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Vegetables and Melons Outlook

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Vegetable Consumption Expected To Rise In 2004

Per capita vegetable use (consumption) is forecast to increase about 1 percent in 2004 to 449 pounds (fresh-weight basis). Increased use is expected for fresh market vegetables, melons, and canning vegetables, with declining use expected for potatoes and sweet potatoes. Assuming continued favorable weather into the fall and a strengthening economy, consumption of several fresh-market vegetables could reach record-highs in 2004. Fresh-market tomato production is expected to recover from the weather-reduced levels of 2003 and help push domestic tomato use above the 2002 record-high of 18.2 pounds per person. Similarly, increased acreage could push onion production higher in 2004, which could allow use of fresh dry-bulb onions to exceed the 1997 record high.

According to preliminary estimates for 2003, per capita use of fresh-market vegetables (excluding melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms) remained virtually unchanged at 144.3 pounds. Including melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms, fresh-market vegetable consumption totaled 225.3 pounds—up 1 percent from a year earlier. Fresh spinach use increased 14 percent to 1.9 pounds—the highest per capita use since 1949. Per capita use of fresh-market sweet corn rose 7 percent to a record 9.8 pounds, with production and exports also setting records.

Disappearance (use) of vegetables for freezing (excluding potatoes) increased 4 percent to 6.4 billion pounds (23.2 billion including potatoes) in 2003. On a per capita use basis, freezing vegetables (excluding potatoes) increased 3 percent to 22.1 pounds last year. Per capita use of canning vegetables (excluding potatoes) declined fractionally to 97.0 pounds. Total domestic disappearance of canning vegetables in 2003 rose nearly 1 percent to 28.3 billion pounds. Aside from chile peppers and cucumbers for pickles, estimated use of all major canning vegetables either increased or remained constant.

ERS projects planted acreage for the 2004 fall-season potatoes to decline between 2 and 4 percent from a year ago. Lower grower prices and higher stocks on hand in the spring typically signal a decrease in fall acreage. Other important factors this year are relatively weak demand for fresh potatoes compared with the past 2 years, potentially stabilizing but still fairly weak demand for frozen potato products, and ever-increasing competition from Canada.

Although gains have slowed over the past decade, average per capita consumption of honeydew melons has increased each decade since the 1960s. Per capita use of honeydews is greatest in the Northeast and the West (3.3 pounds in 2003) and lowest in the South.

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The next release is
June 24, 2004

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Industry Overview

Fresh vegetables: Spring season (Apr.-June) area for harvest in 2004 rose 3 percent as acreage increases in both California (2 percent) and Florida (1 percent) led the way. During the winter quarter (Jan.-Mar.), fresh-market vegetable shipping-point prices averaged 23 percent above a year earlier as imports from Mexico were lower and more variable than normal. Combined January-February fresh-market vegetable import volume was down 5 percent from a year earlier, led by tomatoes (down 16 percent).

Melons: Spring season melon area for harvest is expected to rise 7 percent to 83,700 acres, with cantaloup (up 13 percent) and watermelon (up 5 percent) accounting for all the gain. Mid-April shipping-point prices for imported Central American cantaloup were running as much as 50 percent higher than a year ago (depending on size), with generally good demand.

Processing vegetables: U.S. vegetable processors indicated they have contracted for about the same area as in 2003. During the first 3 months of 2004, retail prices were averaging above a year ago for frozen vegetables (up 4 percent) and canned vegetables (up 1 percent). Wholesale prices for dehydrated fruits and vegetables were running 5 percent below last year.

Potatoes: Spring season potato production for 2004 is forecast at 19.7 million cwt, down 20 percent from a year ago. Per acre yields are expected to be 6 percent lower than a year ago. Area for harvest is estimated at 72,500 acres, down 14 percent from last year. Area was lower in each State.

Sweet Potatoes: Assuming favorable growing conditions this season, average acreage abandonment, and 3-year average yields (161 cwt/acre), the 2004 U.S. sweet potato crop could exceed 15 million cwt. That would be down from a year ago, but would still be the second-largest crop since 1965.

Dry beans: Dealer prices and grower bids remain sluggish for many of the major bean classes, spurring a move to alternative crops this year. Despite a small crop last year, the U.S. aggregate grower price for all dry beans averaged just 7 percent above a year earlier during the first 7 months of the marketing year (September 2003-March 2004).

Honeydew melon: Honeydews are the smallest of the 3 top U.S. melon crops in terms of planted area (25,100 acres in 2001-03), production, and per capita consumption. During 2001-03, the farm value of the U.S. honeydew melon crop averaged \$94 million. Per capita use averaged 2.1 pounds in 2001-03, up 9 percent from 1991-93.

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.	6,897	6,564	6,433
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	1,000 ac.	1,945	1,946	1,960
Processing	1,000 ac.	1,347	1,344	1,328
Potatoes	1,000 ac.	1,266	1,250	1,213
Dry beans	1,000 ac.	1,739	1,347	1,220
Other 2/	1,000 ac.	599	677	713
<i>Production</i>	Mil. cw t	1,325	1,292	1,291
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	Mil. cw t	464	463	460
Processing	Mil. cw t	344	315	335
Potatoes	Mil. cw t	458	459	443
Dry beans	Mil. cw t	30	23	20
Other 2/	Mil. cw t	29	32	33
<i>Crop value</i>	\$ mil.	15,618	15,425	15,495
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	9,452	9,665	9,550
Processing	\$ mil.	1,396	1,371	1,395
Potatoes	\$ mil.	3,064	2,680	2,900
Dry beans	\$ mil.	514	412	440
Other 2/	\$ mil.	1,193	1,297	1,210
<i>Unit value 3/</i>	\$/cw t	11.79	11.88	12.00
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$/cw t	20.39	20.86	20.76
Processing	\$/cw t	4.06	4.36	4.16
Potatoes	\$/cw t	6.69	5.85	6.43
Dry beans	\$/cw t	17.10	17.80	21.46
Other 2/	\$/cw t	41.53	40.30	36.89
<i>Trade</i>				
<i>Imports</i>	\$ mil.	4,818	5,431	5,600
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	2,617	3,024	3,120
Processing	\$ mil.	1,189	1,276	1,295
Potatoes	\$ mil.	575	682	705
Dry beans	\$ mil.	67	49	60
Other 4/	\$ mil.	369	400	420
<i>Exports</i>	\$ mil.	3,274	3,318	3,395
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	1,204	1,298	1,345
Processing	\$ mil.	798	799	825
Potatoes	\$ mil.	723	646	650
Dry beans	\$ mil.	180	164	150
Other 4/	\$ mil.	369	411	425
<i>Per capita use</i>	Pounds	440	447	449
<i>Vegetables</i>				
Fresh & melons	Pounds	172	171	175
Processing	Pounds	120	121	122
Potatoes	Pounds	132	139	136
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

Spring Acreage Up, Prices Ease

With fresh-market vegetable prices averaging above a year earlier for each of the past four quarters, growers have indicated they will harvest 3 percent more fresh-market vegetable area during the current spring quarter (largely Apr.-Jun.). Area for harvest of 11 selected fresh-market vegetables (excluding onions and asparagus) is forecast to total 222,400 acres this spring. About half of the increase in spring acreage will come from the 2 major States, California and Florida.

California, which accounts for 57 percent of selected spring vegetable area, increased vegetable area 2 percent. Yields are expected to be about average despite early periods of cool, wet weather followed by extreme heat in March. Increased area is expected across all the selected commodities, with the exception of sweet corn. Acreage for tomatoes (up 14 percent) and cauliflower (5 percent) are expected to rise the most. Cauliflower, along with other cruciferous vegetables such as broccoli and cabbage, are favored by proponents of the Atkins diet.

Florida, the second leading producer with 32 percent of U.S. area, intends to increase acreage just 1 percent. Yields are expected to be average this spring as no unusual weather or pest problems have been reported in the major growing regions. Most of Florida's gain will be due to increases in snap beans (up 15 percent) and bell peppers (up 4 percent), which will outweigh reduced area for tomatoes (down 4 percent) and sweet corn (2 percent).

Spring Prices To Ease After Strong Winter

This spring, assuming average weather, shipping-point prices are expected to fall about a tenth below the highs

Table 2--Spring-season fresh-market vegetable area 1/

Item	2002	2003	2004	Change
				2003-04
	--Acres--			Percent
Snap beans	23,500	20,900	23,600	13
Broccoli	33,500	35,000	36,000	3
Cabbage	7,100	7,100	7,900	11
Carrots	20,100	19,900	20,300	2
Cauliflower	9,000	9,500	10,000	5
Celery	5,200	5,200	5,200	0
Sweet corn	38,800	38,300	37,200	-3
Cucumbers	7,100	8,000	8,500	6
Head lettuce	36,700	38,100	38,200	0
Bell pepper	7,500	7,500	7,600	1
Tomatoes	27,300	26,800	27,900	4
Onions	38,900	35,200	38,800	10
Total	215,800	216,300	222,400	3

1/ Selected crops for harvest largely during April-June.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 3--Selected fresh-market vegetable shipments 1/

Item	February	March		Change
	2004	2003	2004	2003-04
	--1,000 cwt--			Percent
Snap beans	329	383	490	28
Broccoli	820	843	959	14
Cabbage	1,208	1,754	1,756	0
Cantaloup	728	2,208	1,848	-16
Carrots	747	1,168	1,011	-13
Cauliflower	353	436	569	31
Celery	1,502	1,426	1,827	28
Sweet corn	451	817	973	19
Eggplant	148	203	159	-22
Head lettuce	2,462	3,453	3,591	4
Dry onions	3,562	3,309	4,307	30
Bell pepper	1,214	1,268	1,767	39
Spinach	87	75	95	27
Tomatoes	3,651	3,483	4,992	43
Cherry tomato	392	317	471	49
Watermelon	424	1,184	1,235	4
Selected total	18,078	22,327	26,050	17

1/ Data for 2004 are preliminary.

Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

of a year earlier. Increased acreage and average yields should provide ample supplies of most vegetables into early summer. Last spring, cool, wet weather cut shipments, causing prices to soar for several items, including onions and lettuce---two of the leading vegetables in terms of consumption. This year, early spring shipments of onions from Mexico were hampered by heavy rains, keeping prices above the average of the past several years. However, increasing volume from Texas and Georgia is expected to keep further price advances in check.

F.o.b. shipping-point prices for fresh-market vegetables averaged 23 percent above a year earlier during the winter quarter (Jan.-Mar.). An unusually cool, wet winter in Mexico reduced exports to the United States and caused prices for crops such as tomatoes and onions to become higher than anticipated. This winter, retail prices for fresh-market vegetables averaged 5 percent more than a year earlier.

Fresh-market shipments (including imports but excluding melons) during the winter were 1 percent below a year earlier. Shipping-point prices for head lettuce, which were restrained a year ago, averaged \$15.40/cwt during the first quarter of 2004---up 42 percent as shipment volume fell 11 percent. Prices for asparagus (up 130 percent) and celery (up 93 percent) were also much higher. In contrast, tomato prices, which jumped 21 percent last winter, fell 10 percent during the first quarter of 2004 as shipment volume increased 11 percent.

Asparagus Area Down, Prices Up

This spring, asparagus growers expect to harvest 20 percent fewer acres as growers in the top three States reduce area. Growers in California cut area 31 percent by pulling older, less productive fields from production. Production in California is not expected to drop as drastically as area since fields established in the past few years provide stronger yields.

The cut in acreage is a response to lower prices in 3 of the past 4 years, caused largely by rapidly increasing imports. Imports of fresh asparagus totaled 213 million pounds in 2003 and have increased 33 percent since 2000 and 207 percent since 1993. During 2001-03, imports accounted for 64 percent of U.S. asparagus consumption—up from 40 percent during 1991-93.

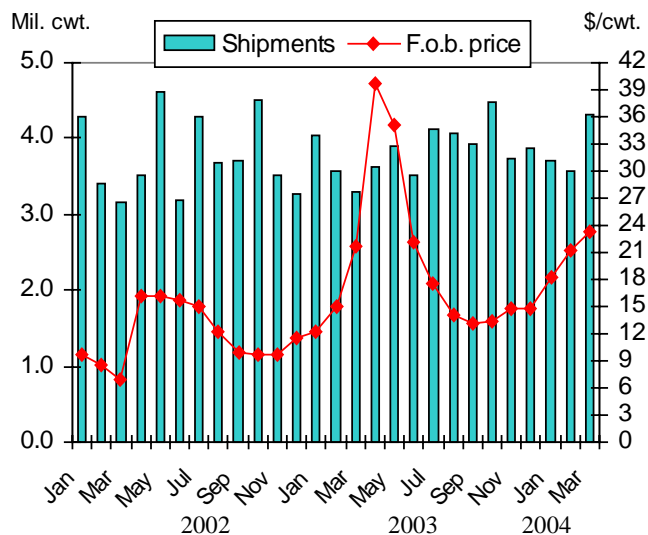
Imports have helped support a 70-percent surge in per capita consumption of fresh-market asparagus during this period. However, domestic producers have largely been excluded from the rapid growth in the fresh asparagus market as domestic production has basically remained flat since 1991-93. U.S. export volume has also been a victim of increased foreign competition (especially in the Japanese market), with exports during 2001-03 down 30 percent from 1991-93.

Despite these negatives, one longrun benefit to domestic producers from stronger consumer demand has been a 14-percent gain in U.S. inflation-adjusted asparagus shipping-point prices. Although market prices were weak the past 2 years, they remained above those of 10 years ago, even after adjusting for inflation.

Onion Acreage Up

U.S. onion producers expect to plant 6 percent more area in 2004. Spring season producers planted 10 percent

Figure 1
Dry-bulb onions: Shipments and shipping-point price



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, and NASS, USDA.

more acreage, while summer non-storage growers indicate a 2-percent increase in area. Driven by attractive prices this past marketing year, storage onion growers (excluding California) indicate they will plant 11 percent more area in 2004. Although area is expected to be higher in nearly every State, acreage in Washington would rise 19 percent to a record high. Growers of California storage onions, three-fourths of which are produced for processing, plan to seed 4 percent fewer acres—a likely reflection of adequate dehydrated product stocks.

Spring onion growers once again entered an onion market that was experiencing shortages due to completion of the storage season and a short import market caused by late-season rains in Mexico. Unlike last year, growers in Texas and Georgia are expected to

Table 4--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	229.00	125.00	156.00	--	129.6
Broccoli	27.47	27.13	35.30	44.70	28.13	26.25	33.10	37.00	2.4
Carrots	19.03	19.73	20.13	21.70	24.73	19.75	18.40	18.00	30.0
Cauliflower	28.63	37.80	30.90	54.73	31.50	35.30	28.65	42.00	10.0
Celery	10.90	12.45	12.43	17.27	21.00	17.75	12.75	13.75	92.7
Sweet corn	23.97	15.60	19.13	24.77	24.23	19.05	20.05	24.00	1.1
Cucumbers	24.90	20.60	23.00	17.00	29.10	18.85	22.50	17.75	16.9
Lettuce, head	10.88	22.50	19.10	32.40	15.40	15.00	18.25	17.00	41.5
Onions, dry bulb	16.60	32.33	14.90	14.73	20.90	21.00	13.75	11.00	25.9
Snap beans	58.43	58.43	52.87	49.70	53.53	42.00	56.90	53.25	-8.4
Tomatoes, field-grown	43.43	32.67	40.63	33.17	39.13	35.00	28.50	36.00	-9.9
All vegetable index 2/	778	960	899	1,093	955	890	885	870	22.8

-- = 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 5--Selected fresh-market trade volume, Jan. - Feb.

Item	Annual	January - February		Change
	2003	2003	2004	2003-04
		--1,000 cwt--		Percent
Exports, fresh:				
Vegetables	39,120	6,905	6,532	-5
Lettuce, all	1,479	1,479	1,508	2
Melons	5,760	161	115	-28
Potatoes	5,898	472	527	12
Imports, fresh:				
Vegetables	69,307	16,909	16,000	-5
Tomatoes	20,707	5,473	4,605	-16
Melons	19,389	5,229	4,183	-20
Potatoes	8,723	1,951	1,433	-27

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

have less trouble filling demand. Harvested area for spring onions is expected to rise 17 percent from last year's weather-shortened area. With average yields, production should rise a tenth or more and prices should remain well below the record highs of a year ago.

Per Capita Disappearance Fell in 2003

Per capita use of fresh-market vegetables (excluding melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms) remained virtually unchanged in 2003 at 144.3 pounds. Including melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms, fresh-market vegetable consumption totaled 225.3 pounds—up 1 percent from a year earlier. Most of this increase reflected preliminary estimates indicating an increase in fresh potato use. Potato consumption estimates for calendar year 2003 depend on utilization statistics for both the 2002 and 2003 crop years. Thus, potato consumption estimates cannot be finalized until utilization data for the 2003 crop become available on September 23.

Fresh use declined for crops such as cabbage (down 9 percent), head lettuce (down 7 percent), snap beans (down 6 percent), and tomatoes (down 5 percent). Most of these declines were driven by weather-reduced yields and output that cut availability during the year.

Per capita use of leafy green vegetables declined 2 percent to 50.6 pounds. Despite the overall decline, several leafy crops posted gains last year. A few notable changes in leafy green per capita use included:

- All lettuce, down 6 percent to 30.7 pounds as both head and leaf lettuces fell;
- Cabbage, down 9 percent to 7.7 pounds as poor weather cut yields for the second consecutive year;
- Broccoli, up 9 percent to 5.7 pounds—reversing a 3-year slide in consumption;
- Cauliflower, up 32 percent to 2.2 pounds as yields jumped 20 percent to a record 192 cwt/acre; and

- Spinach, up 14 percent to 1.9 pounds—the highest per capita consumption since 1949.

Aside from the crops discussed above, the only other major fresh-market vegetables to suffer reductions in per capita use last year were pumpkins (down 8 percent) and celery (down 3 percent). Most of the reduction in celery (all uses) can be traced to changes in trade flows during the year. Although domestic output increased in 2003, domestic use drifted downward as imports declined 34 percent and exports increased 5 percent. Exports had declined for 4 consecutive years prior to 2003. Most of the drop in celery imports came in trade with Mexico during the winter months.

On the plus side, other than the leafy crops discussed above, several vegetables registered gains in per capita use in 2003. Some of these were:

- Asparagus, up 16 percent to 1.1 pounds per capita—the highest fresh-market consumption since 1947;
- Carrots, up 14 percent to 10.9 pounds—the highest since 1998. Fresh carrot use totaled 3.2 billion pounds last year;
- Artichokes (all uses), up 15 percent to 0.7 pounds—the second highest on record. Yield per acre was the highest on record at 140 cwt;
- Garlic (all uses), up 13 percent to 2.8 pounds—second only to 1999's 3.3 pounds; and
- Sweet corn, up 7 percent to a record 9.8 pounds. Production was record-high as were exports, which totaled 133 million pounds.

Table 6--Fresh-market vegetables: Per capita use

Item	Average			
	1997-2001	2002	2003	2004f
	--Pounds/person--			
Asparagus	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.1
Snap beans	1.8	2.1	2.0	2.1
Broccoli	5.7	5.3	5.7	5.8
Cabbage	8.6	8.5	7.7	8.1
Carrots	11.8	9.5	10.9	10.7
Cauliflower	1.8	1.7	2.2	2.3
Celery	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4
Sweet corn	9.0	9.2	9.8	9.9
Cucumbers	6.5	6.7	6.3	6.5
Garlic	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.8
All lettuce	30.9	32.5	30.7	31.3
Head lettuce	23.3	22.7	21.1	21.6
Other lettuce	7.6	9.8	9.6	9.7
Onions 1/	18.4	18.6	18.7	19.0
Bell pepper	6.6	6.8	6.8	7.0
Spinach	1.2	1.7	1.9	1.9
Tomatoes 2/	17.4	18.2	17.3	18.7
Others 3/	9.4	13.7	14.0	13.9
All fresh	138.9	144.5	144.3	147.5

f = ERS forecast. 1/ Fresh dry bulb. 2/ Excludes domestic hot-house tomatoes. 3/ Excludes melons, potatoes, and mushrooms. After 1999, also includes leafy greens, okra, and pumpkins.

Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

Processing Vegetables

Canning Area Stable, Freezing Down

Contract acreage for the five leading processing vegetables (tomatoes, sweet corn, snap beans, green peas, and cucumbers) is expected to decline 1 percent from a year earlier to 1.27 million acres. Assuming yields remain near the average of the previous 3 seasons, total production of 11 selected processing vegetables could increase 5 to 7 percent from the 15.7 million short tons harvested in 2003. The majority of any gain in processing output this year will likely stem from an expected recovery in California tomato yields from last year's weather-reduced levels (about 5 tons below trend).

Canneries, which account for two-thirds of all processing vegetable area, expect to contract for about the same acreage as a year ago. Given average yields, contract production of the five leading canning vegetables could rise a tenth above that of 2002. For processors of frozen vegetables, contract area is expected to fall 3 percent as reduced sweet corn plantings outweigh small increases for snap beans and green peas. Given average yields, contract production for the three leading vegetables for freezing is expected to decline about 10 percent from a year ago.

Contract area for canning sweet corn is expected to rise 3 percent. However, assuming average acreage abandonment and yields around the average of the previous 3 years, canning sweet corn production will likely decline 2 to 4 percent from a year ago. In 2003, a greater percentage of sweet corn acres were harvested than average (abandonment was less) and National yield was a record-high 7.2 tons per acre. Contract area for sweet corn destined for freezing is expected to decline 7 percent. Processors are attempting to work down

Table 10--Contract plantings of selected processing crops 1/

Year	Contract plantings			Change
	2002	2003	2004 ^f	2003-04 2/
	1000 acres			Percent
Canning	865.5	860.0	859.4	0
Tomatoes	311.1	306.7	309.4	1
Sweet corn	220.8	220.3	226.0	3
Snap beans	155.5	141.6	133.9	-5
Green peas	98.3	106.7	90.1	-16
Cucumbers	79.8	84.7	100.0	18
Freezing	418.3	419.3	407.2	-3
Sweet corn	223.4	224.5	209.8	-7
Snap beans	64.7	56.7	57.0	1
Green peas	130.2	138.1	140.4	2
Processing	1,283.8	1,279.3	1,266.6	-1

^f = Prospective area..

1/ Excludes open market plantings. 2/ Percent change based on a comparable list of States and not on table data.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

record-large stocks, which stood 31 percent above the average of the previous 10 years on Jan 1.

Canning pea output could decline by a fourth this year due to an expected 16-percent reduction in acreage (virtually all green pea area is contracted) and a return to average yields following last year's record high of 2.1 tons per acre. For freezing, green pea area is expected to rise 2 percent. Despite more area, output of peas for freezing could decline if yields remain near the average of the previous 3 years (the 2003 yield was second only to the 2000 record-high). Although slightly higher than a year earlier, frozen green pea stocks on January 1 were 27 percent below the average of the previous 10 years. With consumption in the 2000s running 6 percent below the average of the 1990s, processors may becoming more conservative in holding green pea inventories.

Table 9--Processing vegetables: Consumer and producer price indexes

Item	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Change previous:		July-Sep.	Oct.-Dec.		Change previous:	
	2004	2004	2003	Month	Year	2003	2002	2003	Quarter	Year
	Index			Percent		Index		Percent		
Consumer Price Indexes (12/97=100)										
Processed fruits and vegetables	115	115	114	0.3	1.5	115	113	113	-1.8	0.4
Canned vegetables	116	116	115	-0.1	0.9	117	115	114	-2.8	-0.4
Frozen vegetables (1982-84=100)	178	176	171	0.7	3.9	175	170	173	-1.4	1.6
Dry beans, peas, lentils	110	109	109	1.2	0.7	109	111	109	0.0	-1.4
Olives, pickles, relishes	106	108	104	-1.9	1.6	107	111	107	-0.2	-3.6
Producer Price Indexes (1982=100)										
Canned vegetables and juices	132	132	129	0.2	2.2	130	129	131	1.2	1.4
Pickles and products	180	180	180	0.0	0.0	180	180	180	0.0	-0.2
Tomato catsup and sauces 1/	126	126	123	0.0	2.3	124	123	125	1.3	2.2
Canned dry beans	124	123	124	0.6	0.5	123	124	124	0.7	0.6
Vegetable juices 1/	111	111	111	0.0	0.0	109	111	110	0.8	-0.7
Frozen vegetables	136	135	134	0.6	1.3	134	132	135	0.4	2.1
Dried/dehy fruit & vegetables 2/	143	144	150	-0.8	-5.1	145	151	144	-1.2	-4.8

-- = 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.

Table 11--Value of processed vegetable trade 1/

Item	Annual	January - February		Change
	2003	2003	2004	2003-04
	--Million dollars--			Percent
Imports:				
Canned	643	94	103	10
Frozen	398	72	76	5
Dehydrated 2/	235	38	40	4
Exports:				
Canned	522	78	88	13
Frozen	154	28	24	-14
Dehydrated 2/	123	19	19	1

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

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

U.S. tomato processors have contracted for 11.5 million short tons in 2004—up 19 percent from a year earlier. Although production was short in 2003, both export and domestic demand for tomato products increased during calendar year 2003. As a result, stocks of U.S. tomato products are the lowest since 1999. Given the intentions of competing world producers to increase output, wholesale tomato product prices may soften later this fall.

Per Capita Use Up in 2003

Per capita use of processing vegetables (excluding potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms) increased slightly to 121 pounds. On a fresh-equivalent basis and excluding potatoes and mushrooms, total disappearance of vegetables used in manufacturing frozen, canned, and dehydrated products in 2003 was estimated to be 35.2 billion pounds—up 1 percent from a year earlier. Assuming continued improvement in the general economy this summer and fall, the outlook for 2003 points to a 1-percent increase in per capita use of processing vegetables to 122 pounds, as gains in

Table 12--Vegetables for canning: Per capita use 1/

Item	Average	2002	2003	2004f
	1997-2001			
	--Pounds/person--			
Tomatoes	70.7	69.1	69.5	69.8
Sweet corn	9.0	7.8	8.3	8.3
Chile peppers 2/	4.8	5.6	5.2	5.6
Cucumbers 3/	4.4	5.4	3.6	4.8
Snap beans	3.8	3.5	3.8	3.5
Carrots	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.4
Green peas	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.3
Cabbage	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Beets	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7
Asparagus	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other canning	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7
Subtotal	99.6	97.5	97.0	98.6
Potatoes	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.6
Total	101.3	99.0	98.5	100.2

f = ERS forecast. 1/ Calendar year consumption for selected items.

2/ Includes fresh and all processing uses. 3/ For pickling.

Source: ERS, USDA.

Table 13--Vegetables for freezing: Per capita use 1/

Item	Average	2002	2003	2004f
	1997-2001			
	--Pounds/person, fresh-weight--			
Sweet corn	9.6	9.4	9.3	9.5
Snap beans	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.9
Green peas	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.9
Carrots	2.4	1.9	1.7	1.9
Broccoli	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.9
Spinach	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8
Cauliflower	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.4
Asparagus	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other freezing	2.4	3.8	4.4	3.8
Subtotal	21.8	21.5	22.1	22.2
Potatoes 2/	58.4	55.1	57.6	57.3
Total	80.2	76.6	79.7	79.5

f = ERS forecast. 1/ Calendar year consumption for selected items.

2/ Includes french fries and other frozen potato products.

Source: ERS, USDA.

pickling cucumbers, tomatoes, and chile peppers outweigh declines in dehydrating onions and broccoli.

Freezing vegetables—Disappearance of vegetables for freezing (excluding potatoes) increased 4 percent to 6.4 billion pounds (23.2 billion including potatoes) in 2003. On a per capita use basis, freezing vegetables (excluding potatoes) increased 3 percent to 22.1 pounds last year. Including potatoes, freezing vegetable use rose 4 percent to 79.7 pounds per person. Increases were noted for broccoli (up 23 percent), cauliflower (up 19 percent), green peas (up 10 percent), and spinach (up 8 percent), with declines coming in asparagus (down 13 percent), carrots (down 10 percent), and sweet corn (down 1 percent). The sizeable gain in broccoli largely reflects a reported doubling of output within the previously shrinking domestic industry. If this figure holds through next winter's annual revisions, it would be the largest reported production of broccoli for freezing since 1995.

Canning vegetables--Per capita use of canning vegetables (excluding potatoes) declined fractionally to 97.0 pounds. Total domestic disappearance of canning vegetables in 2003 rose nearly 1 percent to 28.3 billion pounds. Aside from chile peppers and cucumbers for pickles, estimated use of all major canning vegetables either increased or remained constant. Despite reduced production (down 16 percent), lower imports (down 24 percent), and a sizeable increase in exports (up 19 percent), there was increased use of processing tomatoes (up 1 percent). Tomatoes accounted for 72 percent of 2003 canning vegetable disappearance. The outlook for 2004 indicates a small gain in per capita use of processing tomatoes as output and imports each rise.

Onions for dehydration—Domestic disappearance of onions for dehydration totaled an estimated 482 million pounds in 2003, with per capita use rising to 1.7 pounds.

Winter and Spring Production Down Sharply

The 2004 winter season potato crop is estimated at 3.5 million cwt, down 13 percent from a year ago and 17 percent below 2002. Harvested acreage in the two winter potato States (California and Florida) is estimated at 14,000, down 2 percent from 2002, while the average yield is forecast at 250 cwt per acre, down 11 percent from last year. California harvested the same acreage as a year ago, but yields were reduced by a freeze in the Imperial Valley during the growing season. Conversely, Florida experienced a slight reduction in acreage that was largely offset by an increase in yields from a year ago.

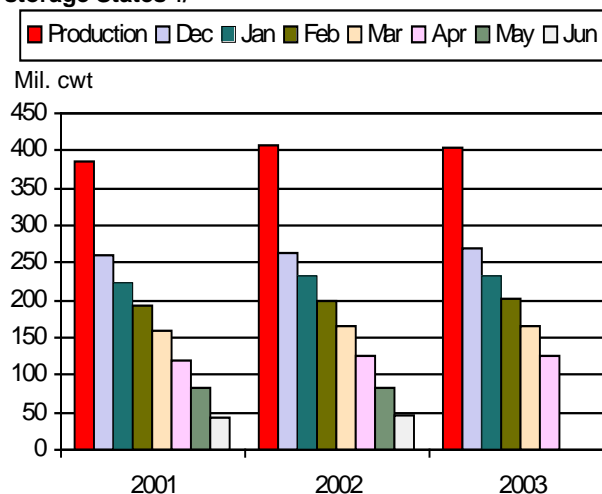
Spring potato production for 2004 is forecast at 19.7 million cwt, down 20 percent from last year. Area for harvest is estimated at 72,500 acres, down 14 percent from last year and 16 percent below 2002. Per acre yields are forecast to average 271 cwt, down 6 percent from a year ago. Florida production is forecast down 30 percent from last year, with acreage down 21 percent due to reduced contract acreage and yields down 11 percent due to heavy March showers in some areas. Production is also expected to be lower in North Carolina this spring (down 4 percent from a year ago) due at least partially to acreage contract reductions. Production is also expected to be down in the other spring-producing States of California (down 18 percent from last year), Texas (down 19 percent), and Arizona (down 6 percent). Spring acreage was down in every State, at least partially due to fairly poor market conditions.

Fresh Potato Stocks Up, Frozen Down

On April 1, the 15 major potato States held 126 million cwt of stored potatoes, up marginally from last year and 5 percent above 2 years ago. April 1 stocks represented 31 percent of fall production in the storage States, unchanged from a year earlier. Disappearance of potatoes from the 2003 crop to date (278 million cwt as of April 1) is down 1 percent from last year, but is 4 percent above 2 years ago. Fresh stocks have been slightly higher than year-previous levels throughout the marketing season, despite a 1-percent decrease in production in the 15 major States last fall.

It appears that fewer potatoes may be going to the fresh market this season compared to last year, with shipments of table potatoes down marginally from year-previous levels for September through March. Processor use of potatoes is also down 4 percent through March compared with a year ago, but 4 per-

Figure 3
Fall Potatoes: Production and stocks for 15 storage States 1/



1/ Production by crop year, stocks by months following harvest.
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

cent above the usage rate for the 2001 crop. The decrease in processor use is reflected in changes in stocks of frozen potato products this marketing season. At the end of August 2003, stocks of all frozen potato products were 3 percent above year-earlier levels. However, by the end of December 2003, frozen stocks were 1 percent below year-previous levels, indicating that the decreased processor use to date had resulted in a drawdown on existing stocks. At the end of February, overall frozen potato stocks were down less than 1 percent from a year ago, with stocks of frozen french fries 2 percent below year-earlier levels and stocks of other frozen potato products up 6 percent.

Closer examination of the monthly processor use and cold storage data in conjunction with U.S. trade data seems to indicate that domestic demand for frozen potato products may be stabilizing somewhat after showing signs of decline in recent years. Although year-to-date processor use is down from a year ago, use during the December through February period was marginally higher than year-previous levels. During this time, stocks of frozen products went from being above year-previous levels at the end of November to below year previous levels for December through February, despite the increased processor use. Finally, frozen potato product trade during the September through March period also suggests that there may be a stabilization in domestic demand, as imports have continued to increase (up 3 percent for the September through March period from a year ago), while exports have decreased (down 7 percent). March processing potato use, however, was

surprisingly below last year's pace. For a better determination of U.S. frozen potato demand, it will be important to closely monitor changes in fresh and frozen stocks relative to processing use and trade during the rest of the marketing year.

Grower Prices Down in 2003/04

Last fall, U.S. growers harvested 411 million cwt of potatoes, down 1 percent from the fall of 2002. However, record Canadian production of 118 million cwt pushed total fall production for the two countries to 529 million cwt, up 3 percent from a year ago, the highest since the fall of 2000. At the same time, although demand for frozen potato products appears to be stabilizing, demand for fresh-market potatoes appears to be weaker than a year ago. These factors have combined to put downward pressure on grower prices this season. As a result, U.S. grower prices for potatoes during September through March averaged 14 percent below year-earlier levels. Fresh-market prices during the September through February period (latest data available) were down 30 percent from year-earlier levels. However, unlike last season when prices for fresh potatoes steadily declined through the winter months, fresh prices have resumed the more typical pattern of increasing during this time. February fresh-market grower prices were 22 percent below a year ago, after starting the season in September at 42 percent below a year ago. The Producer Price Index (PPI) for fresh consumer use potatoes showed a 28-percent decrease for September through February. Grower prices for processing potatoes have also averaged below those of a year ago, but only slightly—down 2 percent for September through February, with prices for the month of

February actually 2 percent above a year earlier. The recent improvement in grower prices for processing potatoes is reflected in a higher PPI for frozen french fries, which is up 3 percent from last year (September through February). Combined with increased processor use since December (compared with a year ago), prices for processing potatoes may continue to average higher than last year's through the summer.

Retail prices for fresh potatoes and frozen french fries have also averaged lower than a year ago. For the September through March period, average U.S. retail prices for fresh white potatoes averaged 7 percent below year-earlier levels, and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for fresh potatoes was down 2 percent. Retail prices for frozen french fries averaged 9 percent lower than year-previous levels, while average potato chip retail prices were up 1 percent.

Overall prices at the grower level could remain at or lower than a year ago for the remainder of the 2003/04 marketing season, but the gap is closing so this is not a foregone conclusion. Processor demand appeared to have stabilized early in 2004 before falling below year-previous levels in March, and prices for processing potatoes surpassed year-previous levels in February. Fresh-market prices, although still below year-previous levels, have steadily improved throughout the season. Stocks are still slightly higher than a year ago, and improved demand for the remainder of the year will be essential to any continuing improvement in price. With the majority of the crop already marketed, the 2003 season-average price will definitely be lower than the average for the 2002 crop (\$6.69/cwt), and is likely to fall below \$6.00/cwt.

Table 14--Potatoes: Processing use through December 1, monthly and seasonal totals, major States, 1992/93-2003/04

Season	Processed through December 1	Potatoes processed during:						Entire season
		December	January	February	March	April	Others	
--1,000 cwt--								
1992/93	57,355	14,125	13,650	15,365	15,065	14,735	43,910	174,205
1993/94	61,305	13,820	14,850	15,990	17,365	17,270	46,115	186,715
1994/95	65,580	16,040	16,700	17,275	18,160	18,390	51,965	204,110
1995/96	71,415	16,275	16,275	17,680	18,090	16,890	42,180	198,805
1996/97	78,240	15,745	16,600	20,160	18,865	18,680	59,245	227,535
1997/98	68,355	15,265	15,500	19,390	19,700	17,585	56,297	212,092
1998/99	74,140	15,850	18,890	19,455	21,080	18,685	54,300	222,400
1999/2000	75,015	15,830	15,780	19,870	20,475	18,120	48,940	214,030
2000/01	78,570	16,810	17,890	18,350	19,785	18,660	60,560	230,625
2001/02	65,405	14,600	16,265	18,315	17,035	16,480	47,405	195,505
2002/03	76,480	15,450	14,670	18,565	17,870	16,330	49,675	209,040
2003/04	71,140	15,615	14,600	18,795	16,860	--	--	--

1/ Excludes potatoes used for chips in Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Lower Prices May Prompt Reduced Fall Area

Lower grower prices and higher stocks on hand in the spring typically signal a decrease in fall potato acreage. Other factors that signal a decline are relatively weak demand for fresh potatoes compared with the past 2 years, potentially stabilizing but still fairly weak demand for frozen potato products, and ever-increasing competition from Canada. An overall assessment of acreage intentions for several alternative crops in key potato-growing States may also indicate a shift away from potatoes in some areas, although the impact on potato acreage is hard to quantify and seems to vary by region.

For example, wheat acreage is expected to be down 2 percent nationwide, with fairly noticeable reductions in several key fall potato-producing States, particularly in the West (Colorado, down 12 percent; Idaho, down 6 percent; Oregon, down 9 percent; and Washington, down 5 percent). While this could hint at potato-acreage increases, Colorado, Idaho, and Washington all report intended increases in dry bean acreage, and water supply in some areas could also be an issue again this season. The overall net effect of competing crops in the West may have little impact on potato acreage. Acreage in the West is likely to be down at least slightly due to the weak potato market.

Conversely, acreage intentions for alternative crops like soybeans and dry beans could have more of an impact on potato crops in the Midwest. Soybean acreage is expected to rise by 3 percent at the national level, and may have some impact on potato acreage in

Minnesota and North Dakota. Dry bean acreage, although expected to be down 5 percent at the national level, is expected to increase in Michigan and Minnesota, but will decline in North Dakota and Nebraska. Again, the overall net effect of potatoes is difficult to assess, but potato acreage is expected to decline overall in the Midwest, perhaps more significantly (by percentage) than in the West.

A further question about the amount of acreage decrease is the current overall level of grower prices. Although down noticeably from the previous 2 years, particularly for fresh-market potatoes, prices have improved through the winter and the price gap from a year ago has closed considerably. Furthermore, early season shipments of seed potatoes (September through March) are up 22 percent from year-previous levels. However, April and May are traditionally the largest seed-shipment months, and should provide a better indication of grower intentions.

Based on an overall assessment of current market conditions, ERS forecasts planted acreage for 2004 fall-season potatoes to decline between 2 and 4 percent from a year ago. If realized, acreage decreases in the forecast range, combined with average acreage abandonment and yields, could place fall potato production between 394 million cwt and 402 million cwt. However, acreage declines of only 2 percent, combined with record yields like those realized in 2000 could push fall production to nearly 420 million cwt—which would be up 2 percent from last fall. USDA's first official estimate of planted acreage for fall potatoes will be released on July 12.

Table 15--Potatoes: Monthly average grower prices

Year	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	\$/cwt											
All potatoes:												
2000/01	4.65	4.32	4.31	4.59	4.73	5.28	5.12	5.47	5.22	5.71	6.37	7.61
2001/02	6.04	5.15	5.96	6.66	7.31	7.31	8.22	7.97	8.63	9.45	10.80	7.55
2002/03	6.14	5.44	6.38	6.67	6.41	6.33	6.87	6.94	6.96	6.68	6.30	5.75
2003/04	5.35	4.91	5.42	5.70	5.75	5.93	6.30					
Tablestock:												
2000/01	4.92	4.04	3.80	4.00	4.38	5.41	4.50	5.50	7.23	8.36	8.94	13.50
2001/02	10.20	8.13	8.28	9.22	10.40	11.50	13.10	12.00	14.70	16.30	16.70	15.30
2002/03	10.80	7.99	8.83	8.65	8.09	8.18	8.83	8.46	8.37	8.56	8.43	8.20
2003/04	7.37	6.24	6.56	6.13	6.20	6.47						
Processing:												
2000/01	4.40	4.30	4.67	4.85	4.95	5.15	5.10	5.19	5.09	4.96	5.24	4.73
2001/02	4.58	4.42	4.77	5.04	5.47	5.34	5.40	5.71	6.03	5.92	6.12	4.97
2002/03	4.88	4.91	5.22	5.52	5.38	5.32	5.29	5.37	5.66	5.69	4.85	4.77
2003/04	4.69	5.54	4.90	5.37	5.36	5.49						

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Sweet Potatoes

Strong Prices Prompt More Acreage

U.S. sweet potato growers intend to plant 98,300 acres in 2004, up 3 percent from last year and 2 percent above 2002 for comparable States. Four States expect increased acreage (California, Louisiana, Mississippi, and North Carolina) and four look for declines (Alabama, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia), while acreage in New Jersey should be unchanged from a year ago. The overall increase comes on the heels of record grower prices at the national level for the 2003 crop. The preliminary season-average price for 2003-crop sweet potatoes is \$20.80/cwt, up 25 percent from the 2002 crop, and 18 percent higher than the previous record set in 1999. A significant price increase for the 2003 crop is especially noteworthy because it comes in conjunction with a 24-percent increase in production from 2002 and is the largest production since 1962.

The largest acreage increases for 2004 are expected in the South. Louisiana, Mississippi, and North Carolina all expect planted acreage to increase by 1,000 acres from a year ago, a rise of 5, 7, and 2 percent, respectively. An excellent crop last fall, followed by price increases of 34, 23, and 4 percent in the respective States contributed to the increased acreage this spring. California, the other State showing an increase in prospective plantings this year, is also coming from a strong price season. Preliminary grower prices for the 2003 California crop show a 49-percent increase from 2002, prompting a 6-percent (600-acre) increase in spring plantings. California growers got off to an earlier-than-usual start this spring, and as of late March had experienced good growing conditions and ample rainfall. Transplant preparations were active in North Carolina in March, and in Texas, a shortage of irrigation water was forcing many growers to cut back on planted acreage.

Assuming favorable growing conditions, average acreage abandonment, and 3-year average-yields (161

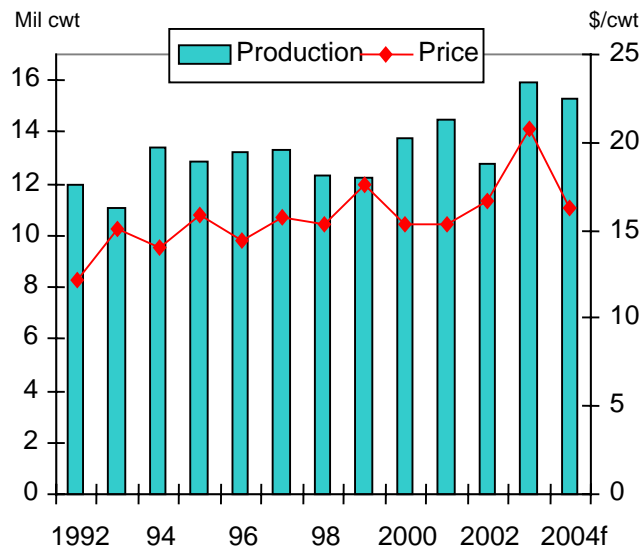
Table 16--Sweet potatoes: Acres planted

State	2002	2003	2004	Change
	--1,000 cwt--			2003-04 Percent
Alabama	2.8	2.8	2.6	-7
California	10.4	10.4	11.0	6
Louisiana	21.0	19.0	20.0	5
Mississippi	16.0	14.0	15.0	7
North Carolina	40.0	43.0	44.0	2
Texas	2.8	3.4	3.2	-6
Others	3.4	3.0	2.5	-17
Total	96.4	95.6	98.3	3

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Figure 4

Sweet potatoes: Production and grower price



Source: NASS, USDA, except 2004 forecasts by ERS, USDA.

cwt/acre), the 2004 U.S. sweet potato crop could be 15.3 million cwt. That would be down 4 percent from a year ago, but would be the second-largest crop since 1965. Even with the slight production decline from last year, grower prices are likely to fall from a year ago due to back-to-back years of very strong production. However, average sweet potato grower prices have clearly improved over the last 10 to 15 years, rising from an average of \$12.92/cwt during 1988-1992, to \$15.04/cwt during 1993-1997, to \$16.12 from 1998-2002. And last year prices hit record highs despite the bumper crop, indicating that demand for sweet potatoes may be strengthening. If assessment is accurate and the strong demand trend continues, grower prices could average more than \$16.00 per cwt for the 2004 crop. However, if demand is somewhat sluggish, a 2004 crop of over 15 million cwt could drop average grower prices into the \$14.00-16.00 range.

Domestic sweet potato use seems to have made a comeback in recent years. After averaging 5.1 pounds per person during the 1970s, average per capita use fell during the 1980s and 1990s to 4.6 and 4.1 pounds respectively, reaching an annual low of 3.7 pounds twice in the 1990's. So far in the 2000s, however, per capita use has rebounded to an average of 4.3 pounds, reaching 4.7 pounds in 2003. During this time, U.S. exports of sweet potatoes have also surged, rising 51 percent from 2000 to 2003. Exports have risen steadily since the late 1980s—2003 sweet potato exports were 4 times what they were in 1989—indicating that international demand for U.S. sweet potatoes has also increased.

Dry Edible Beans

Prospective Acreage Down 5 Percent

According to USDA's *Prospective Plantings* report, U.S. growers indicated they intend to plant fewer dry beans in 2004—area is expected to decline 5 percent to 1.333 million acres. This decline is a response to strong prices for alternative field crops and the sluggish reaction of dry bean markets to short supplies stemming from last year's smaller crop. Since planting does not finish until late June in some areas, further adjustments to indicated acreage will likely take place. During the past 2 years, dry bean growers adjusted acreage 8 percent from their initial March intentions. Growers added to their initial intended area increase in 2002 and subtracted more area than their initial intended decrease in 2003. In no case over the past 10 years did the March *Prospective Plantings* report miss the turning point in dry bean acreage. This year will not likely be an exception unless vastly more competitive grower bids for dry beans appear soon. The next acreage estimate for dry beans will be released in the June 30 *Acreage* report.

In the late-March *Prospective Plantings* report, a few indicated area intentions were as follows:

- *North Dakota*, the leading producer of all beans, including pinto and navy, indicated an 11-percent drop;
- *Michigan*, the top source for black beans, plans to increase area 6 percent;
- *Minnesota*, a leading source of dark red kidney beans, plans a 4-percent increase in dry bean area;
- *Colorado*, indicated a 6-percent rise in dry bean area for 2004;
- *California* expects to plant 5-percent fewer acres than a year ago, continuing a long-term decline;
- *Nebraska*, the leading source of Great Northern beans, indicated a 6-percent cut in 2004.

Given average weather this summer and fall and sufficient irrigation water in mountain States suffering drought, yields could hover around the 25-year trend (17.0 cwt/acre). Trend yields combined with 5-year average acreage abandonment (about 9 percent nationally) could place U.S. dry bean production between 20 and 22 million cwt in 2004. A crop of this size may prove insufficient to cover average domestic and export demand for many bean classes, leading to higher prices and the possibility of increased imports. At this time, it appears increased acreage is likely for navy, black, and dark red kidneys while reduced area is likely for pinto, blackeye, and Great Northern beans.

Grower Prices Only Up 7 Percent

Despite a potential supply shortfall for some classes in the U.S. dry bean market for the 2004/05 marketing

Table 18--Dry edible beans: Area planted 1/

Item	2002	2003	2004 2/	Change
				2003-04
				Percent
--Acres--				
California	92.0	77.0	73.0	-5
Colorado	92.0	80.0	85.0	6
Idaho	95.0	75.0	80.0	7
Michigan	270.0	170.0	180.0	6
Minnesota	170.0	115.0	120.0	4
Montana	26.9	13.0	14.0	8
Nebraska	185.0	155.0	145.0	-6
New York	25.0	25.0	23.0	-8
North Dakota	790.0	540.0	480.0	-11
Texas	37.5	50.0	27.0	-46
Washington	44.5	27.5	35.0	27
Wyoming	32.0	30.0	31.0	3
Others	69.8	48.6	40.0	-18
U.S.	1,929.7	1,406.1	1,333.0	-5

1/ Excludes garden seed. 2/ Prospective plantings.

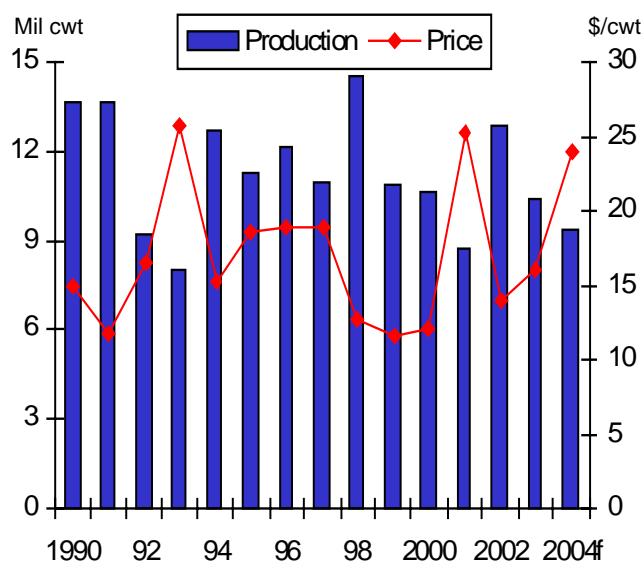
Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 17--U.S. dry beans: Monthly grower prices for selected classes, 2003-2004

Commodity	2003			2004			Change from prev year:		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
--- Cents per pound ---									
All dry beans	16.40	19.40	15.50	17.00	17.50	19.00	3.7	-9.8	22.6
Pinto (ND/MN)	13.00	12.88	12.63	14.63	15.00	16.20	12.5	16.5	28.3
Navy (pea bean) (MI)	11.00	10.44	10.25	17.50	17.50	18.30	59.1	67.6	78.5
Great Northern (NE/WY)	18.00	18.00	18.00	15.00	15.00	15.70	-16.7	-16.7	-12.8
Black (MI)	11.50	11.50	11.50	18.25	18.13	19.20	58.7	57.7	67.0
Light red kidney (MI)	21.50	22.00	21.75	22.75	24.25	22.50	5.8	10.2	3.4
Dark red kidney (MN/WI)	17.00	17.00	17.63	21.75	22.50	22.90	27.9	32.4	29.9
Small red (ID)	20.00	19.63	19.50	21.00	21.00	20.50	5.0	7.0	5.1
Baby lima (CA)	30.00	30.06	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.0	-0.2	0.0
Large lima (CA)	40.50	40.75	41.00	41.00	41.00	41.00	1.2	0.6	0.0
Blackeye (CA)	31.94	33.19	34.75	28.00	28.00	28.00	-12.3	-15.6	-19.4
Pink (ID)	20.00	19.63	19.50	20.00	20.00	20.40	0.0	1.9	4.6

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

Figure 5

U.S. pinto beans: Production and grower price

ERS forecast for 2004. Source: USDA, NASS, and USDA, AMS.

marketing year, dry bean markets have largely remained quiet since harvest last fall. Although many explanations have been offered for the lack of price response in dry bean markets, one possible reason is that stocks of some dry bean classes are greater than estimated by industry observers (dry bean stocks are not surveyed by USDA), especially for classes such as pintos and light red kidney beans. This would also mean that demand is weaker than estimated.

The U.S. aggregate grower price for all dry beans averaged just 7 percent above a year earlier during the first 7 months of the marketing year (September 2003 - March 2004). During this time, regional grower bids for several of the major classes changed as follows:

- Pintos, \$14.96—up 9 percent from last year,
- Navy, \$17.32—up 52 percent,
- Great Northern, \$15.59—down 15 percent,
- Black, \$18.18—up 52 percent,
- Light red kidney, \$22.99—up 6 percent,
- Dark red kidney, \$21.89—up 23 percent,
- Blackeye, \$28.05—down 12 percent,
- Small red, \$20.99—up 5 percent.

Per Capita Use Down in 2003

According to preliminary data, per capita use (domestic disappearance) of all dry edible beans declined 1 percent to 6.6 pounds in 2003. Domestic disappearance totaled 1.9 billion pounds—the fourth consecutive annual decline since a peak of nearly 2.2 billion pounds in 1999. The slow economy this decade, a cooling of demand for Mexican-style foods, and the popularity of various low-carb diets may be whittling away at demand

Table 19--U.S. dry edible beans: Per capita use

Item	Average	2002	2003	2004f
	1997-2001			
--Pounds/person--				
Pinto	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.1
Navy (pea)	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8
Great Northern	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Black	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Light-red kidney	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3
Dark-red kidney	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Blackeye	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Garbanzo	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Small red	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Baby lima	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Large lima	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Cranberry	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Pink	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Others 1/	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.4
All dry beans	7.4	6.7	6.6	6.7

f = ERS forecast. Calendar year estimates. Includes net trade.

1/ Includes small white and all others.

Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

for a variety of foods such as dry beans. In the year ahead, with production expected to drop for the second consecutive year, per capita dry bean use is unlikely to register an increase. Use is currently expected to remain near that of 2003 as inventories are drawn down and exports decline to make up for the shortfall expected in this year's crop.

In 2003, per capita use of pinto beans remained unchanged at 3.2 pounds, with little change expected for 2004. Navy bean use continued to trend lower after a brief surge in the mid-1990s, dropping just below 0.9 pounds per capita—the lowest level on record. Per capita use of black beans held steady at 0.5 pounds. Use of light red kidney beans increased in 2003, recovering from a decline in 2002 caused by the short 2001/02 crop.

Table 20--U.S. dry bean export volume

Item	Crop year 2002/03	Sept.-Feb.		Change 2002-03 Percent
		2002/03	2003/04	
--1,000 cwt--				
Pinto	1,242	889	647	-27
Navy	1,462	436	341	-22
Black	848	311	474	53
Great Northern	904	171	256	50
Lgt red kidney	329	211	25	-88
Dk red kidney	401	120	94	-22
Small red	158	47	80	69
Garbanzo	345	148	37	-75
Baby lima	204	79	76	-3
Large lima	170	75	28	-63
Blackeyes	45	31	12	-62
Cranberry	132	58	56	-2
Other	695	195	258	32
Total	6,937	2,769	2,385	-14

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

Commodity Highlight: Honeydew Melons

Honeydew melons (*Cucumis melo*, var. *inodorous*), like all melons, are members of the cucurbit (gourd) family and are most closely related to casaba, crenshaw, and winter melons. Honeydews are thought to have their roots near Iran (Persia) and/or West Africa. Although there are no world data specific to honeydew melons, the United States ranks third (a 6-percent share) in the output of cantaloup and miscellaneous melons (including honeydew), behind China and Turkey.

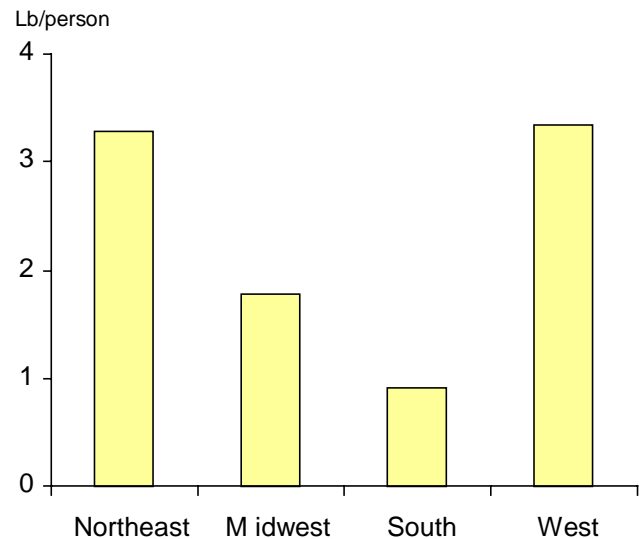
The U.S. farm value of honeydew melons averaged \$94 million during 2001-03. During this 3-year period, California produced 76 percent of the Nation's honeydews, followed by Arizona (14 percent) and Texas (10 percent). About 43 percent of California's honeydews are produced in Fresno County, followed by Sutter County with 20 percent.

Although gains have slowed over the past decade, average per capita consumption of honeydew melons has increased each decade since the 1960s. Between 1990-93 and 2000-03, per capita use rose 9 percent. Since 1980-83, consumption has risen 29 percent, with per capita use peaking at a record 2.5 pounds in 1999. ERS estimates suggest that honeydew consumption will total 623 million pounds in 2004—up 1 percent from a year earlier but 11 percent below the 1999 peak.

According to a USDA food consumption survey, an estimated 30 percent of honeydews are consumed away from home in restaurants (those with table service) and other away-from-home eating establishments, such as cafeterias. The away-from-home share for honeydew, a popular breakfast and salad bar item, was nearly twice as large as for either cantaloup or watermelon, which were each 15 percent of sales.

Honeydew melons are popular among adults of both sexes, but are not as interesting to children. Asian and white consumers are major consumers of honeydews, while Blacks and Hispanics consume much less per

Figure 6
U.S. honeydew melons: Estimated regional use, 2003



Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

capita. Per capita use is greatest in the Northeast and the West (both consumed 3.3 pounds per person in 2003) and lowest in the South (0.9 pounds).

A greater share of the gain in consumption since 1990-93 appears to be linked to increasing imports. While domestic production increased 17 percent during this time, imports are estimated to have risen 26 percent. As with cantaloup, the emergence of year-round demand and availability has helped fuel a portion of the gains in both domestic use and import demand.

From December to April, honeydew availability in the United States depends almost entirely on imports. Imports accounted for 27 percent of annual consumption during 2001-03 compared with 25 percent in 1991-93 and 11 percent during 1981-83. Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Honduras account for the lion's share of imports of mixed melons (of which honeydews comprise an estimated 45 percent).

Table 21--U.S. honeydew melons: Supply, disappearance, and price

Year	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	193.1	18.9	212.0	26.2	185.8	0.91	5.66	20.56	
1980	318.0	26.5	344.5	22.1	322.4	1.42	13.50	24.98	
1990	450.3	115.0	565.3	49.6	515.7	2.06	18.00	22.06	
2000	500.8	174.1	674.9	46.8	628.1	2.22	19.20	19.20	
2001	457.6	139.9	597.5	48.6	548.9	1.92	21.10	20.61	
2002	512.7	171.5	684.2	47.3	636.9	2.21	18.00	17.32	
2003	492.8	163.9	656.7	39.4	617.3	2.12	18.90	17.89	
2004 f	510.0	158.4	668.4	45.1	623.3	2.12	--	--	

-- = Not available. f = ERS forecast. 1/ Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Production data were adjusted by ERS for 1970-80 to account for States not included in NASS estimates. 2/ Estimated by ERS based on shipment share of the "other melon" trade category reported by the Bureau of the Census, USDC. 3/ Constant-dollar prices calculated using GDP deflator, 2000=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. Traceability in the U.S. Food Supply: Economic Theory and Industry Studies

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aer830/>

This report describes the results of an investigation into the amount, type, and adequacy of traceability systems in the United States, focusing particularly on the fresh produce sector, among others. Findings indicate that private sector firms have developed a substantial capacity to trace. For additional information, see the ERS [Traceability in the U.S. Food Supply](#) briefing room.

2. Country-of-Origin Labeling: Theory and Observation

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/WRS04/jan04/wrs0402/>

Examines the economic rationale behind the various claims about the effect of country-of-origin labeling and indicates that mandatory country-of-origin labeling would likely generate more costs than benefits.

Voluntary country-of-origin labeling is an option, but food suppliers have generally discounted the U.S. label as a quality attribute that can attract sufficient consumer interest.

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. Regulatory Barriers in International Horticultural Markets

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/WRS04/jan04/wrs0401/>

Discusses the impact of multilateral trade rules on the use of sanitary and phytosanitary measures applied to fruit and vegetable imports. These rules have lowered many unnecessary barriers to horticultural trade, primarily through requirements that regulations be transparent and based on science.

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Potatoes, sweet potatoes, long-run outlook

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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/mnacs/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>

Organic Farming and Marketing: USDA, ERS briefing room contains articles, data, graphics, and links. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Organic/>

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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	813	906	942	1,021	792	933	969	967	1,226	1,082	931
	2004	916	1,036	904										
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	557	630	604	539	539	531	438	419	475	481	527
	2004	490	508	542										
--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	137	155	135										
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	100	107										

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	
															Mar-Mar	Percent
--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	24.1	--
	1999	141.00	119.00	178.00	124.00	112.00	119.00	141.00	--	--	--	--	--	131.00	23.6	--
	2000	147.00	99.70	98.60	136.00	121.00	112.00	141.00	205.00	--	--	--	--	117.00	-44.6	--
	2001	219.00	256.00	147.00	146.00	114.00	99.70	107.00	145.00	--	137.00	129.00	--	140.00	49.1	--
	2002	218.00	162.00	119.00	99.60	112.00	103.00	118.00	--	--	--	--	--	110.00	-19.0	--
	2003	98.90	96.30	104.00	142.00	106.00	101.00	189.00	132.00	166.00	145.00	--	--	116.00	-12.6	--
	2004	--	271.00	187.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	79.8	--
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	22.4	--
	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	-26.8	--
	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	18.1	--
	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	-9.9	--
	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	36.4	--
	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	-16.6	--
	2004	33.60	28.50	22.30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-20.6	--
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	13.10	12.70	12.10	12.50	16.80	12.90	--	--	--
	1998	14.00	13.00	12.60	12.00	11.90	10.60	10.80	10.60	10.90	11.60	11.00	12.00	-3.0	--	--
	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	65.4	--
	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	-45.1	--
	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	46.6	--
	2002	19.30	19.70	21.10	21.20	21.30	21.60	20.10	18.10	17.90	18.70	19.50	19.00	22.0	--	--
	2003	19.30	19.10	18.70	19.40	19.90	19.90	20.40	20.10	19.40	21.40	24.30	19.10	-11.4	--	--
	2004	24.50	24.90	24.80	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	32.6	--	--
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	49.2	--
	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	-12.8	--
	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	-25.2	--
	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	-26.3	--
	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	84.3	--
	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	-29.2	--
	2004	27.30	42.20	25.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-18.8	--
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	33.3	--
	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	-49.1	--
	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	54.5	--
	2001	14.60	15.00	15.80	19.10	24.00	33.70	13.50	9.28	8.19	8.64	9.62	14.40	22.5	--	--
	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	48.7	--
	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	-46.4	--
	2004	20.80	24.40	17.80	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	41.3	--
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	-28.6	--
	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	-9.9	--
	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	-11.5	--
	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	35.2	--
	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	-3.4	--
	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	-25.0	--
	2004	30.80	20.70	21.20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12.2	--
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	-100.0	--
	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	54.4	--
	2002	--	--	22.90	21.50	16.80	14.70	23.90	23.00	18.90	13.70	18.90	26.40	18.80	-48.0	--
	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	-3.1	--
	2004	28.10	22.20	37.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	66.7	--
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	-7.4	--
	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	30.4	--
	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	-13.5	--
	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	6.4	--
	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	482.7	--
	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	-89.0	--
	2004	15.40	19.80	11.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	14.1	--
Onions	1997	9.71	7.91	8.15	14.80	13.20	16.40	14.20	13.40	10.10						

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	164.7	156.9	148.2	185.4	152.1
2004	140.1	126.0												
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	130.0	130.7	131.0	131.4	129.7
2004	131.7	131.9												
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	134.2	135.2	135.0	134.7	134.3
2004	135.0	135.8												
Dehydrated 4/	1996	143.3	143.3	144.6	146.6	147.3	147.6	146.9	146.1	145.8	145.3	145.5	145.7	145.7
	1997	144.6	144.6	143.6	143.1	141.1	141.1	141.1	141.0	141.1	141.4	139.7	141.1	142.0
	1998	142.0	141.1	140.8	140.5	143.2	143.2	142.2	144.9	143.6	142.9	142.0	146.2	142.7
	1999	148.0	148.0	148.4	147.7	146.1	146.1	146.0	146.5	147.1	146.7	147.4	151.1	147.4
	2000	148.9	149.8	149.9	149.5	149.3	149.0	148.6	144.9	144.0	144.9	143.4	140.8	146.9
	2001	139.1	135.6	136.2	136.9	139.9	140.6	140.4	140.9	142.4	142.7	144.6	145.9	140.4
	2002	148.2	149.3	150.3	151.0	150.1	151.2	152.6	152.3	151.2	151.1	150.2	151.1	150.7
	2003	150.6	150.2	149.8	147.8	147.5	147.3	146.5	145.2	144.2	143.3	143.2	144.1	146.6
2004	143.7	142.5												

-- = not available. 1/ Indexes for 2004 are preliminary. 2/ Excludes potatoes. 3/ Includes vegetable juices. 4/ Includes both fruits and vegetables.

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	262.8	261.3										
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	226.0	230.5										
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	245.8	242.3										
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	282.8	285.0										
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	279.0	274.2										
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	177.6	174.9										
--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	115.4	115.4										
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	116.0	115.7										
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	109.9	110.6										

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, Mar.
															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	-15.8
	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	11.5
	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	4.3
	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	2.3
	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	30.6
	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	-0.4
2004	45.7	44.6	45.9											-0.9	
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	3.3
	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	8.7
	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	-11.8
	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	8.0
	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	1.3
	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	5.9
	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	4.5
2004	131.9	121.6	112.5											-6.2	
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	-5.1
	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	13.2
	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	11.4
	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	-13.3
	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	33.4
	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	72.3
	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	-57.5
2004	87.6	80.5	81.3											24.1	
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	12.7
	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	-8.4
	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	-7.9
	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	-2.2
	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	-2.1
	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	-3.3
	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	25.3
2004	147.2	151.0	152.9											-5.6	

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

Price table 6--Representative wholesale prices for selected fresh-market vegetables and melons in Chicago, 2003-04

Commodity	Shipping point 1/ container	2003												2004			
		Jan. 2	Feb. 3	Mar. 3	Apr. 1	May 1	June 1	July 1	Aug. 1	Sep. 1	Oct. 1	Nov. 3	Dec. 1	Jan. 2	Feb. 2	Mar. 2	Apr. 1
Artichokes	CA	26.00	18.00	26.00	23.75	29.00	20.00	23.00	22.00	28.50	27.75	34.00	43.00	42.00	42.00	39.50	17.00
Beans, round green, hand-picked	FL, GA, MI	27.50	25.00	17.50	21.50	19.00	19.00	25.00	10.00	9.00	20.00	13.50	15.00	30.00	26.00	13.00	15.00
Beets, medium	TX, IL, CA	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	3.50	3.50	10.50	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	6.50	6.50	6.50
Bok choy	CA, FL	12.00	10.50	10.50	13.00	14.50	13.50	10.50	14.00	14.00	18.00	14.50	14.50	11.50	12.00	10.00	10.00
Brussels sprouts	CA, MX	22.00	22.50	16.00	16.00	23.00	17.00	--	21.00	16.00	24.50	21.00	22.50	26.00	12.00	13.50	7.25
Cabbage, round-green, medium	NY, GA	12.00	15.00	12.50	13.00	13.50	15.00	9.25	7.00	6.00	5.50	8.50	8.50	9.25	7.50	7.50	9.50
Chinese cabbage (Napa)	CA	11.00	9.50	11.00	12.00	14.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	13.50	13.00	10.00	10.50	12.00	9.50	14.00	9.50
Carrots, baby peeled	CA	17.00	17.00	16.00	16.50	17.00	17.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.75	17.00	17.25	17.25	16.00	16.00	16.00
Eggplant, medium	FL, NJ, MX	8.50	9.00	10.50	13.00	16.00	14.50	9.50	15.50	10.00	11.00	14.00	10.50	9.50	13.50	22.00	32.50
Garlic, white colossal	CA, MX	28.00	28.00	25.00	30.00	25.00	27.00	29.50	26.00	26.00	28.00	30.50	29.00	31.25	32.00	32.00	33.50
Greens, kale	CA	9.50	9.50	17.00	17.00	17.00	10.00	10.25	10.25	10.25	9.50	9.50	11.00	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25
Greens, kohlrabi	CA, TX	17.00	17.00	15.50	15.25	17.50	17.50	17.00	17.50	17.50	17.50	--	22.00	--	--	15.50	16.00
Greens, turnip tops	GA, IL	11.50	9.00	12.00	11.00	11.00	10.50	10.00	10.00	11.25	10.00	10.50	8.75	9.00	9.00	10.25	10.50
Greens, mustard	CA	11.50	9.00	11.25	8.75	11.00	10.50	10.00	9.50	11.25	10.00	10.50	8.75	9.00	9.00	10.25	10.00
Greens, collards	GA, CA	11.50	9.00	12.00	8.75	11.00	10.50	10.00	9.50	11.25	10.00	10.50	8.75	9.00	9.00	10.25	10.00
Leeks	CA, IL, MX	18.00	14.00	11.50	12.00	11.50	13.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	14.00	17.50	22.50	25.00	20.50	13.50	9.00
Lettuce, Boston	CA	10.25	8.00	11.00	9.50	16.00	13.00	9.50	9.00	14.00	10.00	9.50	18.00	--	10.50	10.00	11.00
Lettuce, Romaine	CA	10.50	10.50	19.00	12.00	18.00	40.50	14.00	10.50	20.00	10.50	16.50	23.50	--	11.00	12.00	10.75
Mushrooms, button, large	PA	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.50	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.50
Mushrooms, shiitake	PA	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Mushrooms, oyster	PA	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.50
Mushrooms, cremini, medium	PA	14.00	12.50	12.50	14.00	14.00	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50
Mushrooms, portobellas, lrg	PA	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Okra, small-medium	FL, MX	23.00	18.00	24.00	24.00	21.00	10.50	13.00	11.00	11.00	12.50	19.00	15.50	27.00	24.00	23.50	22.00
Onions, green	CA, MX	11.00	8.50	12.00	10.75	9.50	12.50	19.50	13.50	13.50	13.00	11.50	13.00	17.00	10.25	9.50	8.50
Parsley, curly	CA	15.50	9.00	10.00	10.00	13.00	13.50	13.00	14.50	13.50	13.00	12.50	19.00	17.50	13.50	10.50	10.00
Peas, snow	CA, GU	11.00	11.00	9.00	9.00	18.50	16.00	12.00	19.00	9.00	17.00	14.50	7.50	14.50	8.50	7.50	9.50
Peas, sugar snap	CA, GU	13.00	10.50	11.50	12.50	19.50	16.00	16.00	15.00	9.00	21.50	29.00	18.00	22.00	11.00	11.00	11.50
Peppers, green bell, large	FL, CA	16.00	16.00	9.50	12.50	5.50	13.00	14.50	14.50	6.50	10.00	10.00	11.50	15.50	21.00	18.00	9.50
Peppers, jalapeno, medium	FL, GA, MI	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.50	10.00	9.25	8.50	10.00	9.00	12.00	13.50	18.75	13.00	14.50	18.50
Radishes	FL, MI	8.00	8.75	7.25	8.00	9.50	9.00	6.75	7.25	6.75	7.00	7.00	7.75	8.25	8.25	7.50	8.25
Spinach	CA	11.00	10.00	14.00	11.50	15.50	10.50	10.00	15.50	21.00	9.50	11.50	15.50	13.00	11.00	10.00	11.00
Squash, zucchini, medium	FL, NJ, MI	9.50	6.50	13.50	11.50	7.50	8.50	14.00	5.50	12.00	11.00	7.50	6.25	12.50	17.50	10.00	10.00
Squash, yellow straightneck, med.	FL, NJ, MI	13.00	23.00	9.50	15.00	10.00	8.50	18.00	8.00	14.00	11.00	9.00	7.50	--	19.00	11.50	11.00
Sweet potatoes, US #1, Beauregard	LA	17.00	17.50	11.00	16.00	19.00	21.50	23.50	27.50	25.50	22.00	21.00	20.25	20.00	20.00	20.50	20.50
Tomatoes, mature green, lrg. 6x6	FL, CA, MX	19.50	11.00	13.00	12.00	12.50	9.50	17.00	12.50	11.50	12.50	--	9.50	--	9.50	17.50	12.00
Tomatoes, vine ripe, large, 6x6	MX, CA, FL	--	9.50	13.00	12.00	13.00	9.50	17.00	12.50	11.50	11.00	9.50	10.00	9.50	10.00	19.00	13.00
Tomatoes, green/ripe, v. ripe, md/lrg	CA, NL	12.50	21.00	20.00	19.75	8.50	11.50	9.00	12.00	11.50	9.50	--	13.00	--	23.50	19.50	15.00
Tomatoes, cherry	FL, CA, MX	12.50	8.50	10.50	11.50	11.00	14.00	12.50	13.00	12.50	16.00	16.00	8.50	10.50	10.50	10.00	9.50
Tomatoes, plum-type	FL, CA, MX	17.00	8.00	19.25	11.00	10.00	14.50	20.00	20.00	12.00	15.00	13.50	15.00	13.50	18.00	15.00	10.00
Turnips, purple top, medium-large	CA, IL	9.50	10.50	10.50	10.00	10.50	14.00	10.50	10.50	9.50	9.25	7.50	8.50	8.50	10.00	10.00	7.50
Cantaloups	CA, CR, MX	14.50	7.50	11.50	17.50	10.00	10.75	11.50	8.50	15.50	9.25	11.00	14.50	12.50	11.50	20.50	9.50
Honeydews	CA, HD, CR	10.50	8.50	14.50	9.50	8.50	15.50	9.50	9.00	8.50	9.75	6.75	9.50	10.50	10.50	19.00	8.00
Watermelon, various red	CA, TX, MX	0.34	0.29	0.30	0.33	0.27	0.26	0.19	0.15	0.25	0.23	--	--	0.25	0.28	0.47	0.28
Watermelon, red seedless	CA, MX	0.39	0.37	0.38	0.34	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.18	--	0.26	0.38	0.26	0.29	0.36	0.58	0.37

-- = Not available. 1/ Major shipping points by commodity into the Chicago Wholesale Market. CA=California, FL=Florida, TX=Texas, MI=Michigan, IL=Illinois, NY=New York, NJ=New Jersey, GA=Georgia, PA=Pennsylvania, LA=Louisiana, MX=Mexico, CR=Costa Rica, HD=Honduras, GU=Guatemala, CD=Canada, NL=Netherlands. Source: Fruit & Vegetable Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

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	8.25	15.13	8.25	15.38	9.25	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	18.84
II f	8.25	15.13	8.25	15.38	9.25	16.08	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.30	20.25
III f	8.25	15.13	8.25	15.38	9.25	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.25
IV f	8.25	15.13	8.25	15.38	9.25	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.32	19.50
Average	8.25	15.13	8.25	15.38	9.25	16.02	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	19.21

p = preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

1/ Some prices calculated as averages of quoted ranges. 2/ Whole kernel corn, Midwest. 3/ 4-sieve 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 9--Potatoes and pulses: Prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1996-2004 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average
Potatoes, all uses	1996	6.65	6.92	7.51	7.82	8.09	8.16	7.79	5.58	4.92	4.75	4.44	4.28	4.91
	1997	4.22	4.56	4.64	4.67	5.31	5.67	5.66	6.31	5.08	4.93	5.12	5.36	5.64
	1998	5.40	5.94	6.41	6.27	6.45	6.16	5.81	5.46	4.97	4.47	4.86	5.30	5.56
	1999	5.50	5.75	6.12	6.50	6.13	6.54	7.35	6.02	5.09	4.86	5.52	5.44	5.77
	2000	5.67	5.91	6.26	6.54	6.30	6.17	6.95	5.53	4.65	4.32	4.31	4.59	5.08
	2001	4.73	5.28	5.12	5.47	5.22	5.71	6.37	7.61	6.04	5.15	5.96	6.66	6.99
	2002	7.31	7.31	8.22	7.97	8.63	9.45	10.80	7.55	6.14	5.44	6.38	6.67	6.69
	2003	6.41	6.33	6.87	6.94	6.96	6.68	6.30	5.75	5.35	4.91	5.42	5.70	5.85
2004	5.75	5.93	6.30											
Potatoes, table stock	1996	7.99	8.52	8.85	9.01	9.78	10.50	9.74	7.06	5.82	5.31	4.02	3.73	5.05
	1997	3.21	3.82	3.46	3.92	4.60	5.34	7.02	9.04	7.02	6.65	6.07	6.05	6.65
	1998	5.76	6.81	7.54	6.84	7.29	7.24	6.99	6.74	6.31	5.44	5.46	5.62	6.94
	1999	6.07	6.93	7.50	8.39	7.89	9.09	9.85	9.88	6.94	6.00	6.57	6.22	6.94
	2000	6.32	6.71	6.77	7.17	7.18	7.45	9.36	8.49	4.92	4.04	3.80	4.00	5.27
	2001	4.38	5.41	4.50	5.50	7.23	8.36	8.94	13.50	10.20	8.13	8.28	9.22	10.79
	2002	10.40	11.50	13.10	12.00	14.70	16.30	16.70	15.30	10.80	7.99	8.83	8.65	9.23
	2003	8.09	8.18	8.83	8.46	8.37	8.56	8.43	8.20	7.37	6.24	6.56	6.13	7.19
2004	6.20	6.47												
Potatoes, processing	1996	5.42	5.44	5.71	5.87	6.59	6.47	5.92	4.91	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.77	4.82
	1997	4.98	4.90	5.11	5.02	6.04	5.04	4.33	4.81	4.61	4.60	4.71	4.96	5.00
	1998	5.06	5.25	5.24	5.49	5.97	5.58	5.04	4.93	4.49	4.28	4.52	5.07	4.86
	1999	5.11	4.94	5.07	5.29	5.37	5.30	5.28	4.58	4.61	4.64	4.97	4.86	4.99
	2000	5.24	5.31	5.26	5.42	5.39	5.32	4.92	4.58	4.40	4.30	4.67	4.85	4.70
	2001	4.95	5.15	5.10	5.19	5.09	4.96	5.24	4.73	4.58	4.42	4.77	5.04	5.05
	2002	5.47	5.34	5.40	5.71	6.03	5.92	6.12	4.97	4.88	4.91	5.22	5.52	5.23
	2003	5.38	5.32	5.29	5.37	5.66	5.69	4.85	4.77	4.69	5.54	4.90	5.37	5.06
2004	5.36	5.49												
Dry edible beans	1996	19.60	19.90	19.90	22.70	24.80	25.80	26.80	26.90	24.40	24.00	25.10	24.10	23.50
	1997	23.20	23.60	23.30	23.00	22.20	21.20	21.90	20.40	16.20	16.90	18.60	20.30	19.30
	1998	21.10	21.20	20.20	20.80	20.80	20.90	21.30	19.60	19.00	19.40	20.30	19.90	19.00
	1999	19.70	18.30	17.00	16.60	19.90	18.90	18.50	18.00	18.00	17.10	17.20	16.10	16.40
	2000	15.80	15.60	14.50	15.70	16.20	14.70	14.20	13.80	15.50	15.70	15.50	14.40	15.50
	2001	15.10	15.30	14.90	15.60	16.90	16.40	16.80	17.40	18.40	19.20	22.70	21.70	22.10
	2002	21.50	26.10	27.10	27.50	27.80	27.40	24.50	23.20	17.90	16.60	15.90	16.10	17.10
	2003	16.40	19.20	15.90	18.70	19.10	16.60	17.20	18.00	17.70	17.80	19.20	17.20	17.80
2004	17.00	17.50	19.00											
Green peas, whole-dry 2/	1996	8.30	8.75	9.50	9.95	10.15	10.85	11.65	12.50	12.30	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.60
	1997	11.50	12.60	14.25	13.80	13.00	11.90	9.00	7.70	7.65	7.90	8.00	8.00	7.82
	1998	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.95	7.75	7.75	7.70	6.85	6.15	6.00	6.19	6.31	6.48
	1999	6.46	6.50	6.53	6.56	6.75	6.88	6.91	6.53	6.22	6.03	6.03	5.83	5.76
	2000	5.79	5.78	5.78	5.69	5.68	5.59	5.41	5.25	5.13	5.20	5.38	5.50	5.95
	2001	5.84	6.28	6.44	6.53	6.43	6.28	6.25	6.19	6.21	6.35	6.56	6.88	6.96
	2002	7.04	7.06	7.13	7.40	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.13	7.38	7.68	7.91	8.33	9.08
	2003	8.94	9.75	10.88	10.60	10.44	9.92	9.30	7.56	7.60	8.09	8.84	9.13	9.25
2004	9.56	10.00	10.20											
Yellow peas, whole-dry 2/	1996	8.75	9.50	8.80	9.05	9.30	10.40	11.00	12.00	12.25	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.08
	1997	11.40	12.50	13.60	12.80	11.75	10.40	8.50	7.60	7.55	7.60	7.75	7.60	7.46
	1998	7.50	7.50	7.60	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.05	6.50	5.65	5.69	5.78	5.94	6.13
	1999	6.00	6.06	6.35	6.19	6.38	6.30	6.50	6.75	6.34	6.25	6.33	6.29	6.05
	2000	6.38	6.13	6.03	6.00	5.88	5.91	5.72	5.30	5.16	5.15	5.31	5.38	5.92
	2001	5.81	6.31	6.44	6.38	6.40	6.25	6.25	6.19	6.17	6.25	6.56	6.79	7.02
	2002	7.04	7.25	7.31	7.68	7.66	7.59	7.38	6.50	6.72	7.10	7.34	7.58	7.78
	2003	7.50	7.94	8.03	8.50	8.75	8.83	8.44	6.63	6.43	6.75	7.53	7.75	7.90
2004	7.91	8.72	9.05											
Lentils, regular (Brewer) 2/	1996	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.70	17.25	19.00	19.75	20.60	19.75	18.50	18.15	17.25	17.10
	1997	17.00	17.40	17.50	17.00	16.50	16.25	16.00	14.75	13.80	12.90	12.10	11.50	13.00
	1998	11.40	12.00	11.60	11.10	10.75	11.00	12.00	11.30	10.15	10.70	10.81	10.94	11.21
	1999	10.92	11.25	11.55	11.38	11.69	11.90	11.94	12.15	12.13	12.28	13.05	13.17	12.54
	2000	12.88	12.45	12.13	12.31	12.73	12.81	12.81	11.75	11.19	11.03	10.97	10.88	10.44
	2001	10.84	10.50	10.22	10.25	9.90	9.91	9.78	9.84	9.81	9.75	9.80	9.70	9.56
	2002	9.44	9.06	9.03	9.75	9.59	9.44	9.40	9.50	10.75	12.85	13.81	14.25	14.30
	2003	15.25	17.88	18.56	18.70	18.63	18.25	14.63	14.50	14.85	16.50	16.88	16.50	16.40
2004	17.00	19.00	20.70											

1/ Prices for 2004 are preliminary. 2/ Grower bids for U.S. no. 1 grade reported by the Bean Market News for Idaho & Washington.

Sources: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA, and Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

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, 2001-04

Item	Annual			2003						2004
	2001	2002	2003	Jan	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Market basket¹										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	177.2	180.3	185.3	181.7	185.5	186.3	188.0	189.7	191.7	191.2
Farm value (1982-84=100)	106.2	104.3	110.4	107.0	111.9	111.9	116.0	120.0	117.2	119.3
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	215.4	221.2	225.6	222.0	225.2	226.4	226.7	227.2	231.8	230.0
Farm value-retail cost (%)	21.0	20.3	20.9	20.6	21.1	21.0	21.6	22.2	21.4	21.9
Fresh fruit										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	291.7	298.0	309.0	309.7	308.3	308.6	310.0	313.7	319.2	312.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	145.7	154.4	163.2	161.1	169.8	154.1	159.3	178.1	179.0	183.6
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	359.1	364.2	376.3	378.3	372.2	379.9	379.6	376.3	383.9	372.2
Farm value-retail cost (%)	15.8	16.4	16.7	16.4	17.4	15.8	16.2	17.9	17.7	18.5
Fresh vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	230.6	245.4	250.5	253.7	245.4	247.2	251.5	253.5	263.8	265.2
Farm value (1982-84=100)	129.9	145.8	149.9	138.2	153.9	133.5	132.5	166.2	148.5	135.9
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	282.4	296.6	302.2	313.1	292.4	305.6	312.7	298.4	323.1	331.7
Farm value-retail cost (%)	19.1	20.2	20.3	18.5	21.3	18.3	17.9	22.3	19.1	17.4
Processed fruits and vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	159.3	166.2	171.9	170.2	174.7	172.1	173.3	170.8	169.9	174.0
Farm value (1982-84=100)	107.9	110.5	108.4	108.6	108.9	109.0	108.9	108.9	108.6	121.3
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	175.3	183.6	191.8	189.4	195.2	191.8	193.4	190.1	189.0	190.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	16.1	15.8	15.0	15.2	14.8	15.1	14.9	15.2	15.2	16.6
Fats and oils										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	155.7	155.4	157.4	155.8	157.7	157.6	159.7	157.3	157.7	160.7
Farm value (1982-84=100)	76.9	91.7	113.4	103.7	97.6	108.2	142.4	129.7	135.3	137.0
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	184.7	178.9	173.5	175.0	179.8	175.8	166.1	167.4	166.0	169.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	13.3	15.9	19.4	17.9	16.6	18.5	24.0	22.2	23.1	22.9
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)	159.3	160.3	169.0	159.5	169.2	171.0	174.6	181.3	182.7	180.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	97.4	102.6	108.4	105.3	109.1	110.1	111.2	111.9	112.1	112.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	222.8	219.5	231.1	215.1	230.9	233.5	239.7	252.5	255.2	250.2
Farm value-retail cost (%)	31.0	32.4	32.5	33.4	32.7	32.6	32.2	31.3	31.1	31.6
Dairy products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	167.1	168.1	167.9	166.4	167.5	170.3	171.8	171.2	173.0	172.4
Farm value (1982-84=100)	118.5	97.6	99.1	94.9	102.7	109.4	116.9	114.0	109.6	109.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	211.8	233.1	231.3	232.3	227.2	226.5	222.4	223.9	231.5	230.8
Farm value-retail cost (%)	34.0	27.8	28.3	27.4	29.4	30.8	32.7	32.0	30.4	30.3
Poultry										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	164.9	167.0	169.1	165.4	169.0	169.7	172.5	172.5	174.4	174.5
Farm value (1982-84=100)	126.2	102.0	113.0	111.6	113.2	114.9	119.0	120.0	121.3	133.5
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	209.3	242.0	233.7	227.3	233.3	232.9	234.1	233.0	235.6	221.7
Farm value-retail cost (%)	41.0	32.7	35.8	36.1	35.8	36.2	36.9	37.2	37.2	40.9
Eggs										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	136.4	138.2	157.3	145.1	158.0	161.9	165.4	180.0	190.6	189.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	74.3	72.1	102.0	90.9	115.0	109.0	120.8	159.1	127.0	138.5
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	248.0	256.9	256.5	242.4	235.3	257.0	245.5	217.5	304.8	280.5
Farm value-retail cost (%)	35.0	33.5	41.7	40.3	46.8	43.2	46.9	56.8	42.8	47.0
Cereal and bakery products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	193.8	198.0	202.8	199.8	204.5	203.5	203.1	202.5	202.9	203.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	78.8	86.4	93.5	94.3	92.3	93.1	96.6	102.2	102.5	105.4
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	209.9	213.6	218.0	214.5	220.2	218.9	218.0	216.5	216.9	217.6
Farm value-retail cost (%)	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.8	6.2	6.2	6.3

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>