	2003	98.90	96.30	104.00	142.00	106.00	101.00	189.00	132.00	166.00	145.00	--	--	116.00	-54.6
	2004	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Broccoli	1997	36.80	27.80	25.90	24.20	23.10	30.30	27.50	23.30	31.20	40.70	27.00	30.20	29.10	--
	1998	34.90	27.10	31.70	40.50	27.10	29.60	23.30	27.60	29.20	32.80	25.80	31.20	30.20	-5.2
	1999	27.70	20.10	23.20	20.20	18.60	23.10	18.70	27.40	29.30	23.00	21.60	39.20	24.10	-20.6
	2000	22.60	20.10	27.40	23.20	44.30	30.00	31.50	25.20	27.70	34.10	56.00	34.10	31.00	-18.4
	2001	22.70	32.30	24.70	26.90	25.50	27.00	23.60	27.10	22.90	24.20	21.40	56.10	26.50	0.4
	2002	56.50	44.40	33.70	24.00	20.80	28.40	27.00	29.60	40.60	24.00	37.10	35.00	31.20	148.9
	2003	25.20	29.10	28.10	27.10	29.70	24.60	27.00	29.80	49.10	38.90	42.40	52.80	32.50	-55.4
	2004	41.60	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	65.1
Cantaloups	1997	--	--	--	--	20.40	17.60	14.40	15.00	22.00	25.30	22.10	15.00	18.00	--
	1998	--	--	--	--	30.70	15.80	16.20	11.80	15.50	19.70	13.50	18.90	17.80	--
	1999	--	--	--	--	25.70	15.10	13.10	13.50	15.90	17.20	19.60	28.70	17.20	--
	2000	--	--	--	--	16.60	17.90	15.90	12.30	19.00	26.10	25.00	35.10	17.50	--
	2001	--	--	--	--	27.10	14.60	18.80	22.00	13.50	15.60	19.30	24.80	19.00	--
	2002	--	--	--	--	24.90	12.90	14.90	16.00	14.80	21.30	16.10	--	17.60	--
	2003	--	--	--	--	26.00	15.40	16.00	15.80	14.10	17.20	27.30	21.90	16.70	--
	2004	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Carrots	1997	15.00	14.70	13.40	12.60	12.60	12.60	12.60	13.10	12.70	12.10	12.50	16.80	12.90	--
	1998	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.60	12.00	11.90	10.60	10.80	10.60	10.90	11.60	11.00	12.00	-6.7
	1999	16.10	19.60	21.50	26.50	25.40	22.80	17.20	13.30	10.10	10.50	11.30	11.50	16.80	15.0
	2000	9.49	11.60	11.80	12.30	13.40	14.80	15.70	14.50	14.00	14.20	14.30	15.50	13.10	-41.1
	2001	15.90	16.70	17.30	17.30	17.60	19.80	21.70	19.90	15.50	17.40	18.40	19.30	17.20	67.5
	2002	19.30	19.70	21.10	21.20	21.30	21.60	20.60	20.10	18.10	17.90	18.70	19.50	19.00	21.4
	2003	19.30	19.10	18.70	19.40	19.90	19.90	19.90	20.40	20.10	19.40	21.40	24.30	19.10	0.0
	2004	24.30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	25.9
Cauliflower	1997	30.40	34.70	32.90	27.90	20.70	31.20	38.90	23.40	34.60	47.10	27.60	36.20	32.30	--
	1998	39.10	43.20	49.10	44.70	35.50	26.40	23.20	26.10	32.30	25.90	33.20	37.50	34.50	28.6
	1999	29.40	31.10	42.80	46.40	23.40	25.50	19.60	25.40	21.70	22.30	35.10	55.50	30.00	-24.8
	2000	23.10	30.20	32.00	34.80	46.00	31.20	37.50	25.10	25.40	21.60	65.60	28.00	32.00	-21.4
	2001	26.00	37.30	23.60	46.50	26.30	37.40	25.60	25.70	24.80	21.70	22.50	56.60	29.20	12.6
	2002	64.90	30.90	43.50	25.10	26.40	32.70	27.80	24.00	24.70	22.50	37.60	50.00	32.00	149.6
	2003	24.60	30.50	30.80	27.60	39.50	46.30	24.00	24.90	40.40	25.80	56.90	81.50	33.00	-62.1
	2004	32.40	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	31.7
Celery	1997	16.20	16.20	12.30	10.50	15.40	9.89	19.30	17.00	14.30	13.40	18.40	19.10	14.70	--
	1998	11.20	11.40	16.40	13.80	15.40	12.40	10.60	10.30	10.50	10.40	11.90	14.00	12.30	-30.9
	1999	9.51	8.47	8.35	10.20	12.80	18.30	14.00	10.30	10.60	9.14	12.80	17.20	12.00	-15.1
	2000	19.20	16.00	12.90	21.20	25.60	29.10	18.30	20.30	15.30	12.90	19.40	21.50	18.50	101.9
	2001	14.60	15.00	15.80	19.10	24.00	33.70	13.50	9.28	9.38	8.19	8.64	9.62	14.40	-24.0
	2002	10.10	19.50	23.50	18.60	12.30	9.37	10.80	10.90	11.70	9.98	15.30	9.50	12.80	-30.8
	2003	8.29	11.80	12.60	17.00	11.00	9.34	12.50	11.80	13.00	15.90	20.60	15.30	13.60	-17.9
	2004	21.50	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	159.3
Corn, sweet	1997	29.00	25.80	33.90	26.10	21.20	17.10	18.60	18.00	16.60	15.20	18.90	19.90	17.70	--
	1998	18.70	31.60	24.20	20.10	17.10	14.00	16.40	16.40	18.10	25.30	24.80	14.30	17.20	-35.5
	1999	19.60	23.30	21.80	18.90	18.50	15.00	17.30	16.60	17.30	16.50	28.40	40.70	17.20	4.8
	2000	31.50	25.10	19.30	18.70	14.40	18.00	22.00	20.70	20.10	24.00	16.80	33.00	18.20	60.7
	2001	33.50	34.00	26.10	18.10	24.70	18.70	19.60	18.90	18.80	23.80	24.80	22.60	19.50	6.3
	2002	27.50	23.60	25.20	19.40	20.80	18.80	27.90	21.80	22.50	25.80	15.50	18.30	19.20	-17.9
	2003	29.00	24.00	18.90	15.10	16.30	15.40	19.70	19.00	18.70	18.50	25.90	29.90	19.10	5.5
	2004	28.60	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-1.4
Cucumbers	1997	17.50	25.00	16.30	27.70	20.40	12.50	14.40	19.40	17.70	12.20	13.80	19.20	17.70	--
	1998	--	--	--	30.70	16.10	19.40	20.30	20.40	22.90	18.30	18.00	20.40	20.00	--
	1999	--	--	--	20.40	16.10	13.20	19.00	22.70	21.30	23.00	14.40	15.60	18.20	--
	2000	28.60	40.00	28.50	22.70	17.00	15.00	26.80	19.70	22.60	21.70	12.10	24.60	19.90	--
	2001	--	--	44.00	31.00	15.60	16.80	19.90	24.70	25.80	14.10	17.70	12.50	19.60	--
	2002	--	--	22.90	21.50	16.80	14.70	23.90	23.00	18.90	13.70	18.90	26.40	18.80	--
	2003	27.60	--	22.20	21.50	22.10	18.20	22.70	19.80	26.50	18.20	12.90	19.90	19.50	--
	2004	28.60	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3.6
Head lettuce	1997	14.90	9.58	13.50	15.70	10.40	14.90	17.10	22.80	22.30	34.80	22.20	25.10	17.50	--
	1998	19.00	10.90	12.50	27.20	14.30	11.80	15.50	16.40	14.00	21.00	10.80	12.50	16.10	27.5
	1999	10.30	15.50	16.30	20.20	14.00	11.40	12.70	12.00	13.10	13.10	10.70	16.20	13.30	-45.8
	2000	14.60	9.28	14.10	22.80	23.60	13.50	15.00	19.20	29.40	16.20	19.90	12.10	17.40	41.7
	2001	13.60	24.10	15.00	21.40	18.80	12.10	16.40	26.90	26.20	11.60	11.40	28.50	17.90	-6.8
	2002	25.90	44.20	87.40	14.10	10.20	10.60	11.30	14.60	14.30	13.50	11.90	30.00	21.20	90.4
	2003	12.10	10.90	9.64	14.10	21.20	32.20	11.90	21.50	23.90	26.30	45.20	25.70	18.20	-53.3
	2004	16.50	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	36.4
Onions	1997	9.71	7.91	8.15	14.80	13.20	16.40	14.20	13.40	10.10	9.00	10.30	10.90	12.60	--
	1998	10.50	14.00	19.40	19.20	15.80	14.00	19.10	14.00	12.90	12.70	14.00	16.00	13.80	8.1
	1999	16.10	13.10	10.00	10.60	13.00	15.00	15.70	13.10	10.10	8.18	7.47	6.95	9.78	53.3
	2000	5.86	4.86	4.38	10.00	12.50	12.10	13.30	12.10	10.60	10.10	10.80	11.		

Price table 3--Vegetables: Producer Price Indexes, by month, 1996-2004 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
--1982=100--														
Fresh 2/	1996	133.9	119.4	202.5	155.6	108.2	96.6	108.8	97.2	91.3	106.0	131.5	99.3	120.9
	1997	105.2	126.2	150.4	109.6	103.2	112.2	115.7	125.2	121.8	143.1	124.7	118.5	121.3
	1998	133.1	136.6	148.2	162.9	123.2	106.5	153.7	114.9	135.0	161.9	131.2	148.1	137.9
	1999	131.9	93.1	117.4	144.4	111.3	125.8	103.4	113.7	117.5	101.6	100.9	151.6	117.7
	2000	111.3	100.5	122.3	126.8	152.0	128.1	127.2	136.7	155.9	165.0	173.9	120.3	135.0
	2001	147.0	168.6	178.7	145.6	144.9	129.4	109.7	127.2	132.3	112.3	105.9	121.0	135.2
	2002	146.1	188.7	242.5	101.7	107.2	123.2	127.1	125.4	116.7	126.9	127.4	119.0	137.7
	2003	147.8	127.5	153.0	167.7	165.0	138.8	133.3	136.6	173.9	156.9	148.2	185.4	152.8
2004														
Canned 3/	1996	120.4	119.8	120.4	120.4	120.8	121.0	122.6	122.1	121.9	121.8	121.9	121.8	121.2
	1997	121.5	121.1	120.5	120.1	119.8	119.9	119.1	119.3	119.3	120.2	120.3	120.7	120.2
	1998	121.2	121.9	121.8	121.8	121.9	121.9	122.0	122.0	120.0	119.6	120.0	120.0	121.2
	1999	120.6	120.6	120.9	120.9	121.0	121.0	120.8	120.9	120.7	120.7	121.3	121.3	120.9
	2000	121.3	120.8	121.2	120.9	121.2	121.5	121.1	120.9	121.1	121.6	121.7	121.3	121.2
	2001	121.4	121.4	121.3	121.3	121.4	121.9	124.1	124.9	125.3	126.5	128.0	128.1	123.8
	2002	128.3	128.2	128.0	128.2	128.3	128.0	127.7	129.4	128.7	129.5	129.1	129.1	128.5
	2003	128.8	129.0	128.9	129.3	129.4	129.3	129.4	129.1	129.2	130.9	131.0	131.4	129.6
2004														
Frozen	1996	125.1	124.8	124.6	124.9	125.0	125.4	125.5	125.8	126.0	125.7	125.8	126.0	125.4
	1997	125.9	125.7	125.6	125.6	125.7	125.7	126.9	125.6	125.7	126.6	125.5	125.3	125.8
	1998	125.2	126.0	124.8	125.7	125.0	124.6	125.5	125.6	125.3	125.6	125.5	125.2	125.3
	1999	125.8	126.6	125.6	126.7	125.9	126.0	126.8	126.1	126.0	126.4	125.5	125.3	126.1
	2000	125.4	126.2	125.7	126.3	126.3	124.9	125.9	126.4	126.2	126.9	126.1	126.2	126.0
	2001	127.6	128.5	127.7	128.7	128.4	127.7	128.9	128.8	128.8	130.0	129.2	129.1	128.6
	2002	130.0	131.1	130.1	131.2	130.7	129.7	131.4	131.3	131.5	132.2	131.9	132.6	131.1
	2003	133.4	134.1	133.3	134.0	134.1	133.9	134.9	134.2	133.9	135.2	135.0	134.7	134.2
2004														
Dehydrated	1996	152.7	153.1	156.5	160.8	161.0	161.6	160.8	158.7	158.1	157.7	157.6	157.7	158.0
	1997	154.9	154.9	154.5	150.5	146.3	146.2	146.1	146.0	146.3	146.8	146.7	149.2	149.0
	1998	149.2	149.0	149.8	148.9	148.7	149.0	148.7	154.4	151.9	152.2	152.4	162.0	151.4
	1999	175.3	175.3	176.3	174.7	173.6	173.5	173.5	174.6	177.2	176.3	178.0	182.1	175.9
	2000	177.3	179.5	179.9	178.8	178.2	177.7	176.8	168.1	166.4	164.6	162.6	159.2	172.4
	2001	156.8	155.1	155.3	155.6	162.4	164.0	163.5	164.6	168.0	168.6	172.6	174.9	163.5
	2002	180.8	184.1	186.6	188.3	186.0	189.3	189.8	190.3	187.5	185.9	183.5	183.5	186.3
	2003	182.3	181.2	180.2	178.2	177.2	176.5	174.5	171.0	158.4	156.2	155.9	155.9	170.6
2004														

1/ Indexes for 2004 are preliminary. 2/ Excludes potatoes. 3/ Includes vegetable juices.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Price table 4--Vegetables: Consumer Price Indexes, by month, 1999-2004 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
		--1982-84=100--												
Fresh vegetables 2/	1999	224.5	209.8	209.2	206.2	207.7	203.1	206.0	204.8	208.0	208.9	209.1	214.0	209.3
	2000	223.0	211.0	212.1	213.6	219.1	217.7	216.7	217.3	218.9	218.6	224.6	240.2	219.4
	2001	235.9	240.6	238.2	232.6	226.2	226.4	226.3	224.9	228.2	229.1	228.6	230.4	230.6
	2002	251.6	258.1	265.3	255.9	238.6	239.3	241.8	238.9	236.1	233.5	240.6	245.2	245.4
	2003	253.7	250.9	250.7	244.3	246.3	250.5	248.3	245.4	247.2	251.2	253.5	263.8	250.5
	2004	265.2												
Potatoes, fresh	1999	184.5	184.0	185.9	183.3	191.5	194.7	205.0	212.1	204.6	194.8	186.1	190.7	193.1
	2000	196.6	198.1	197.9	194.9	200.4	201.7	208.3	210.7	195.4	191.5	181.2	179.4	196.3
	2001	186.6	186.8	189.3	187.0	192.2	205.0	213.4	224.5	218.3	216.3	203.4	205.2	202.3
	2002	213.4	225.7	230.2	244.1	248.0	253.4	260.7	263.8	246.4	232.0	221.8	222.2	238.5
	2003	230.6	226.9	227.5	225.0	231.9	231.4	235.1	238.8	233.8	223.7	217.7	214.5	228.1
	2004	228.2												
Lettuce, fresh	1999	207.9	200.6	217.0	213.4	207.7	198.5	196.0	202.0	208.5	218.5	216.6	212.7	208.3
	2000	229.3	203.9	210.0	209.4	234.0	211.1	207.8	213.1	262.7	235.5	238.5	281.6	228.1
	2001	233.3	249.6	245.7	227.3	243.5	215.1	211.7	226.5	254.1	238.5	228.6	231.6	233.8
	2002	272.0	301.9	398.0	299.6	219.7	213.1	215.1	213.4	221.9	222.5	229.0	218.5	252.1
	2003	223.8	219.7	222.9	227.4	253.1	266.0	243.1	226.1	260.9	250.2	259.4	301.8	246.2
	2004	271.7												
Tomatoes, fresh	1999	299.8	239.9	224.6	215.7	214.3	213.8	218.6	198.9	208.2	208.4	213.8	233.4	224.1
	2000	237.0	214.0	224.4	239.6	226.8	221.4	216.6	217.5	224.8	234.3	273.7	285.9	234.7
	2001	272.7	260.3	259.5	273.8	234.0	247.8	235.5	225.0	222.6	238.1	266.3	264.2	250.0
	2002	279.1	256.9	255.7	262.4	244.5	242.2	238.9	230.1	224.6	232.3	256.5	288.5	251.0
	2003	299.5	275.3	285.2	272.0	244.2	252.9	262.6	271.5	262.7	261.2	281.0	284.2	271.0
	2004	283.2												
Other, fresh	1999	223.6	215.1	214.2	212.8	214.2	206.2	206.7	206.3	211.0	214.6	217.2	219.8	213.5
	2000	230.1	218.9	216.6	216.1	222.9	226.7	224.2	222.9	218.5	223.0	225.9	243.4	224.1
	2001	247.4	256.7	252.1	241.9	235.7	233.4	234.3	226.7	230.1	231.4	229.4	232.2	237.6
	2002	256.0	264.8	253.5	251.8	242.1	243.9	246.8	243.4	244.2	241.8	249.6	250.1	249.0
	2003	258.7	264.1	259.2	250.7	255.6	257.9	254.2	248.1	248.0	263.9	260.9	271.0	257.7
	2004	276.2												
Frozen vegetables	1999	154.1	153.2	151.8	152.0	154.2	151.9	153.7	155.2	155.2	155.6	153.9	154.3	153.8
	2000	156.8	155.7	154.7	155.0	157.6	157.4	157.6	159.9	160.2	161.1	157.3	159.1	157.7
	2001	162.0	164.5	162.5	164.4	166.2	166.9	169.0	166.6	168.3	169.8	168.3	168.8	166.4
	2002	172.7	172.8	168.8	169.9	169.9	171.5	173.8	171.4	172.1	171.7	169.4	168.6	171.1
	2003	169.0	171.0	170.6	169.0	172.7	174.4	174.2	176.0	175.0	171.9	173.0	173.2	172.5
	2004	176.3												
		--December 1997=100--												
Processed fruits and vegetables 3/	1999	104.1	103.8	103.6	103.5	104.9	104.5	105.6	105.7	104.6	105.5	104.4	103.4	104.5
	2000	105.4	105.2	105.0	104.3	105.7	105.9	106.2	106.7	105.9	106.6	104.5	105.3	105.6
	2001	108.1	107.8	107.1	106.9	108.2	109.1	109.9	110.2	110.0	110.5	109.7	110.1	109.0
	2002	112.6	113.0	111.5	112.6	113.4	112.5	114.0	114.3	114.1	113.6	111.7	113.3	113.1
	2003	113.0	113.7	113.6	112.0	115.3	115.5	115.6	116.1	114.4	114.6	113.0	112.4	114.1
	2004	115.1												
Canned vegetables 3/	1999	106.7	105.5	104.7	104.7	106.5	106.1	107.6	107.2	105.8	107.3	105.4	103.6	105.9
	2000	107.0	106.9	105.2	105.6	107.6	108.6	107.5	107.3	107.0	108.4	104.5	105.7	106.8
	2001	110.9	108.8	107.6	107.9	108.5	111.2	111.3	113.3	112.6	112.9	111.3	113.7	110.8
	2002	115.7	115.6	114.0	117.0	117.2	114.5	117.1	117.7	116.7	115.2	112.5	116.1	115.8
	2003	114.2	115.0	115.9	114.8	118.2	116.7	117.9	118.6	115.8	115.3	114.9	112.2	115.8
	2004	116.1												
Dried beans, peas, lentils 3/	1999	101.3	101.8	102.2	101.4	101.7	102.2	101.3	101.2	100.1	100.0	100.5	98.4	101.0
	2000	99.9	99.5	99.2	98.3	97.6	99.1	99.4	99.1	100.2	100.1	100.4	99.0	99.3
	2001	99.0	99.1	98.9	97.7	99.7	99.5	99.6	99.9	99.5	100.0	102.0	103.6	99.9
	2002	102.1	105.5	107.5	110.1	111.0	112.0	110.2	110.8	111.7	111.0	111.3	110.1	109.4
	2003	109.8	109.1	108.9	109.6	108.3	109.1	109.3	108.9	109.3	109.4	109.2	108.9	109.2
	2004	108.6												

1/ Not seasonally adjusted. 2/ Includes potatoes. 3/ New indexes beginning with January 1998.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Price table 5--Fresh vegetables: U.S. average retail prices, by month, 1996-2004

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change from yr
															earlier, Jan.
															Percent
															--Cents/lb--
Potatoes, white	1996	38.5	38.5	39.2	39.4	39.2	40.1	40.8	40.3	37.5	35.9	34.3	33.5	38.1	
	1997	33.5	33.1	33.0	33.5	33.8	34.5	36.7	38.8	38.8	37.4	36.6	37.0	35.6	-13.0
	1998	36.2	36.2	36.8	36.9	38.1	39.0	39.2	38.2	37.6	37.9	37.0	37.5	37.6	8.1
	1999	38.1	38.2	38.4	38.0	38.8	39.1	41.1	42.9	41.3	39.3	38.4	39.5	39.4	5.2
	2000	39.2	40.1	39.3	38.8	37.9	37.6	39.0	40.0	37.4	36.7	35.1	34.7	38.0	2.9
	2001	35.5	34.8	35.6	36.2	36.3	38.8	40.9	43.9	42.2	41.8	41.0	41.0	39.0	-9.4
	2002	42.6	44.7	46.5	49.3	50.8	51.7	54.9	55.9	51.1	49.2	47.3	47.9	49.3	20.0
	2003	48.3	47.2	46.3	46.6	46.6	46.2	46.4	46.4	44.4	44.1	43.8	43.9	45.9	13.4
2004	45.7													45.9	-5.4
Broccoli	1996	103.7	92.6	99.9	94.1	87.4	95.5	97.1	78.8	84.3	80.1	92.4	86.2	91.0	
	1997	109.8	115.6	103.2	92.2	88.6	92.1	96.8	90.5	90.3	104.0	100.3	92.6	98.0	5.9
	1998	137.9	106.6	112.2	111.4	123.8	108.7	107.6	103.0	101.4	104.0	101.6	97.4	109.6	25.6
	1999	112.3	99.9	99.0	101.2	95.2	94.4	99.3	96.2	105.2	102.8	100.1	100.4	100.5	-18.6
	2000	118.2	98.9	106.9	101.3	117.4	123.6	113.9	112.0	105.2	108.0	108.5	151.8	113.8	5.3
	2001	98.7	97.8	108.3	95.4	99.9	100.5	98.1	97.8	96.9	101.1	89.7	97.3	98.5	-16.5
	2002	137.4	168.1	114.7	120.4	103.6	109.3	111.9	113.5	124.7	107.3	116.5	105.2	119.4	39.2
	2003	112.2	110.1	119.9	113.9	115.1	112.7	113.3	109.3	130.3	135.8	131.2	135.6	120.0	-18.3
2004	131.9													120.0	17.6
Lettuce, iceberg	1996	76.9	58.7	64.7	64.6	61.3	67.2	62.7	61.5	59.5	63.4	74.6	62.2	64.8	
	1997	65.1	59.4	61.4	66.6	59.8	59.3	64.9	69.4	73.7	82.3	101.0	69.9	69.4	-15.3
	1998	107.2	64.3	69.5	83.7	87.7	71.1	69.2	68.6	71.0	75.7	76.5	63.5	75.7	64.7
	1999	64.9	65.8	77.4	75.3	69.1	65.2	62.7	65.2	62.3	66.9	67.7	66.8	67.4	-39.5
	2000	74.8	65.0	67.1	65.0	80.3	68.6	65.6	67.3	89.7	77.2	77.4	85.1	73.6	15.3
	2001	73.6	84.7	89.5	76.7	87.0	72.2	66.3	78.4	89.7	81.1	73.4	78.8	79.3	-1.6
	2002	100.3	106.1	154.2	114.7	72.0	67.5	67.4	68.9	70.2	68.7	75.4	68.0	86.1	36.3
	2003	73.4	68.2	65.5	72.3	79.5	83.2	80.8	70.9	89.8	85.8	92.7	125.5	82.3	-26.8
2004	87.6													82.3	19.3
Tomatoes, field grown	1996	110.3	108.4	146.7	186.7	137.9	112.7	103.1	100.6	98.0	108.4	118.2	121.0	121.0	
	1997	121.3	131.4	165.4	134.8	117.5	130.0	114.1	113.0	109.1	116.2	137.0	161.7	129.3	10.0
	1998	145.2	135.6	151.5	139.8	147.2	139.3	151.5	131.2	124.1	157.3	168.9	179.8	147.6	19.7
	1999	190.4	147.6	139.5	129.8	128.4	130.4	128.7	123.2	127.2	127.9	130.0	140.5	137.0	31.1
	2000	144.3	128.6	136.4	148.7	136.6	131.8	128.2	126.2	131.9	138.7	150.3	156.7	138.2	-24.2
	2001	141.4	131.3	133.6	143.3	124.3	135.6	125.7	118.5	116.8	126.7	146.8	140.4	132.0	-2.0
	2002	145.1	129.8	129.2	131.9	133.2	129.9	124.3	118.1	115.8	123.6	143.0	165.5	132.5	2.6
	2003	171.1	156.5	161.9	155.5	140.1	139.8	146.0	151.3	143.8	143.6	148.0	153.3	150.9	17.9
2004	147.2													150.9	-14.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Price table 7--Canned vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 1994-2004 1/

Year & quarter	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Carrots 5/		Beets 6/		Tomato paste 7/	
	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	55-drum \$/lb	6/10 \$/case
	-- \$/case --											
1994 8/												
I	9.67	19.75	7.04	13.67	9.25	15.42	7.88	11.67	8.46	13.75	0.42	16.42
II	9.58	19.75	6.80	14.42	9.08	15.58	7.88	11.58	8.50	13.75	0.42	17.46
III	8.67	16.17	6.80	12.92	8.50	14.17	7.71	11.25	7.92	13.75	0.40	17.25
IV	7.42	13.08	6.33	11.67	7.25	13.50	7.63	12.13	7.50	13.50	0.41	17.38
Average	8.84	17.19	6.74	13.17	8.52	14.67	7.78	11.66	8.10	13.69	0.41	17.13
1995												
I	7.13	10.63	6.42	10.63	7.46	14.13	7.25	9.50	8.50	13.00	0.39	18.38
II	6.88	10.42	6.55	10.50	7.80	14.42	7.25	9.46	7.38	13.00	0.39	18.38
III	7.00	10.25	6.79	10.25	7.96	14.84	7.25	9.38	8.00	12.50	0.39	18.38
IV	7.29	12.46	7.09	11.09	8.21	14.75	7.38	9.38	8.00	11.00	0.37	18.04
Average	7.07	10.94	6.71	10.62	7.86	14.53	7.28	9.43	7.97	12.38	0.38	18.30
1996												
I	7.17	13.83	7.38	10.83	8.21	16.25	7.84	9.63	8.00	12.00	0.36	17.50
II	7.83	12.92	7.63	11.17	8.75	16.50	7.96	9.82	8.00	12.00	0.34	15.75
III	8.46	13.00	7.92	11.46	9.38	16.50	8.25	10.00	7.96	12.00	0.31	16.67
IV	7.96	12.75	7.55	11.00	9.13	16.50	7.83	10.33	7.25	12.00	0.30	17.33
Average	7.86	13.13	7.62	11.12	8.87	16.44	7.97	9.94	7.80	12.00	0.33	16.81
1997												
I	7.38	11.75	7.08	9.67	9.05	14.46	7.79	10.46	7.63	11.50	0.30	17.17
II	7.00	10.83	6.67	8.75	8.88	13.75	7.75	10.46	7.83	11.50	0.30	15.13
III	7.05	11.08	6.75	8.75	8.58	13.63	7.67	10.50	8.00	11.08	0.30	15.42
IV	7.17	10.38	7.00	9.84	8.88	13.00	7.88	10.50	7.88	10.33	0.31	16.25
Average	7.15	11.01	6.88	9.25	8.85	13.71	7.77	10.48	7.84	11.10	0.30	15.99
1998												
I	7.21	10.63	7.05	8.63	8.13	11.25	7.84	11.00	7.92	10.58	0.33	16.42
II	7.38	10.88	7.13	9.75	8.50	10.88	7.88	11.13	7.88	10.75	0.33	16.92
III	7.25	10.75	7.21	9.96	8.21	12.58	7.25	10.58	7.25	10.92	0.38	19.00
IV	7.25	10.75	7.21	9.96	8.38	12.75	7.25	10.50	7.25	11.00	0.45	21.00
Average	7.27	10.75	7.15	9.58	8.31	11.87	7.56	10.80	7.58	10.81	0.37	18.34
1999												
I	7.25	10.75	7.50	10.38	8.80	13.30	7.33	10.67	7.42	11.00	0.45	21.00
II	7.33	10.63	7.50	10.38	8.71	13.21	7.79	11.29	8.09	11.83	0.46	21.00
III	7.50	10.63	7.50	10.38	8.75	13.58	7.88	11.38	8.09	12.00	0.46	21.00
IV	7.63	12.34	7.46	10.92	8.75	13.58	7.88	11.13	8.04	11.75	0.35	20.29
Average	7.43	11.09	7.49	10.52	8.75	13.42	7.72	11.12	7.91	11.65	0.43	20.82
2000												
I	7.75	13.84	7.50	11.67	8.75	14.79	7.88	10.88	8.21	11.75	0.34	19.63
II	7.84	15.00	7.50	11.92	8.84	16.33	7.88	10.88	8.38	11.38	0.34	20.04
III	7.71	15.00	7.25	12.00	8.79	16.00	7.96	11.13	8.46	11.38	0.32	19.50
IV	7.63	15.09	7.38	11.17	8.75	16.13	7.75	11.01	8.50	11.75	0.32	19.00
Average	7.73	14.73	7.41	11.69	8.78	15.81	7.87	10.97	8.39	11.57	0.33	19.54
2001												
I	7.25	14.75	7.25	10.25	8.63	15.46	7.75	10.88	7.75	11.75	0.31	17.88
II	7.25	14.75	7.25	10.25	8.63	15.25	7.75	10.88	7.75	11.75	0.31	17.88
III	7.67	14.92	7.67	10.42	8.96	15.42	7.92	11.05	7.92	11.75	0.32	17.88
IV	8.25	15.25	8.25	12.55	9.00	15.42	8.33	11.25	8.42	11.83	0.32	17.88
Average	7.61	14.92	7.61	10.87	8.81	15.39	7.94	11.02	7.96	11.77	0.32	17.88
2002												
I	9.00	15.75	9.00	14.59	9.00	15.25	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.32	17.63
II	8.33	15.08	8.33	12.05	8.75	15.08	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	17.80
III	8.00	14.75	8.00	10.88	8.63	15.00	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.50
IV	8.00	14.67	8.00	11.05	8.88	15.08	8.75	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	20.38
Average	8.33	15.06	8.33	12.14	8.82	15.10	8.94	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.58
2003												
I	8.00	14.00	8.00	11.13	9.00	15.42	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.32	18.46
II	8.00	14.00	8.00	11.38	9.00	15.50	8.71	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.30	19.46
III	8.00	14.00	8.00	11.75	9.00	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	17.63
IV	8.00	14.13	8.00	12.38	9.00	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	17.63
Average	8.00	14.03	8.00	11.66	9.00	15.73	8.65	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.30	18.30
2004												
I f	8.00	14.00	8.00	12.38	9.00	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.30	17.63
II f	8.00	14.00	8.00	12.38	9.00	16.08	8.71	11.67	9.00	12.00	0.30	17.75
III f	8.00	14.00	8.00	12.00	9.00	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.25
IV f	8.00	14.00	8.00	12.00	9.00	16.00	9.08	11.71	9.00	12.00	0.32	19.50
Average	8.00	14.00	8.00	12.19	9.00	16.02	8.76	11.59	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.28

p = preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

1/ Some prices calculated as averages of quoted ranges. 2/ Whole kernel corn, Midwest. 3/ 4-ounce cut, Midwest. 4/ 4-sieve, Midwest. 5/ Medium sliced, Midwest. 6/ Medium sliced, Midwest. 7/ 26 percent solids for 6/10 and 31 percent for 55-gallon drum, California. 8/ In mid-1994, most canners switched from size 303 to 300 cans (have 10 percent less volume) for retail packs.

Source: Price Trends, American Institute of Food Distribution.

Price table 8--Frozen vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 1994-2004 1/

Year and quarter	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Carrots 5/		Broccoli 6/		Spinach 7/	
	12/16	12/2.5	12/16	12/2	12/16	12/2.5	12/16	12/2	24/10	12/2	24/10	12/3
--\$ per case--												
1994												
I	7.64	0.61	7.40	0.51	7.40	0.53	5.77	0.43	11.75	0.64	8.35	0.42
II	7.77	0.64	7.40	0.51	7.40	0.53	5.77	0.43	11.75	0.64	8.35	0.42
III	7.27	0.65	6.97	0.51	6.97	0.52	5.77	0.43	11.75	0.64	8.52	0.42
IV	6.94	0.57	6.75	0.51	6.75	0.52	5.77	0.43	11.08	0.64	8.60	0.42
Average	7.41	0.62	7.13	0.51	7.13	0.53	5.77	0.43	11.58	0.64	8.45	0.42
1995												
I	6.75	0.55	6.75	0.49	6.75	0.51	5.75	0.41	10.75	0.66	8.19	0.41
II	6.75	0.55	6.75	0.49	6.75	0.51	5.89	0.44	10.75	0.68	8.40	0.43
III	6.75	0.54	6.75	0.48	6.75	0.51	5.89	0.42	10.75	0.69	8.40	0.44
IV	6.75	0.52	6.75	0.45	6.75	0.49	5.89	0.42	10.75	0.69	8.63	0.41
Average	6.75	0.54	6.75	0.48	6.75	0.50	5.86	0.42	10.75	0.68	8.41	0.42
1996												
I	6.67	0.47	6.67	0.44	6.42	0.47	5.76	0.39	10.88	0.67	7.31	0.41
II	6.72	0.45	6.63	0.46	6.63	0.48	5.76	0.39	10.94	0.67	7.67	0.41
III	6.90	0.50	6.90	0.49	7.09	0.51	5.76	0.39	10.75	0.67	7.67	0.41
IV	6.90	0.50	6.90	0.49	7.10	0.51	5.76	0.39	10.38	0.67	7.67	0.41
Average	6.80	0.48	6.78	0.47	6.81	0.49	5.76	0.39	10.74	0.67	7.58	0.41
1997												
I	6.90	0.50	6.88	0.48	7.10	0.51	5.76	0.39	10.23	0.68	7.98	0.42
II	6.90	0.50	6.83	0.47	7.10	0.50	5.76	0.39	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
III	6.90	0.50	6.83	0.47	7.10	0.49	5.76	0.39	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.48	5.76	0.40	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
Average	6.88	0.49	6.84	0.47	7.05	0.50	5.76	0.39	10.01	0.69	8.22	0.42
1998												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.47	5.76	0.42	10.08	0.70	8.30	0.42
II	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.46	5.74	0.43	10.15	0.70	8.30	0.42
III	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.75	0.45	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.70	8.30	0.42
IV	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.87	0.45	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.33	0.42
Average	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.86	0.46	5.73	0.41	10.13	0.71	8.31	0.42
1999												
I	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.88	0.46	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
II	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.88	0.46	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
III	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.91	0.51	5.74	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.74	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.90	0.49	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
2000												
I	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
2001												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.53	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.46	6.84	0.47	6.88	0.53	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.47	6.88	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
IV	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.49	6.88	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
Average	6.86	0.47	6.84	0.48	6.89	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
2002												
I	6.95	0.49	6.93	0.49	6.88	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.50	7.05	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.51	7.07	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.51	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.73	0.42	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.06	0.50	7.06	0.51	7.02	0.55	5.73	0.42	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
2003												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
2004												
I f	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II f	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III f	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.53	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV f	7.10	0.53	7.10	0.51	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.53	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48

p = preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

1/ Some prices calculated as averages of quoted ranges. 2/ Whole kernel (cut) corn, f.o.b. West Coast basis. 3/ Regular cut. 4/ Poly bags. 5/ Sliced, poly bags. 6/ Spears. 7/ Chopped.

Source: Price Trends, American Institute of Food Distribution.

Price table 10--U.S. fresh-market herbs: Selected monthly wholesale prices in San Francisco, CA, 2002-2003

Herb	Unit	2002			2003			2002-03 Change		
		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
								---	Percent	---
Anise	24-ct crtn	12.50	10.50	11.00	15.83	15.50	11.50	26.6	47.6	4.5
Arrugula	12-ct ctns	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.75	7.75	7.75	- 3.1	- 3.1	- 3.1
Basil	30-ct ctns	7.00	7.25	8.00	7.50	7.50	7.00	7.1	3.4	- 12.5
Celeriac	12-ct ctns	15.00	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	- 30.0	.0	.0
Chervil	12-ct flmbag	7.00	7.00	7.50	7.25	7.50	7.50	3.6	7.1	.0
Chives	12-ct flmbag	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.00	5.00	5.00	- 4.8	- 4.8	- 4.8
Cilantro	30-ct ctns	12.00	12.50	8.00	14.12	11.00	12.00	17.7	- 12.0	50.0
Dill	12-ct ctns	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.29	6.38	7.00	4.1	- 8.9	.0
Horseradish	50-lb sack	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	.0	.0	.0
Oregano	12-ct flmbag	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.00	6.00	.0	- 4.0	- 4.0
Rosemary	12-ct flmbag	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.00	6.00	6.00	- 4.0	- 4.0	- 4.0
Mint	12-ct ctns	7.05	7.00	7.75	7.38	7.50	7.25	4.7	7.1	- 6.5
Salsify	5-1kg flmbg	22.00	--	--	17.50	17.50	17.50	- 20.5	--	--
Thyme	12-ct flmbag	6.50	6.50	6.50	6.00	6.00	6.00	- 7.7	- 7.7	- 7.7
Sage	12-ct flmbag	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.00	6.00	6.00	- 4.0	- 4.0	- 4.0
Watercress	12-ct ctns	8.25	7.75	8.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	- 9.1	- 3.2	- 6.3

Source: Derived from data provided by the Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Price table 11--Farm-retail price spreads, 2000-03

	Annual			2002	2003					
	2000	2001	2002	Sep	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Market basket¹										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	170.6	177.2	180.3	179.9	182.4	183.3	184.4	184.8	185.5	186.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	96.9	106.2	104.3	102.8	106.8	107.4	108.0	108.0	111.9	112.4
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	210.3	215.4	221.2	221.4	223.1	224.1	225.6	226.2	225.2	226.1
Farm value-retail cost (%)	19.9	21.0	20.3	20.0	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	21.1	21.1
Fresh fruit										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	284.3	291.7	298.0	299.9	302.6	314.1	311.7	312.0	308.3	308.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	141.3	145.7	154.4	158.9	153.8	166.2	167.8	164.0	169.8	153.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	350.3	359.1	364.2	365.0	371.3	382.4	378.2	380.3	372.2	380.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	15.7	15.8	16.4	16.7	16.1	16.7	17.0	16.6	17.4	15.7
Fresh vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	219.4	230.6	245.4	236.1	244.3	246.3	250.5	248.3	245.4	247.2
Farm value (1982-84=100)	121.4	129.9	145.8	122.0	168.3	171.2	165.2	136.7	153.9	143.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	269.8	282.4	296.6	294.7	283.4	284.9	294.4	305.7	292.4	300.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	18.8	19.1	20.2	17.5	23.4	23.6	22.4	18.7	21.3	19.7
Processed fruits and vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	153.6	159.3	166.2	170.5	168.6	173.5	173.8	174.0	174.7	172.1
Farm value (1982-84=100)	106.4	107.9	110.5	107.9	108.9	107.7	107.2	109.1	108.9	109.0
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	168.3	175.3	183.6	190.0	187.2	194.0	194.6	194.3	195.2	191.8
Farm value-retail cost (%)	16.5	16.1	15.8	15.0	15.4	14.8	14.7	14.9	14.8	15.1
Fats and oils										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	147.4	155.7	155.4	155.3	156.1	157.6	156.5	156.3	157.7	157.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	80.9	76.9	91.7	98.6	108.6	114.6	108.4	102.7	97.6	108.2
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	171.9	184.7	178.9	176.1	173.6	173.4	174.2	176.0	179.8	175.8
Farm value-retail cost (%)	14.8	13.3	15.9	17.1	18.7	19.6	18.6	17.7	16.6	18.5
Meat products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	150.4	159.3	160.3	159.9	164.1	164.0	166.6	168.0	169.2	171.0
Farm value (1982-84=100)	88.4	97.4	102.6	103.4	106.8	107.0	107.5	108.7	109.1	110.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	214.0	222.8	219.5	217.9	222.9	222.5	227.3	228.8	230.9	233.5
Farm value-retail cost (%)	29.8	31.0	32.4	32.7	32.9	33.0	32.7	32.8	32.7	32.6
Dairy products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	160.7	167.1	168.1	166.3	165.8	165.4	163.9	164.7	167.5	170.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	98.8	118.5	97.6	93.4	89.1	89.0	88.8	94.7	102.7	109.4
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	217.7	211.8	233.1	233.5	236.5	235.8	233.1	229.2	227.2	226.5
Farm value-retail cost (%)	29.5	34.0	27.8	26.9	25.8	25.8	26.0	27.6	29.4	30.8
Poultry										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	159.8	164.9	167.0	167.8	168.2	165.9	167.7	168.9	169.0	169.7
Farm value (1982-84=100)	117.4	126.2	102.0	99.2	101.0	108.5	114.2	113.6	113.2	114.9
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	208.7	209.3	242.0	246.8	245.6	231.6	229.3	232.6	233.3	232.9
Farm value-retail cost (%)	39.3	41.0	32.7	31.6	32.1	35.1	36.5	36.0	35.8	36.2
Eggs										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	131.9	136.4	138.2	136.1	147.9	142.9	148.7	149.6	158.0	161.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	80.6	74.3	72.1	67.0	89.4	68.2	85.8	90.1	115.0	109.0
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	223.9	248.0	256.9	260.2	253.0	277.0	261.8	256.6	235.3	257.0
Farm value-retail cost (%)	39.3	35.0	33.5	31.6	38.8	30.7	37.1	38.7	46.8	43.2
Cereal and bakery products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	188.3	193.8	198.0	198.4	201.9	203.0	203.7	204.5	204.5	203.5
Farm value (1982-84=100)	75.2	78.8	86.4	100.1	91.1	91.4	88.1	86.1	92.3	91.5
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	204.0	209.9	213.6	212.1	217.4	218.6	219.8	221.0	220.2	219.1
Farm value-retail cost (%)	4.9	5.0	5.3	6.2	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.5

1. Retail costs are based on CPI-U of retail prices for domestically produced farm foods, published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Farm value is the payment for the quantity of farm equivalent to the retail unit, less allowance for byproduct. Farm values are based on prices at first point of sale, and may include marketing charges such as grading and packing for some commodities. The farm-retail spread, the difference between the retail value and farm value, represents charges for assembling, processing, transporting, and distributing.

Source: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/agoutlook/aotables/oct2003/aotab08.xls>