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# Vegetables and Melons Outlook

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## Fall Potato Crop Up 5 Percent

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Approved by the  
World Agricultural  
Outlook Board

The December estimate of U.S. fall-season potato production is 417 million hundred-weight (cwt), up 6 percent from last year but 11 percent smaller than the record high 2000 crop. Area harvested was up 4 percent from last fall, and yields were 2 percent higher. In Idaho, production increased 11 percent from a year ago due to increased acreage and yields, and in Washington production rose 1 percent despite lower yields than last fall. Despite increased production, U.S. grower prices for all potatoes have averaged 6 percent above a year earlier during the first 3 months of the marketing year, reflecting strong demand.

U.S. dry bean supplies are expected to be much greater (and prices much lower) than the drought-shortened supply of last season. Dry edible bean production for 2002 is estimated to be 30.2 million cwt—54 percent above the drought-shortened crop of a year ago. Spurred by attractive dry bean prices this spring, North Dakota growers planted a record-high 790,000 acres (80 percent above a year ago), which led to a record-high crop in that State. Output of pinto beans, which accounts for the largest share (43 percent) of U.S. dry bean production, rose 49 percent to 13.0 million cwt—the largest since 1998.

This winter (largely January–March), fresh-market vegetable and melon area for harvest is expected to remain at or just above year-earlier levels (USDA-NASS estimates will be released on January 9). Barring a repeat of last winter's cold wave, stronger yields should lead to larger supplies this winter. Import pressure could increase this winter since shippers in Sinaloa, Mexico also expect good yields. Given larger supplies and the sluggish economy, shipping-point prices are expected to average below the highs of a year earlier.

Long-run projections suggest that domestic production of vegetables and melons will increase an average of about 2 percent annually during the next decade, while the value of production increases an average of 3 percent annually. This would place total U.S. production at over 73 million metric tons by 2012, with an estimated farm value of nearly \$21 billion. World trade is expected to continue gaining importance in the vegetable industry in the coming decade. Exports of vegetables and processed vegetable products are forecast to increase an average of 3.5 percent annually during the next decade, totaling \$4.5 billion by 2012.

Mushrooms have been rising in popularity in the United States over the past several decades. Domestic per capita consumption of this carefully cultivated fungus crop has quadrupled since 1966. Per capita use of all mushrooms (on a fresh-weight basis) now totals 4 pounds, compared with just 1 pound in 1966.

## Industry Overview

**Fresh vegetables:** The current outlook for winter season (largely Jan.-Mar.) fresh-market vegetables indicates a small increase in harvested area is likely. A continuation of the favorable weather patterns experienced this fall could bring improved yields compared with last winter and generally stronger supplies from both domestic and import sources. Under this favorable winter weather scenario, shipping-point prices are expected to average at least 10 percent below a year earlier.

**Processing vegetables:** The current outlook for 2003 processing vegetables indicates a small decline in area harvested and output. Reduced output is expected for tomatoes and pickling cucumbers, with gains expected for sweet corn, green peas, and snap beans.

**Potatoes:** U.S. potato production is forecast to increase substantially in 2003 as growers respond to a second consecutive year of strong prices. The value of potato production reached a record \$3.1 billion in 2001/02 and is expected to maintain or exceed that level in 2002/03.

**Dry Edible Beans:** The combination of weak dry bean prices, restrained export gains, and strong prices for alternative crops portends a reduction in area planted of 5 to 10 percent in 2003. With modest carryovers from the 2002 crop expected, a smaller 2003 crop should provide a boost to both dry bean prices and stagnant industry revenues.

**Dry Peas and Lentils:** Production shortfalls in Canada and improved demand worldwide may help the U.S. dry pea and lentil industry recover from the low prices of the past few years. For dry peas and small chickpeas, market prices remain above the loan rates. Lentil prices, which were below the loan rate for 3 weeks in September, have since remained above the loan rate, with no further loan deficiency payments expected this season for any pulse crop.

**Sweet Potatoes:** Higher prices resulting from the short 2002 crop are expected to encourage a small increase in area planted in 2003. Slowly improving "non-holiday" demand, especially from the foodservice industry, and a potential shortage of late-season storage sweet potatoes this coming summer are expected to add pressure to prices later in the 2002/03 marketing year.

**Mushrooms:** Continued gains in fresh-market sales will outweigh a static processing sector to again boost industry revenues in 2002/03. Cash receipts were a record-large \$912 million in 2001/02, and mushrooms are now the fifth largest vegetable crop in terms of farm revenue, after potatoes, tomatoes, lettuce, and onions.

Table 1--U.S. vegetable industry: Area, production, value, unit value, and trade, 2001-03 1/

Item	Unit	2001	2002	2003
Area harvested	1,000 ac.	6,370	6,988	6,946
Vegetables				
Fresh-market	1,000 ac.	2,070	2,050	2,075
Processing	1,000 ac.	1,330	1,356	1,340
Potatoes	1,000 ac.	1,222	1,268	1,325
Dry beans	1,000 ac.	1,249	1,740	1,605
Other 2/	1,000 ac.	500	573	601
Production	Mil. cw t	1,264	1,331	1,371
Vegetables				
Fresh-market	Mil. cw t	474	470	477
Processing	Mil. cw t	303	341	335
Potatoes	Mil. cw t	438	462	503
Dry beans	Mil. cw t	20	30	27
Other 2/	Mil. cw t	29	28	31
Crop value	\$ mil.	14,998	15,570	15,610
Vegetables				
Fresh-market	\$ mil.	9,012	9,150	9,150
Processing	\$ mil.	1,340	1,505	1,520
Potatoes	\$ mil.	3,058	3,170	3,175
Dry beans	\$ mil.	393	495	520
Other 2/	\$ mil.	1,195	1,250	1,245
Unit value 3/	\$/cw t	11.87	11.70	11.38
Vegetables				
Fresh-market	\$/cw t	19.00	19.49	19.20
Processing	\$/cw t	4.42	4.41	4.54
Potatoes	\$/cw t	6.99	6.86	6.32
Dry beans	\$/cw t	22.10	16.42	19.62
Other 2/	\$/cw t	40.85	44.57	40.27
Trade				
Imports	\$ mil.	4,528	4,620	4,665
Vegetables				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	2,597	2,475	2,515
Canned, frozen	\$ mil.	828	900	865
Potatoes	\$ mil.	523	585	635
Dry beans	\$ mil.	51	70	55
Other 4/	\$ mil.	580	590	595
Exports	\$ mil.	3,211	3,377	3,455
Vegetables				
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	1,197	1,205	1,220
Canned, frozen	\$ mil.	686	675	695
Potatoes	\$ mil.	700	680	705
Dry beans	\$ mil.	176	182	190
Other 4/	\$ mil.	452	635	645
Per capita use	Pounds	446	448	452
Vegetables				
Fresh & melons	Pounds	173	175	175
Processing	Pounds	119	121	122
Potatoes	Pounds	138	136	139
Dry beans	Pounds	7	7	7
Other 1/	Pounds	9	9	9

1/ ERS forecasts for 2002-03. 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, dehydrated vegetables, sweet potatoes, and vegetable seed.

Sources: ERS and National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## Fresh Vegetables

### Winter Supplies Expected To Be Strong

This winter (largely January-March), fresh-market vegetable and melon area for harvest is expected to remain at or just above year-earlier levels (USDA-NASS estimates will be released on January 9). Barring a repeat of last winter's cold wave, stronger yields should lead to larger supplies this winter. Import pressure could increase this winter since shippers in Sinaloa, Mexico also expect good yields. Given larger supplies and the sluggish economy, shipping-point prices are expected to average below the highs of a year earlier--especially for crops such as lettuce, broccoli, and cauliflower.

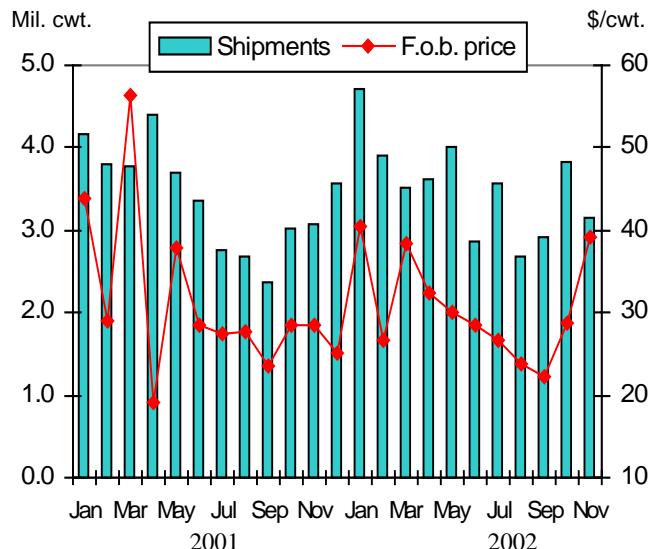
This fall (largely October-December), despite favorable weather and strong yields, shipments of fresh-market vegetables and melons have been running at or slightly below those of a year ago. Volume has been higher for items such as tomatoes, squash, artichokes, and honeydew melons, but was offset by reduced shipments of head lettuce, onions, carrots, snap beans, and bell peppers. Reduced yields in Georgia cut the State's snap bean, cabbage, and bell pepper volume by one-fifth or more. U.S. shipping-point prices for commercial vegetables averaged 13 percent above a year earlier during October and November.

During January-September, the value of fresh-market vegetable imports declined 4 percent from a year earlier. While items such as squash (down 18 percent) and onions (down 13 percent) were lower, fresh tomato imports were up 3 percent to \$615 million, powered by a 32-percent jump in greenhouse-hydroponic tomatoes. Greenhouse-hydroponic tomato imports, the majority of which now come from Canada, accounted for 27 percent of tomato import value, up from 21 percent a year earlier.

In July, the Bureau of the Census added import codes for greenhouse sweet peppers and chile peppers. During the first 3 months the codes were in place, the data showed 73 percent of sweet pepper imports were hothouse-

grown. About 40 percent of chile pepper imports were hothouse-produced. Hothouse share will likely decline during the winter as import sources move to Mexico.

Figure 1  
**Tomatoes: Shipments and shipping-point prices**



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

Table 3--Selected fresh-market trade volume, Jan. - Sept.

Item	Annual 2001	January - September		Change 2001-02 Percent
	2001	2002		
<b>Exports, fresh:</b>				
Vegetables	38,911	28,658	29,246	2
Melons	5,209	4,570	5,554	22
Potatoes	6,318	4,953	5,670	14
Total	50,438	38,181	40,470	6
<b>Imports, fresh:</b>				
Vegetables	61,779	48,201	49,632	3
Melons	19,158	15,686	16,349	4
Potatoes	6,711	3,073	4,198	37
Total	87,648	66,960	70,179	5

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

Table 2--U.S. monthly shipping-point and retail prices, selected vegetables, 2001-2002

Commodity	Unit	2001			2002			2001-02 Change		
		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
<b>Shipping-point:</b>										
Broccoli	Pound	22.9	24.2	22.2	40.6	24.0	37.1	77.3	-0.8	67.1
Lettuce, head	Pound	26.2	11.5	10.9	14.3	13.3	11.2	-45.4	15.7	2.8
Onions, dry bulb	Pound	10.7	9.2	7.4	11.0	10.7	10.9	2.8	16.3	47.1
Tomatoes, field-grown	Pound	23.5	28.6	28.5	22.2	28.7	39.1	-5.5	0.3	37.2
Snap beans	Pound	62.9	63.1	49.6	68.1	56.8	59.7	8.3	-10.0	20.4
Sweet corn	Pound	19.0	23.8	24.8	20.7	18.2	17.0	8.9	-23.5	-31.5
<b>Retail:</b>										
Broccoli	Pound	96.9	101.1	89.7	124.7	107.3	--	28.7	6.1	--
Lettuce, head	Pound	89.7	81.1	73.4	70.2	68.7	--	-21.7	-15.3	--
Tomatoes, field-grown	Pound	116.8	126.7	146.8	115.8	123.6	--	-0.9	-2.4	--

-- = not available. Source: NASS, USDA, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

## Processing Vegetables

### Frozen Stocks Up, Retail Prices Soften

At the start of the 2002/03 packing season, aggregate carryover of frozen vegetables was up 12 percent from the low levels of a year earlier. As a result, freezers adjusted their contract acreage downward this past year, even though supplies could not be classified as burdensome in relation to past history. The reduction may have been more in response to continued weak demand for processed vegetables, both domestically and internationally. With above-average yields in many areas, this year's pack may not be down as much as the 3-percent drop in acreage indicated. However, this will likely mark the fourth consecutive year of decline in the pack of the leading frozen vegetables.

Cold storage holdings of frozen vegetables (excluding potatoes) on November 1 amounted to 1.1 billion pounds. Although up 1 percent from a year earlier, this was one of the shortest frozen stock positions for this date over the past decade. Although stocks are up slightly, October retail prices for frozen vegetables (which include potatoes) were running 1 percent above a year earlier, likely reflecting stronger prices for french fries. Wholesale prices for most other vegetables have risen little over the past few years.

### Processed Trade: Imports Up, Exports Down

During January to September 2002, the value of processed vegetable (excluding potatoes, pulses, and mushrooms) imports jumped 20 percent. Dried and dehydrated products increased 31 percent, while frozen and canned were up 18 and 17 percent, respectively. Among dried imports, pepper (capsicum) products rose 30 percent, broccoli was up 31 percent, and dried and

powdered garlic was up 26 percent. A smaller portion of the increase was due to the addition of several new trade codes this year.

The value of January-December processed vegetable exports (excluding potatoes, pulses, and mushrooms) declined 4 percent from a year ago due to reduced volume. Exports of frozen vegetables are running 9 percent below a year earlier due primarily to weaker volume of sweet corn (second in importance only to potatoes among frozen exports) and frozen vegetable mixtures. The volume of sweet corn exports to Japan is down 26 percent (value is down 18 percent) due to a combination of the weak Japanese economy, the strong dollar, and competition with other exporting nations.

Figure 2  
**Sweet corn for processing: Production**

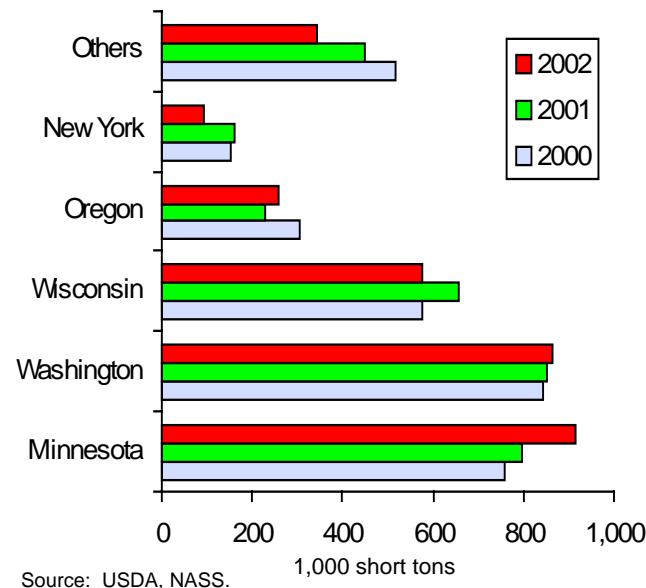


Table 4--Processing vegetables: Consumer and producer price indexes

Item	Oct.	Sept.	Oct.	Change previous:		Apr.-June	July-Sept.		Change previous:	
	2002	2002	2001	Month	Year	2002	2001	2002	Quarter	Year
<b>Consumer Price Indexes (12/97=100)</b>										
Processed fruit and vegetables	114	114	111	-0.4	2.8	113	110	114	1.2	3.7
Canned vegetables	115	117	113	-1.3	2.0	116	112	117	1.0	4.4
Frozen vegetables (1982-84=100)	172	172	170	-0.2	1.1	170	168	173	1.3	2.8
Dry beans, peas, lentils	111	112	100	-0.6	11.0	111	100	111	-0.5	10.9
Olives, pickles, relishes	110	102	111	7.2	-1.2	110	112	110	-0.2	-2.0
<b>Producer Price Indexes (90-92=100)</b>										
Canned vegetables and juices	129	130	127	-1.0	1.8	128	125	128	0.2	2.8
Pickles and products	180	180	179	0.0	0.9	179	177	180	0.5	1.4
Tomato catsup and sauces	123	124	119	-1.3	2.8	120	119	121	1.3	2.2
Canned dry beans	127	123	122	2.9	3.7	123	123	124	0.7	0.9
Vegetable juices	111	111	114	0.0	-2.9	111	109	111	0.3	1.5
Frozen vegetables	132	132	130	0.4	1.5	131	129	131	0.5	1.9
Dried/dehydrated vegetables	175	175	169	-0.2	3.7	184	165	177	-4.1	6.8

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

## Potatoes

### Fall-Season Production Rises

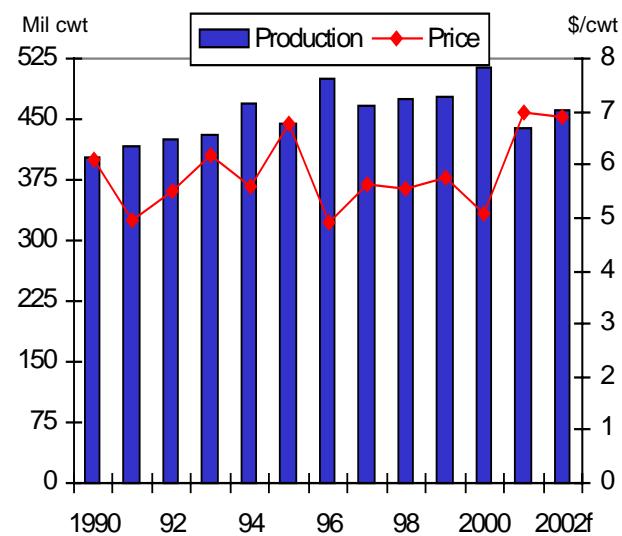
The December estimate of U.S. fall-season potato production is 417 million cwt, up 6 percent from last year but 11 percent smaller than the record-high 2000 crop. Area harvested was up 4 percent from last fall, and yields were 2 percent higher. Production was generally lower this fall in Central and Eastern States but higher in the West. In the nine Western States, production is estimated at 293 million cwt, up 11 percent from last year but 11 percent below the 2000 crop. California growers had adequate irrigation water in the Tule Lake Basin, and responded with record production. Colorado production was up 31 percent from a year ago, as they too had sufficient water supplies to last through a hot summer. In Idaho, production increased 11 percent from a year ago due to increased acreage and yields, and in Washington production rose 1 percent despite lower yields than last fall.

Production was forecast at 98 million cwt in the eight Central States, and 26 million cwt in the five Eastern States, down 4 and 2 percent, respectively, from last year. In the Central region, only Nebraska and Minnesota realized a production increase (of around 1 percent), while spring rains and flooding reduced potential in North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Indiana. In the East, production in Maine was up 3 percent, while Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island all saw declines.

### Early-Season Prices Rise Despite Increased Production

Based on the December estimate of the fall crop, total potato production for the 2002 crop year is 462 million cwt—5 percent higher than the 2001 crop. Despite the increased production, however, U.S. grower prices for all potatoes have averaged 6 percent higher than a year ago and 37 percent above 2 years ago for the September through November period. In September and October, prices for U.S. fresh-market potatoes averaged \$10.00/cwt, 9 percent higher than the same 2 months a year ago and more than double 2

Figure 3  
Potatoes, all: Production and season-average price



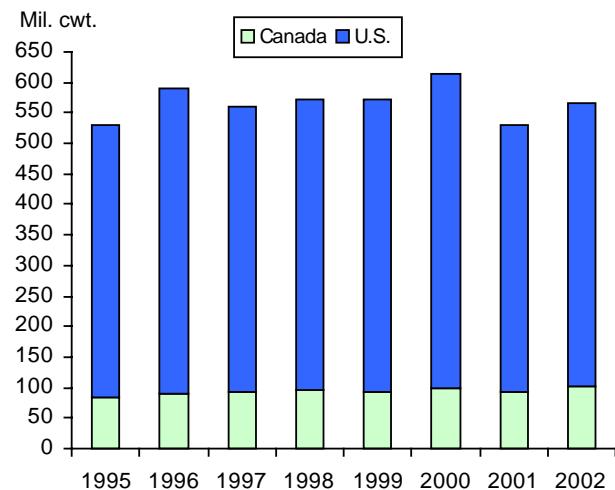
Sources: National Agricultural Statistics Service and ERS, USDA.

Table 5--Potatoes: Monthly average shipping-point prices

Year	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	\$/cwt											
<b>All potatoes:</b>												
1999/2000	5.09	4.86	5.52	5.44	5.67	5.91	6.26	6.54	6.30	6.17	6.95	5.53
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	6.90	7.60	8.50	8.63	10.40	9.95	11.40	7.65
2002/03	6.60	5.57	6.01									
<b>Tablestock:</b>												
1999/2000	6.94	6.00	6.57	6.22	6.32	6.71	6.77	7.17	7.18	7.45	9.36	8.49
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	9.85	11.40	13.00	13.30	17.70	16.60	17.10	14.80
2002/03	11.80	8.20										
<b>Processing:</b>												
1999/2000	4.61	4.64	4.97	4.86	5.24	5.31	5.26	5.42	5.39	5.32	4.92	4.58
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	5.39	5.36	5.46	5.82	6.14	5.73	5.77	4.83
2002/03	4.62	4.69										

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Figure 4  
North American potato production, 1995-2002



Source: NASS, USDA and Statistics Canada.

years ago. Prices for processing potatoes during September and October averaged \$4.66/cwt, 3 percent above the same period a year previous, and 7 percent above 2 years ago.

Early-season prices could be an indication that the season-average grower price for the 2002 crop might not fall much, if any, below the 2001 price of \$6.99/cwt. Prices later in the marketing season will depend on utilization and disappearance throughout the year. On December 1, potato stocks in the 15 major states were 265 million cwt—up just 2 percent from a year ago, despite a 6-percent gain in the fall crop. Disappearance totaled 146 million cwt, up 13 percent from a year earlier.

Potatoes used for frozen products are also exhibiting improved movement this year. Coming into this marketing season, stocks of frozen potato products were relatively low. On August 31, 2002, stocks of all frozen potato products were 13 percent below year-previous levels, with stocks of frozen french fries down 16 percent. By the end of October, stocks of all frozen potato products were only 7 percent below a year ago, with fry stocks down 11 percent.

Processing use through November was up 18 percent from a year ago and only 1 percent below that of 2 years ago when the fall crop was record-large. If

strong processor use continues in the months to come, that will put pressure on dwindling supplies and help maintain price strength.

A key potentially mitigating factor to the supply and price situation this season could be the larger Canadian crop, which was up 10 percent in 2002 to 103 million cwt. This likely means that imports of Canadian fries into the United States will continue to increase in 2003, and that Canadian fries will also increasingly compete with U.S. fries in various export markets. However, with only a marginal increase in potato production in Europe in 2002, Canada and the United States may both be able to find improved markets for potatoes and potato products in markets around the world. Considering all these factors, the 2002 season-average price for U.S. potatoes is forecast to range between \$6.40 and \$7.40/cwt.

Table 6--Potatoes: Prices received, selected States 1/

Item	Use	October		Change 2001-02 Percent
		2001 --Dollars/cwt--	2002	
California	All	11.00	9.45	-14
Colorado	All	7.15	6.20	-13
	Fresh	8.05	7.12	-12
Idaho	All	5.05	5.15	2
	Fresh	6.40	6.00	-6
	Processing	4.60	4.80	4
Maine	All	6.05	5.65	-7
Michigan	All	6.45	6.40	-1
Minnesota	All	4.90	5.95	21
New York	All	10.40	11.80	13
North Dakota	All	5.55	6.00	8
	Fresh	8.45	10.45	24
	Processing	4.80	4.85	1
Ohio	All	7.40	8.65	17
Oregon	All	4.70	4.75	1
Pennsylvania	All	7.20	8.90	24
Washington	All	4.50	4.85	8
	Processing	4.10	4.50	10
Wisconsin	All	5.75	6.25	9
	Fresh	7.30	7.75	6
	Processing	4.70	5.35	14
United States	All	5.15	5.57	8
	Fresh	8.13	8.20	1
	Processing	4.42	4.69	6

1/ Average grower prices for potatoes sold for all uses, fresh (tablestock) use, and processing use.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## Long-Run Outlook

### Crop Value To Reach \$21 Billion by 2012

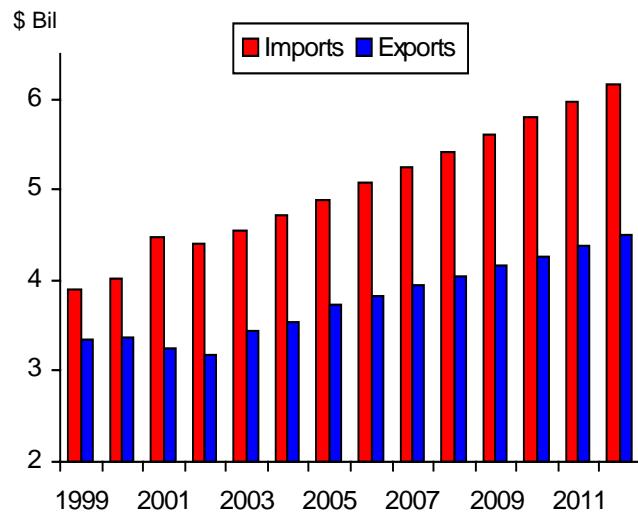
Domestic production of vegetables and melons is forecast to increase an average of about 2 percent annually during the next decade while value of production is expected to increase an average of 3 percent a year. This would place total U.S. production at over 73 million metric tons by 2012, with an estimated farm value of nearly \$21 billion (table 7). All major categories (fresh, processed, potatoes, sweet potatoes, pulses, and mushrooms) are expected to register gains. Potatoes will remain the largest vegetable crop produced in the United States, accounting for over one-third of total vegetable tonnage and 17 percent of the total forecasted farm value of vegetables in 2012. Fresh market vegetables (excludes fresh market potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms) will also account for over one-third of total tonnage and are forecast to account for 64 percent of the total farm value of all vegetables in 2012.

Farm value for fresh vegetables is forecast to increase by an average of 4 percent a year during the next decade, outpacing all other vegetable categories. While fresh vegetable production (tonnage) is forecast to increase at an average rate of 2 percent a year, slower than several of the other categories, grower prices for fresh vegetables are expected to rise at a slightly faster pace than in any of the other categories. Following fresh vegetables in forecast average annual growth in farm value are pulses (3 percent), sweet potatoes (3 percent), mushrooms (2 percent), and processing vegetables and potatoes (each at 1 percent).

World trade is expected to continue gaining importance in the vegetable industry in the coming decade. Exports

of vegetables and processed vegetable products are forecast to increase by an average of 3.5 percent annually during the next decade, totaling \$4.5 billion by 2012 (Fig. 5). The most rapid growth is expected during the first half of the decade (2003-2007) with an average forecast annual growth rate of over 4 percent. Growth in export value the latter half of the decade (2008-2012) is expected to slow to just under 3 percent annually. However, the United States will remain a net importer of vegetables, as imports are expected to experience similar growth rates as exports over the 10-year period. By 2012, imports are forecast to total nearly \$6.2 billion, with the net trade deficit increasing from about \$1.2 billion in 2002 to a forecast of nearly \$1.7 billion in 2012.

Figure 5  
Vegetables and melons: Long-run trade outlook



Source: USDA, ERS.

Table 7--Vegetables and melons outlook: U.S. production and value, 2001-12

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Production, farm weight</b>												
Fresh 1/	1,000 mt	20,028	20,569	21,217	21,673	22,122	22,576	23,036	23,502	23,975	24,455	24,944
Processed 2/	1,000 mt	13,740	16,018	15,905	16,006	16,138	16,346	16,580	16,806	17,027	17,243	17,454
Potatoes	1,000 mt	19,862	20,853	22,796	24,238	24,899	25,238	25,419	25,581	25,812	26,149	26,582
Sweet potatoes	1,000 mt	661	587	621	673	684	690	698	706	714	721	730
Pulses	1,000 mt	1,192	1,552	1,507	1,561	1,617	1,654	1,690	1,725	1,759	1,792	1,825
Mushrooms	1,000 mt	390	386	396	405	414	424	434	444	454	464	475
Total	1,000 mt	55,873	59,965	62,443	64,556	65,875	66,929	67,857	68,763	69,740	70,825	72,010
<b>Value of production</b>												
Fresh 1/	\$ mil.	8,488	9,282	9,654	10,006	10,374	10,761	11,163	11,581	12,016	12,467	12,936
Processed 2/	\$ mil.	1,340	1,516	1,534	1,542	1,562	1,587	1,616	1,643	1,668	1,693	1,717
Potatoes	\$ mil.	3,058	3,171	3,171	3,033	3,035	3,106	3,215	3,328	3,428	3,505	3,560
Sweet potatoes	\$ mil.	224	219	222	239	245	251	257	263	269	275	281
Pulses	\$ mil.	444	559	588	559	589	611	634	656	678	701	725
Mushrooms	\$ mil.	868	912	947	964	980	996	1,011	1,027	1,041	1,055	1,069
Total	\$ mil.	14,421	15,658	16,116	16,342	16,785	17,312	17,895	18,497	19,100	19,696	20,288

1/ Includes artichokes, asparagus, snap beans, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, eggplant, escarole-endive, garlic, lettuce, bell peppers, onions, spinach, tomatoes, and melons. 2/ Includes asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, broccoli, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, green peas, spinach, and tomatoes.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.

## Dry Beans

### Production Up 54 Percent

The estimate of 2002 U.S. dry edible bean production was increased this month to 30.2 million cwt--54 percent above the drought-shortened crop of a year ago. Harvested area was up 39 percent from a year ago and yield was 10 percent higher. The national average yield of 17.33 cwt per acre exceeded the estimated 30-year trend by 2 percent. As a result, U.S. dry bean supplies are expected to be much greater than the drought-shortened supply of last season. Carryover stocks at the start of the marketing season on September 1 were reportedly light—being low or exhausted for most classes.

The larger crop this year reflects double-digit increases in most Northern-tier States and California, with the greatest improvement from a year earlier in Michigan (up 529 percent), North Dakota (up 70 percent), and Minnesota (up 57 percent). Spurred by attractive dry bean prices this spring, North Dakota growers planted a record-high 790,000 acres—up 80 percent from the previous year. Further observations regarding State-level production include:

- North Dakota's 10.6 million cwt crop was record-large and the largest output ever in any State;
- North Dakota produced a record-large pinto bean crop and the second-largest navy and black bean crops in the State;
- Michigan's navy bean crop was that State's third-smallest on record, while black bean output was third largest;
- In Nebraska, the signature bean crop, Great Northern, was the third smallest since 1980, while the light-red kidney bean crop was second largest;
- California's dry bean crop was the fifth-smallest since records began in 1919 as lima and blackeye output continue to trend lower;
- Extreme weather (largely drought) in several States (e.g. Colorado, Utah, Texas, and Nebraska)

Table 8--U.S. dry beans: Production, 2000-2002

Item	2000	2001	2002	Percent
				change
			--1,000 cwt--	Percent
North Dakota	7,613	6,200	10,557	70.3
Nebraska	3,230	3,185	3,465	8.8
Colorado	1,980	1,785	1,785	0.0
California	2,059	1,496	1,807	20.8
Minnesota	2,400	1,575	2,475	57.1
Idaho	1,716	1,424	1,860	30.6
Michigan	4,125	780	4,903	528.6
Washington	640	578	818	41.5
Wyoming	762	514	594	15.6
Others	1,884	2,046	1,886	-7.8
United States	26,409	19,583	30,150	54.0

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 9--U.S. dry beans: Production by class, 2000-2002

Item	2000	2001	2002	Percent
				change
			--1,000 cwt--	Percent
Pinto	10,670	8,721	12,980	48.8
Navy	4,771	2,311	5,305	129.6
Great Northern	2,489	2,108	1,556	-26.2
Black	1,336	783	3,114	297.7
Lt red kidney	1,352	776	1,253	61.5
Dk red kidney	1,014	727	1,084	49.1
Garbanzo	1,308	1,612	873	-45.8
Small red	313	172	621	261.0
Pink	320	326	620	90.2
Blackeye	382	553	514	-7.1
Baby lima	542	235	490	108.5
Large lima	437	326	360	10.4
Cranberry	449	147	353	140.1
Others	1,026	786	1,027	30.7
United States	26,409	19,583	30,150	54.0

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

increased abandonment of non-irrigated fields, with irrigated acreage faring well despite the heat.

The first estimate of dry bean production by class was released by USDA on December 10. As expected, national output for most major classes increased from a year ago, with the greatest increase for black beans—up 298 percent. Shippers exhausted black bean stocks last season requiring substantial imports to help meet demand. Triple-digit gains in output were also experienced for small red, cranberry, navy, and baby lima beans. Output of pinto beans, which accounts for the largest share (43 percent) of U.S. dry bean production, rose 49 percent to 13.0 million cwt—the largest since 1998. Much of the increase in the navy, black, cranberry, and small red bean crops was due to substantially-improved yields in Michigan (18.5 cwt this year vs. 6.0 cwt a year ago), which was ravaged by drought a year ago.

### Pinto Crop Up, Prices Down

Pinto bean output is estimated to have increased 49 percent to 13.0 million bags (cwt)—the largest crop since 1998. Area harvested was up 45 percent to 736,500 acres and average yields gained 3 percent to 17.6 bags per acre. Output was up in most major pinto bean States, with the notable exception of Colorado, where drought conditions, particularly in the non-irrigated western slope areas, forced planted acreage down 22 percent. The reduction in nonirrigated land boosted State dry bean yields to a record-high, with pinto yields reaching a record 21.5 bags.

With production up, pinto stocks have likely recovered from the lows of a year ago, adequately supplying the market but sapping strength from grower and wholesale

prices. Grower prices (MN/ND) began the marketing year in September at \$20.25 per cwt—down 4 percent from the highs of a year earlier. Prices had slumped to \$14.00 by early December—a third lower than a year earlier but just 4 percent below the average of the previous 5 years. The gain in stocks, lower pinto bean prices, and improved prices for competing grains will likely set the stage for a decrease in pinto bean area and production in 2003.

Pinto bean exports declined 23 percent to 157 million pounds during the 2001/02 crop year. After a strong year in 2000/01, exports to Mexico declined last season. Better crops in Mexico during the 2001/02 season reduced U.S. pinto exports to that country 57 percent, accounting for much of last season's reduction. This September, pinto bean export volume got off to a strong start due largely to PL-480 sales to Mozambique (22 million pounds) and strong movement into Mexico (13 million pounds). With good supplies, lower prices, and continued food aid demand, pinto exports are expected to increase in 2002/03.

### **Navy Production Up, Prices Down**

Navy (pea) bean production in 2002 increased 130 percent to 5.3 million bags. Reflecting increased planted area and recovery from the 2001 drought, area harvested increased 87 percent. Navy bean yields rose 23 percent to 17.3 bags per acre—the second highest since yield-by-class records began in 1987. Navy bean production was up in every State, including North Dakota (up 75 percent) and Minnesota (up 46 percent). Michigan's crop recovered from the near-complete loss of a year ago, rising from 0.17 million bags in 2001 to 1.62 million this year.

With the larger navy crop, grower and dealer open-market prices have plummeted. Grower prices quoted

for Michigan navy beans in early December were \$11 per bag—less than half of a year ago. This was also 28 percent below the average for the past 5 years and was the second-lowest grower bid for December in more than a decade. Lower navy bean prices, lackluster domestic demand, and improved prices for competing grains will likely result in a decline in navy bean area and production in 2003.

Navy bean exports declined 30 percent to 139 million pounds during the 2001/02 crop year. After an average year in 2000/01, exports to the United Kingdom declined 33 percent last season. Higher U.S. market prices, the strong dollar, and competition from Canada has recently eroded the U.S. share of the U.K. navy bean market. This September, navy bean export volume was up 6 percent from a year earlier as stronger exports to Canada offset a small decline in volume to the U.K. Despite good supplies and lower prices, U.S. navy bean exports are only expected to show a moderate increase this season due to competition with lower-cost countries such as Canada.

**Table 11--U.S. dry beans: Export volume by class**

Item	Sep-Aug 2001/02	September		Percent change Percent
	--Million pounds--	2001	2002	
Pinto	157.2	9.3	46.8	406
Navy	139.0	17.1	18.2	6
Great Northern	107.1	2.6	3.5	35
Black	45.0	9.6	7.8	-19
Light-red kidney	24.6	2.1	2.4	14
Dark-red kidney	19.7	2.3	2.0	-14
Baby lima	24.1	1.7	0.9	-44
Garbanzo	53.0	5.8	3.4	-41
Small red	9.2	0.2	0.8	242
Others	92.2	14.6	13.8	-5
All classes	671.0	65.3	99.6	53

Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

**Table 10-U.S. dry beans: Monthly grower prices for selected classes, 2001-2002**

Commodity	2001			2002			2001-02 Change		
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
--- Cents per pound ---									
All dry beans	18.10	19.20	22.10	17.90	16.70	16.70	-1.1	-13.0	-24.4
Pinto	21.00	20.00	20.75	20.25	16.60	14.67	-3.6	-17.0	-29.3
Navy (pea bean)	18.25	19.50	21.75	13.75	12.50	11.00	-24.7	-35.9	-49.4
Great Northern	16.50	16.50	16.38	19.88	18.70	18.00	20.5	13.3	9.9
Black	25.75	28.55	31.50	14.00	12.00	11.50	-45.6	-58.0	-63.5
Light red kidney	21.00	23.30	25.25	22.00	23.20	21.67	4.8	-0.4	-14.2
Dark red kidney	20.25	24.67	29.50	20.33	18.50	17.00	0.4	-25.0	-42.4
Small red	18.50	19.20	21.13	20.67	20.00	20.00	11.7	4.2	-5.3
Baby lima	24.00	26.70	29.38	31.75	31.20	30.33	32.3	16.9	3.2
Large lima	33.50	37.95	40.25	40.88	41.00	41.00	22.0	8.0	1.9
Blackeye	25.13	25.70	27.33	29.75	31.38	31.50	18.4	22.1	15.3
Pink	19.25	19.10	21.63	20.67	20.60	20.00	7.4	7.9	-7.5

Source: Bean Market News , AMS, USDA.

## Commodity Highlight: Mushrooms

Mushrooms have been rising in popularity in the United States over the past several decades. Used as a vegetable, domestic per capita consumption of this carefully cultivated fungus crop has quadrupled since 1966. Per capita use of all mushrooms (on a fresh-weight basis) now totals 4 pounds, compared with just 1 pound in 1966. White agaricus and brown agaricus (largely Crimini, Portabello) varieties account for the majority of sales, with specialty varieties such as Shiitake, Oyster, and other exotic varieties accounting for 4 percent of sales value. Much of the growth in fresh-market sales the past few years has been courtesy of brown agaricus varieties, which now account for 11 percent of total agaricus volume.

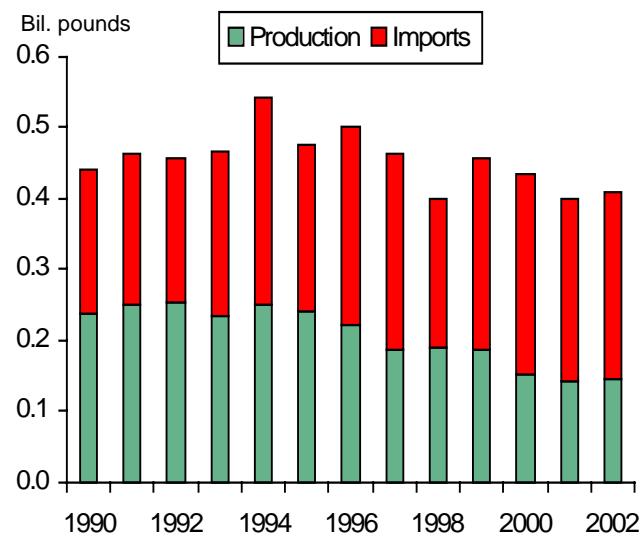
Fresh-market mushrooms account for two-thirds of domestic use. Although per capita use of processing mushrooms has waned in recent years as consumers have generally embraced fresh-market products, use in 2001/02 was still 68 percent greater than in 1966. In comparison, fresh-market consumption has continued to trend higher, reaching a record 742 million pounds in 2001/02—more than 17 times greater than in 1966/67.

In relation to the world, the United States is the second largest producer, with 16 percent of the world total, following China (PRC) which accounts for 30 percent of the output. Mushrooms have been cultivated worldwide for thousands of years, but the U.S. commercial mushroom industry did not take hold until the early 1900s in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania (53 percent of the 1999-2001 total), California (15 percent), and Florida (5 percent) are the top producing States with some 30 other States (1997 Census) reporting production. Over the 1999-2001 period, mushroom growers sold an average of 859 million pounds. Farm cash receipts from sales averaged \$882 million during this time. Consolidation of production facilities continues within the industry. In 2001/02, mushrooms were grown on 262 farms—down 14 percent from 1999/2000 and 34 percent below 1991/92.

According to the International Trade Commission (ITC), in 1997, 27 percent of U.S. producers'

shipments of processed mushrooms were distributed to industrial users, 29 percent were distributed to food service users, and 44 percent were distributed to retail users. For domestic producers, the share of these markets has declined during the last decade. Imports have become an important factor on the processing side of the market, with 66 percent of a declining domestic demand satisfied by imports. These largely originated from China, India, Indonesia, and Chile. With U.S. import share increasing from 47 percent of consumption in 1992 to 66 percent (effectively cutting domestic production 44 percent and stagnating prices), the ITC determined in late 1998 (Chile) and early 1999 (others) that the domestic industry producing preserved mushrooms was materially injured by reason of dumped imports from Chile, China, India, and Indonesia. Anti-dumping duties are now in place. For fresh mushrooms, less than 2 percent of supplies are exported while imports, which were consistently less than 1 percent of use prior to 1995, now account for 6 percent of consumption.

Figure 6  
U.S. mushrooms, processing: Supply, 1990-2002



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA and Bureau of the Census. U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 12--U.S. fresh-market mushrooms, all: Supply, utilization, and price, farm weight

Year	Supply			Utilization			Season-average price	
	Sales Volume 1/	Imports 2/	Total	Exports 2/	Domestic	Per capita use	Current dollars 1/	Constant dollars 3/
-- Million pounds --								
1980	275.1	0.7	275.8	0.6	275.2	1.20	94.70	165.00
1990	516.1	3.5	519.6	17.7	501.9	1.99	98.10	113.40
1998	671.5	23.2	694.7	13.8	680.9	2.45	108.00	104.70
1999	682.1	29.8	711.9	15.2	696.7	2.48	107.00	102.20
2000	707.2	38.2	745.4	13.0	732.4	2.58	106.00	99.00
2001	708.6	44.6	753.2	11.6	741.6	2.58	115.00	105.00
2002 f	725.0	47.0	772.0	12.0	760.0	2.61	--	--

-- = Not available. f = ERS forecast. 1/ Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. 2/ Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. 3/ Constant-dollar prices were calculated using the GDP implicit price deflator, 1996=100.

## Contacts and Links

### 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. Vegetable Policies in Japan**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/oct02/vgs293-01/>

Provides a detailed description and analysis of policies used by Japan to support its vegetable producers and to regulate vegetable markets. Domestic policies include compensation to farmers when market prices fall below a moving average of historical prices, subsidies to make farms and processing more efficient, and subsidized hazard insurance for greenhouses and some field crops.

#### **2. Sweet Potatoes: Getting to the Root of Demand**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/agoutlook/Nov2002/ao96e.pdf>

Analyzes supply and demand trends in the U.S. sweet potato market. Per capita use of sweet potatoes, which peaked in 1920 at 29.5 pounds, has ceased declining—stabilizing at about 4.1 pounds over the past 15 years. Sweet potatoes are most popular in the South, where per capita use was estimated to 5.7 pounds in 2001—more than twice that of the West (2.6 pounds), which consumes the fewest sweet potatoes.

#### **3. Trade Issues Facing U.S. Horticulture in the WTO Negotiations**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/aug01/vgs285-01/>

U.S. objectives for the upcoming World Trade Organization negotiations are discussed, including reducing tariffs and improving market access, eliminating and prohibiting the use of export subsidies, and placing further limitations on trade-distorting domestic support programs. Phytosanitary and food safety protocol are also covered.

### 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>

#### **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>

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## Data Tables (continued)

### 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/mncc/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/htp/default.htm>

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

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Potatoes, sweet potatoes, long-run outlook

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**Price table 1--Commercial vegetables and potatoes: Indexes of prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1995-2002 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	655	573	719	906	872	783	795	861	955	834	962	766	807
	2001	819	968	928	920	968	805	834	967	900	701	679	641	844
	2002	1,082	1,275	1,811	833	826	769	785	803	799	740	817		
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	489	532	632	514	461	534	577	496
	2002	591	667	734	746	878	839	884	659	551	476	504		
--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	108	136	131	117	119	129	143	125	144	115	121
	2001	123	145	139	138	145	120	125	145	135	105	102	96	127
	2002	162	191	271	125	124	115	117	120	120	111	122		
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	89	96	105	125	102	91	106	114	98
	2002	117	132	145	147	173	166	175	130	109	94	100		

1/ Prices for 2002 are preliminary. 2/ Includes fresh and processing vegetables. 3/ Includes fresh potatoes and dry edible beans.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.



**Price table 3--Vegetables: Producer Price Indexes, by month, 1996-2002 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	116.5	126.9	127.4		
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	121.4	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	127.3	130.1	128.8	129.3		
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	131.0	131.5	132.0	132.3		
Dehydrated	1996	152.7	153.1	156.5	160.8	161.0	161.6	160.8	158.7	158.1	157.7	157.6	157.7	158.0
	1997	154.9	154.9	154.5	150.5	146.3	146.2	146.1	146.0	146.3	146.8	146.7	149.2	149.0
	1998	149.2	149.0	149.8	148.9	148.7	149.0	148.7	154.4	151.9	152.2	152.4	162.0	151.4
	1999	175.3	175.3	176.3	174.7	173.6	173.5	173.5	174.6	177.2	176.3	178.0	182.1	175.9
	2000	177.3	179.5	179.9	178.8	178.2	177.7	176.8	168.1	166.4	164.6	162.6	159.2	172.4
	2001	156.8	155.1	155.3	155.6	162.4	164.0	163.5	164.6	168.0	168.6	172.6	174.9	163.5
	2002	180.8	184.1	186.6	188.3	186.0	189.3	189.8	178.4	175.1	174.8	174.6		

1/ Indexes for 2002 are preliminary. 2/ Excludes potatoes. 3/ Includes vegetable juices.

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



**Price table 5--Fresh vegetables: U.S. average retail prices, by month, 1996-2002**

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change from yr earlier, Oct-Oct
		--Cents/lb--													Percent
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	4.2
	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	1.3
	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	3.7
	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	-6.6
	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	13.9
	2002	42.6	44.7	46.5	49.3	50.8	51.7	54.9	55.9	51.1	49.2				17.7
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	29.8
	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	0.0
	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	-1.2
	2000	118.2	98.9	106.9	101.3	117.4	123.6	113.9	112.0	105.2	108.0	108.5	151.8	113.8	5.1
	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	-6.4
	2002	137.4	168.1	114.7	120.4	103.6	109.3	111.9	113.5	124.7	107.3				6.1
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	29.8
	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	-8.0
	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	-11.6
	2000	74.8	65.0	67.1	65.0	80.3	68.6	65.6	67.3	89.7	77.2	77.4	85.1	73.6	15.4
	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	5.1
	2002	100.3	106.1	154.2	114.7	72.0	67.5	67.4	68.9	70.2	68.7				-15.3
Tomatoes, field grown	1996	110.3	108.4	146.7	186.7	137.9	112.7	103.1	100.6	98.0	108.4	118.2	121.0	121.0	
	1997	121.3	131.4	165.4	134.8	117.5	130.0	114.1	113.0	109.1	116.2	137.0	161.7	129.3	7.2
	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	35.4
	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	-18.7
	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	8.4
	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	-8.7
	2002	145.1	129.8	129.2	131.9	133.2	129.9	124.3	118.1	115.8	123.6				-2.4

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





Price table 8--Frozen vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 1994-2002 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	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.49	6.88	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.71	8.30	0.45
II p	7.10	0.49	7.10	0.49	7.10	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.71	8.30	0.45
III f	7.10	0.49	7.10	0.49	7.10	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.71	8.30	0.45
IV f	6.88	0.49	6.88	0.49	6.88	0.54	5.73	0.42	10.15	0.71	8.30	0.45
Average	6.99	0.49	6.98	0.49	6.99	0.55	5.73	0.42	10.15	0.71	8.30	0.45

p = preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

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

Source: Price Trends, American Institute of Food Distribution.



**Price table 10--U.S. fresh-market herbs: Selected monthly wholesale prices in San Francisco, CA, 2001-2002**

Herb	Unit	2001			2002			2001-02 Change		
		July	August	Sept.	July	August	Sept.	July	August	Sept.
		--- Dollars ---			--- Dollars ---			--- Percent ---		
Anise	24-ct crtn	13.00	13.00	13.50	13.00	12.50	12.50	.0	-3.8	-7.4
Arrugula	12-ct ctns	7.60	7.83	8.00	7.40	8.00	8.00	-2.6	2.2	.0
Basil	30-ct ctns	6.75	6.75	6.06	7.20	7.19	7.00	6.7	6.5	15.5
Celeriac	12-ct ctns	9.00	10.33	11.00	17.80	18.00	15.00	97.8	74.2	36.4
Chives	12-ct flmbag	5.75	5.25	5.00	6.10	5.50	5.25	6.1	4.8	5.0
Cilantro	30-ct ctns	11.40	8.33	7.75	14.50	12.00	12.00	27.2	44.1	54.8
Dill	12-ct ctns	7.00	6.67	7.25	6.90	7.00	7.00	-1.4	4.9	-3.4
Horseradish	50-lb sack	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	.0	.0	.0
Oregano	12-ct flmbag	6.08	6.00	6.00	6.40	6.25	6.25	5.3	4.2	4.2
Rosemary	12-ct flmbag	6.13	6.09	6.00	6.40	6.25	6.25	4.4	2.6	4.2
Mint	12-ct ctns	7.30	7.17	7.00	6.88	7.25	7.05	-5.8	1.1	.7
Salsify	5-1kg flmbg	22.00	22.00	21.50	21.50	22.00	22.00	-2.3	.0	2.3
Thyme	12-ct flmbag	6.08	6.00	6.00	6.60	6.44	6.50	8.6	7.3	8.3
Sage	12-ct flmbag	6.13	6.09	6.00	6.40	6.25	6.25	4.4	2.6	4.2
Watercress	12-ct ctns	10.25	10.08	10.00	10.35	8.44	8.25	1.0	-16.3	-17.5

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