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Vegetables and Melons Outlook

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Sweet Potato Industry Poised For A Strong Year

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Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board.

If 2007 sweet potato harvested area is at least 88,000 acres and yield remains around 190 hundredweight (cwt) per acre, domestic production could equal or exceed that of a year earlier. Demand for U.S. sweet potatoes improved in 2006 as evidenced by rising per capita use, higher prices despite a larger crop, and larger exports. These gains are expected to continue in 2007, as exports expand at a double-digit pace and domestic use remains strong.

If the direction of spring potato prices in California, Florida, and Texas is an indicator of average domestic prices for the 2007 crop, growers may expect another year of both higher production and prices. Projected average prices across the 3 States for spring-crop potatoes are $19 per cwt compared with $12.30 per cwt in 2006. Demand for potatoes and available supply are both stronger than in 2006 as evidenced by the 4-percent expansion of market shipments through May 2007. For the 2006/07 crop, potatoes used for processing is up 8 percent through May.

Strong onion shipments during May have pulled prices for fresh dry-bulb onions back to earth following four months of record or near record highs. Shipping point prices for onions peaked in April at 57 cents per pound—up from 15 cents a year earlier and nearly triple the average experienced over the previous 5 years (20 cents/lb).

California tomato processors expect to contract for 11.8 million short tons of tomatoes this year—up 18 percent from a year ago. California produced an average of 95 percent of the U.S. processing tomato crop during 2004-06. Estimated contracted planted area is up 5 percent to 293,000 acres—12,000 acres less than the early intentions report issued in January reflecting slower-than-anticipated demand and higher-than-anticipated stocks.

In 2006, imports of all dry beans accounted for 12 percent of dry bean net domestic use—up from 6 percent in 2000 and 4 percent during the 1990s. In the coming marketing year, U.S. domestic supplies of dry beans are expected to remain relatively limited and prices strong. This may allow imports to continue snagging an increasing share of U.S. dry bean markets with import share projected to reach 13 percent in 2007.

During the first 10 months (July-April) of 2006/07, U.S. export volume for dry peas and lentils was down 8 percent to 9.9 million cwt. While volume was stronger for green and yellow peas, export movement was weaker than a year earlier for lentils, chickpeas, and miscellaneous dry peas with lentil exports down 31 percent from a year ago.

Industry Overview

Fresh vegetables: During the first 5 months of 2007, fresh-market vegetable prices at the point of first sale (e.g., grower or shipping-point) averaged 31 percent above a year earlier. Higher average prices were received for crops such as fresh dry-bulb onions, celery, snap beans, and broccoli—easily outweighing lower average prices for tomatoes, cucumbers, and head lettuce. Following a winter quarter which saw fresh vegetable prices average 36 percent above a year earlier, farm prices this spring were up 23 percent from 2006. This summer, fresh vegetable prices are expected to average below the highs of a year ago as harvested area rises slightly and yields improve from last summer's weather-reduced levels.

Melons: Although spring supplies have begun to improve after a late start caused by a combination of cool, wet weather, April-May producer prices for melon crops averaged 13 percent above a year ago. However, during May, shipments of watermelon, cantaloup, and honeydew recovered, with each above a year earlier. As a result, average melon prices during May fell 4 percent from a year earlier.

Processing vegetables: Wholesale prices for canned and frozen vegetables have each increased about 4 percent from a year earlier during the first 5 months of 2007. Wholesale prices for both canned and frozen vegetables only increased about 1 percent during all of 2006. Prices for dehydrated vegetables increased 11 percent in 2006 and are up 8 percent so far in 2007 led by onions, garlic, and peppers. Higher wholesale prices for processed vegetables experienced since last summer likely reflects tightening inventories and increased processing and inventory costs.

Potatoes: During the first 5 months of 2007, grower prices for potatoes averaged 3 percent above a year earlier due largely to good demand from processors and exporters. Grower prices for processing potatoes were up 8 percent through April while fresh-market prices were down 6 percent. In contrast, retail potato prices have remained fairly steady during the first 5 months of 2007, with fresh white potatoes averaging just 1 percent above a year ago (at 52 cents /lb.) and potato chips down 1 percent to $3.45/lb.

Sweet potatoes: Despite a 3-percent larger crop last fall, good domestic and foreign demand continues to underpin the sweet potato market. Producer prices for fresh-market sweet potatoes averaged 8 percent above the previous year during the first 5 months of 2007. Although the season-average price of sweet potatoes for all uses was estimated to be higher in 2006/07, growers (largely in Louisiana and Mississippi) indicated they will reduce acreage 2 percent this year.

Dry edible beans: With dwindling stocks for many bean classes, grower prices for all dry beans averaged 35 percent above a year earlier during January-May. Prices averaged well above a year earlier for most every dry bean class including pinto, navy, and black beans. Despite strong prices, competition with other field crops (for which prices are also strong) is expected to result in less area planted in 2007.

Dry peas and lentils: According to data reported by USDA's *Agricultural Prices*, grower prices for dry edible peas averaged 74 percent above a year ago during the first 5 months of 2007. At the same time, lentil prices averaged 27 percent above a year ago. However, given a 52-percent larger crop in 2006, grower prices for large chickpeas averaged 28 cents per pound—2 percent above a year earlier.

Mushrooms: During the initial 5 months of 2007, the average import value for fresh agaricus mushrooms increased 4 percent from a year earlier to $1.36/pound. During the same time, the average import value for non-agaricus specialty mushrooms reversed its downward trend, rising 14 percent to $0.73/pound.

Table 1--U.S. vegetable industry at a glance, 2004-07

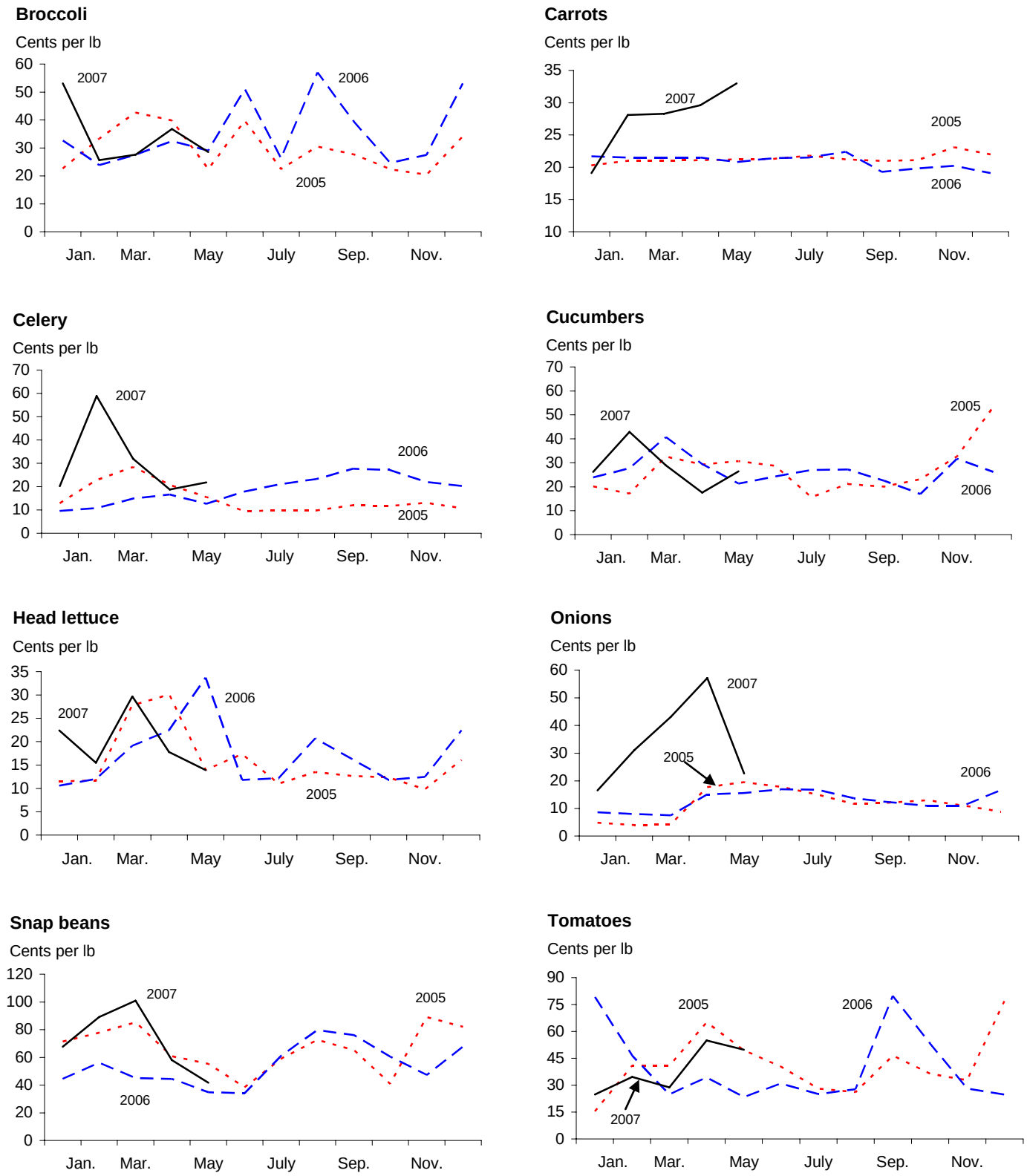
Item	Unit	2004	2005	2006	2007 1/
Area harvested	1,000 ac.	6,547	7,128	7,220	7,012
Vegetables:					
Fresh & melons	1,000 ac.	1,917	1,916	1,913	1,918
Processing	1,000 ac.	1,287	1,270	1,250	1,270
Potatoes	1,000 ac.	1,167	1,087	1,116	1,120
Dry beans	1,000 ac.	1,219	1,534	1,538	1,410
Other 2/	1,000 ac.	957	1,321	1,404	1,294
Production	Mil. cwt	1,347	1,281	1,286	1,331
Vegetables:					
Fresh & melons	Mil. cwt	480	472	466	475
Processing	Mil. cwt	353	314	319	352
Potatoes	Mil. cwt	456	424	435	440
Dry beans	Mil. cwt	18	27	24	23
Other 2/	Mil. cwt	41	44	41	42
Crop value	$ mil.	14,898	15,905	16,514	17,238
Vegetables:					
Fresh & melons	$ mil.	9,152	9,829	10,159	10,800
Processing	$ mil.	1,388	1,255	1,322	1,415
Potatoes	$ mil.	2,575	2,991	3,226	3,200
Dry beans	$ mil.	453	516	518	518
Mushrooms	$ mil.	919	909	881	890
Other 2/	$ mil.	412	405	409	415
Unit value 3/	$/cwt	11.06	12.42	12.84	12.95
Vegetables:					
Fresh & melons	$/cwt	19.09	20.82	21.78	22.75
Processing	$/cwt	3.93	3.99	4.14	4.02
Potatoes	$/cwt	5.66	7.06	7.42	7.27
Dry beans	$/cwt	25.70	18.50	20.00	23.00
Other 2/	$/cwt	10.15	9.25	9.86	9.90
Trade					
Imports	$ mil.	6,212	6,603	7,273	7,878
Vegetables:					
Fresh & melons	$ mil.	3,458	3,668	4,087	4,455
Processing 4/	$ mil.	1,448	1,587	1,746	1,855
Potatoes & products	$ mil.	791	787	856	910
Dry beans	$ mil.	65	82	84	103
Other 5/	$ mil.	449	479	499	555
Exports	$ mil.	3,479	3,855	4,179	4,435
Vegetables:					
Fresh & melons	$ mil.	1,364	1,515	1,625	1,730
Processing 4/	$ mil.	794	828	861	895
Potatoes & products	$ mil.	745	841	951	1,035
Dry beans	$ mil.	145	160	202	190
Other 5/	$ mil.	432	511	541	585
Per capita use	Pounds	445	440	428	438
Vegetables:					
Fresh & melons	Pounds	172	173	172	173
Processing	Pounds	123	126	117	123
Potatoes & products	Pounds	135	126	124	126
Dry beans	Pounds	6	6	6	6
Other 2/	Pounds	9	9	10	9

1/ ERS forecasts. 2/ Includes sweet potatoes, dry peas, lentils, and mushrooms (except for crop value). 3/ Ratio of total value to total production. 4/ Includes canned, frozen, and dried. Excludes potatoes, pulses, and mushrooms. 5/ Other includes mushrooms, dry peas, lentils, sweet potatoes, and vegetable seed. All trade data are on a calendar-year basis.

Sources: Derived by ERS from data of USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production, Acreage, Agricultural Prices, Crop Values, Mushrooms,* and *Potatoes,* and from U.S. trade data of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Figure 1

Point-of-first sale (farm) price for fresh-market vegetables



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices.*

Fresh-Market Vegetables

Shipping-Point Prices Up 31 Percent Through May

During the first 5 months of 2007, point-of-first-sale (grower or shipping point) prices for commercial vegetables surged 31 percent above those of a year earlier. Average prices during these months were at about the same level as experienced in 2002. Similar to this year, the main culprit in 2002 was primarily cold weather in California and Arizona, which sent prices for celery and leaf and cole crops higher. Early spring market volume was reduced and delayed by both the January west coast freeze and the Easter freeze (and subsequent drought) in southeastern States. Record-high onion prices provided an added boost to fresh vegetable prices during the first few months of 2007. Over the first 5 months of 2007, much of the price strength was derived from onions (up 228 percent from a year earlier), celery (up 146 percent), snap beans (up 59 percent), carrots (up 29 percent), broccoli (up

Table 2—U.S. quarterly grower (point-of-first-sale) prices, 2006-07

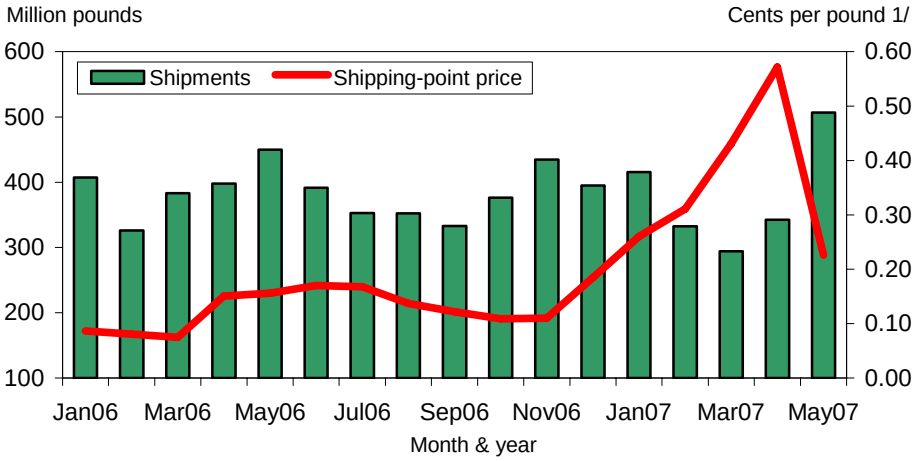
Commodity	2006 Second	2006 Third	2006 Fourth	2007 First	2007 Second*	2007 Third *	2007 Fourth*	Change 2nd Q 1/
	Cents/pound							*Percent*
Asparagus	94.70	129.67	127.00	119.00	112.00	126.00	--	18.3
Broccoli	37.80	40.83	35.07	41.07	32.00	34.50	35.00	-15.3
Cantaloup	23.80	15.70	22.10	--	21.00	15.00	18.00	-11.8
Carrots	21.23	21.07	19.70	25.80	29.00	20.50	20.00	36.6
Cauliflower	37.63	40.83	33.67	42.37	38.00	32.50	35.00	1.0
Celery	15.70	24.00	23.10	41.57	17.50	14.00	16.00	11.5
Sweet corn	21.40	23.23	18.53	27.40	22.00	21.50	21.00	2.8
Cucumbers	25.35	25.57	24.97	28.90	22.00	22.50	23.00	-13.2
Lettuce, head	22.63	16.40	15.57	22.07	15.50	15.25	17.50	-31.5
Onions, dry bulb	15.90	14.23	13.47	33.57	35.00	15.00	12.00	120.1
Snap beans	37.80	72.30	58.43	85.57	46.00	63.00	59.00	21.7
Tomatoes, field	29.53	44.23	35.37	30.03	43.00	34.00	40.00	45.6
All vegetables 2/	876	1008	886	1,200	1000	875	900	14.2

-- = not available. * = ERS forecast. 1/ Change in 2nd-quarter 2007 over 2nd-quarter 2006.
2/ Price index with base period of 1910-14 (the period when the index equaled 100).

Source: Derived by ERS from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices.*

Figure 2

U.S. fresh dry bulb onions: Shipments & grower price, 2006-07 1/



1/ Prices measured at the point of first sale. Shipments include domestic and import volume.
Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service.

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

Item	Annual 2006	April 2007	May 2006	May 2007	Change previous: 2/ Month	Change previous: 2/ Year
		--1,000 cwt --			Percent	
Snap beans	3,332	348	413	445	28	8
Broccoli	9,783	638	769	878	38	14
Cabbage	13,049	1,089	1,194	1,142	5	-4
Cantaloup	27,378	1,608	3,137	3,410	112	9
Carrots	10,897	593	930	759	28	-18
Cauliflower	4,219	277	388	377	36	-3
Celery	16,770	1,283	1,496	1,551	21	4
Chinese cabbage	1,181	127	81	136	7	68
Sweet corn	11,438	1,205	3,780	3,585	198	-5
Cucumbers	14,248	1,471	1,505	1,695	15	13
Greens	2,137	212	181	181	-15	0
Head lettuce	36,880	2,754	3,245	3,622	32	12
Romaine	14,521	1,235	1,173	1,478	20	26
Leaf lettuce	4,141	323	297	383	19	29
Onions, dry bulb	46,002	3,424	4,500	5,068	48	13
Onions, green	3,466	345	295	276	-20	-6
Peppers, bell	17,643	1,301	1,887	1,583	22	-16
Peppers, chile	4,783	435	437	512	18	17
Spinach	1,280	44	70	65	48	-7
Squash	7,034	794	520	545	-31	5
Tomato, round	29,048	1,730	2,809	3,128	81	11
Tomato, roma	10,835	1,270	926	1,338	5	44
Tomato, ghouse 3/	9,819	1,057	1,066	1,724	63	62
Tomato, cherry 4/	4,182	378	340	478	26	41
Watermelon	40,443	2,485	8,539	8,670	249	2
Selected total	344,509	26,426	39,978	43,029	63	8

1/ All 2007 data are preliminary. Includes domestic and imported product. 2/ Change in May 2007. 3/ Includes all types of tomatoes produced under cover. 4/ Includes grape tomatoes.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Market News.

22 percent), and cauliflower (up 24 percent). On the other side of the coin, January-May shipping-point prices averaged lower for several crops, including sweet corn (down 11 percent), head lettuce (down 3 percent), tomatoes (down 8 percent), and cucumbers (down 16 percent). Asparagus prices also averaged 7 percent above the extreme lows of a year earlier, but prices began to weaken in May as shipments rose above those of a year ago.

During the January freeze and extended cold snap, planting of spring crops was delayed in California while growers awaited warmer and more stable air masses to develop. As a result, some early market windows were missed resulting in a shortage of available product and higher prices earlier this spring. With growers replanting early spring vegetables around the same time and subsequent favorable growing weather bringing good yields in California, a glut of harvestable product developed by mid-May and into early June, sending prices for most fresh vegetables tumbling back closer to seasonal norms. Entering the summer season, soil and subsoil moisture in many eastern and midwestern fresh vegetable production areas was relatively short after an extended period of dry weather. Growers have had to irrigate more often to compensate. An early June tropical storm moved up the dry east coast and temporarily relieved stressed irrigation systems in some coastal areas.

Strong spring-season shipments during May pulled prices for fresh dry bulb onions back closer to earth following four months of record or near record highs (fig. 2). Onion prices peaked in April at 57 cents per pound—up from 15 cents a year earlier and nearly triple the average experienced over the previous 5 years (20 cents/lb).

This past May, shipments of fresh dry bulb onions increased from a year earlier as higher prices continued to entice increased imports (up 73 percent from a year ago during January-April). Strong prices also spurred increased volume from domestic shippers in California and Arizona seeking to take advantage of the unusually strong prices. In May 2006, storage onions (primarily from Washington and Oregon) accounted for 8 percent of shipment volume compared with just 3 percent in 2007 as the storage season finished early. Although shipments from Texas were about the same as the strong volume of a year earlier, volume from Georgia was down 12 percent due to lower yields and reduced area.

Despite a 3-percent reduction in planted area, shipments of iceberg lettuce were up in May compared with a year earlier. Shipments from California (which accounted for 94 percent of volume) were higher, while volume from New Mexico was lower and imports from Mexico were also down. Strong May volume likely reflected both good growing weather and some bunching of harvest volume caused by cold weather during the initial planting season. As a result, shipping point prices for iceberg lettuce remained relatively low throughout May, averaging about 14 cents per pound (about $7 per 50-lb carton)—down 59 percent from the weather-impacted highs of a year earlier. Fresh market tomato prices, which began the month at about $18 per 25 pound carton, declined sharply to about $7 a box, with improved volume from Florida.

On the retail side of the fresh vegetable market, the Consumer Price Index for fresh-market vegetables has averaged 6 percent above a year earlier since the start of 2007. Broccoli (up 15 percent), romaine lettuce (up 15 percent) and bell peppers (up 32 percent) accounted for much of the increase, with some offset from tomatoes (down 8 percent). Despite brief periods of high grower prices, the January-May U.S. retail price for fresh field-grown tomatoes averaged $1.63/pound, 8 percent below the high levels of a year earlier but 4 percent above the average of the past 5 years.

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

Item	2006	2007		Change previous:	
	May	April	May	Month	Year
		-- *Index* --		-- *Percent* --	
Consumer Price Indexes (1982/84=100)					
Fresh vegetables	275.6	299.3	293.3	-2.0	6.4
Potatoes	270.4	277.6	284.7	2.6	5.3
Tomatoes, all	293.9	309.8	309.7	0.0	5.4
Lettuce, all	285.5	283.3	265.6	-6.2	-7.0
Other vegetables	273.5	313.0	303.4	-3.1	10.9
Producer Price Indexes (1982=100)					
Fresh vegetables (excl. potatoes)	147.9	222.9	142.1	-36.2	-3.9
Cabbage 1/	165.4	179.5	217.1	20.9	31.3
Eggplant 1/	242.0	609.6	184.4	-69.8	-23.8
Greens 1/	126.1	144.3	134.6	-6.7	6.7
Lettuce	297.6	157.9	112.8	-28.6	-62.1
Onions, green 1/	291.0	183.7	173.0	-5.8	-40.5
Onions, dry bulb	105.1	459.7	149.3	-67.5	42.1
Peppers, green 1/	201.4	398.6	217.8	-45.4	8.1
Radishes 1/	278.3	270.5	284.5	5.2	2.2
Spinach 1/	252.0	431.1	228.9	-46.9	-9.2
Squash 1/	130.4	224.9	117.9	-47.6	-9.6
Tomatoes	118.9	223.4	167.6	-25.0	41.0

1/ Index base is December 1991=100.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (http://www.bls.gov/data/home.htm).

Table 5--Selected fresh-market vegetable trade volume, 2005-07 1/

Item	2006 Annual	January - April 2005	January - April 2006	January - April 2007	Change 2006-07
		--1,000 cwt--			Percent
Exports, fresh:					
Onions, dry bulb	6,585	2,523	2,013	1,586	-21
Lettuce, head	3,642	1,510	1,410	1,095	-22
Lettuce, other	4,616	1,826	1,741	1,555	-11
Tomatoes	3,179	1,000	897	1,008	12
Broccoli	3,050	975	1,089	1,072	-2
Carrots	2,531	1,073	1,072	961	-10
Other	12,855	4,925	5,129	4,727	-8
Total	36,457	13,831	13,349	12,004	-10
Imports, fresh:					
Tomatoes, all	21,877	8,939	10,526	11,316	8
Cucumbers	9,742	4,932	4,556	4,866	7
Onions, dry bulb	6,432	2,794	2,421	4,190	73
Peppers, sweet	7,161	3,152	3,929	3,596	-8
Squash 2/	5,304	2,599	2,582	2,903	12
Peppers, chile	5,086	1,281	1,788	1,650	-8
Asparagus, all	2,653	925	1,016	1,076	6
Other	21,660	7,955	8,182	9,392	15
Total	79,914	32,577	34,999	38,990	11

1/ Excludes melons, potatoes, mushrooms, dry pulses, and sweet potatoes. 2/ Excludes chayote.

Source: Prepared by ERS using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Import Volume Up, Exports Languish

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, during January-April, the volume of fresh-market vegetable imports rose 11 percent from a year earlier. At the same time, higher prices and weather-reduced supplies resulted in a 10-percent reduction in export volume. Fresh tomato imports were up 8 percent to 1.13 billion pounds, with 97 percent of tomato imports during this period entering from Mexico. Despite a relatively slow start to the Mexican winter season, field-grown roma (plum-type) tomato imports from Mexico rose 12 percent to a record-high 440 million pounds during January-April. Total tomato import volume also reflected a 10-percent jump in greenhouse-grown product. Greenhouse tomatoes accounted for 26 percent of U.S. tomato imports during the first 4 months of 2007—up from 25 percent a year ago. Imports of greenhouse tomatoes from Mexico jumped 18 percent during January-April to a record high 259 million pounds. In 2006, Mexico trailed only Canada as the largest supplier of greenhouse tomatoes in U.S. import markets.

Adequate Summer Supplies, Lower Prices Expected

Assuming average weather and a small gain in acreage, the outlook for the summer season (July-September) appears to favor adequate supplies and generally lower prices compared with the unusual highs spawned by the extreme heat of a year ago. Assuming continued favorable conditions in California plus a strong start for most eastern and midwestern vegetable growers, market volume should remain steady. As a result, summer-season shipping-point and retail prices are expected to average well below those of a year ago, despite higher costs for energy, transportation, and packaging materials. During the summer of 2006, shipping-point prices averaged 28 percent above a year earlier and 20 percent above the average of the five previous years. The outlook for late summer and fall markets may be less certain given the drought and outlook for increased hurricane and tropical storm activity this year.

Processing Vegetables

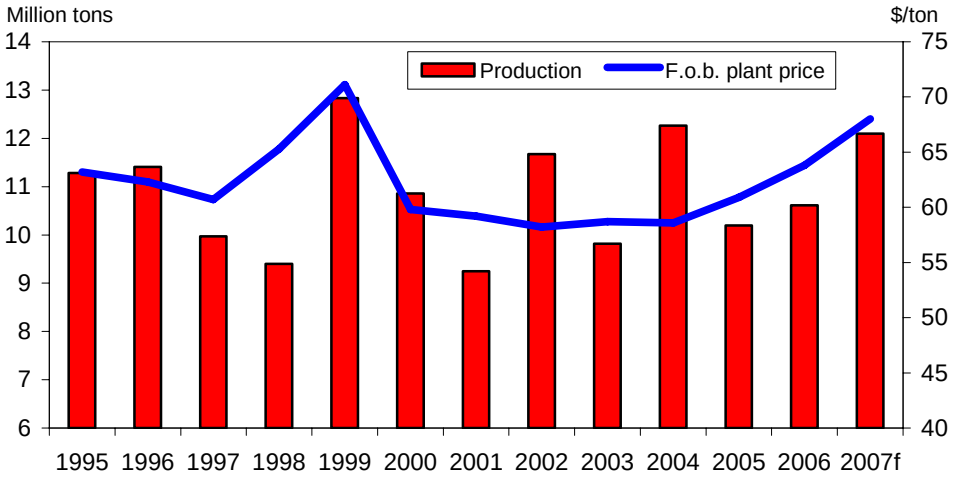
Tomato Crop Progressing Well

According to the May 15 California crop estimate, processors expect to contract for 11.8 million short tons of processing tomatoes this year—up 18 percent from a year ago. California produced an average of 95 percent of the U.S. processing tomato crop during 2004-06. Estimated contracted planted area is up 5 percent to 293,000 acres—12,000 acres less than the early-intentions report issued in January. This likely reflects slower-than-anticipated tomato product demand and higher-than-anticipated stocks. According to industry data, apparent disappearance of tomato stocks declined 13 percent during the first 9 months of the 2006/07 marketing year (July-June year). As a result, inventories of processed tomato products (on a fresh equivalent basis) as of March 1 were 7 percent higher than a year earlier. Slow demand and larger stocks were reflected in the ERS estimate of 2006 net domestic use of processing tomatoes, which indicated a decline of 12 percent to 64.4 pounds per person—the lowest since 1988.

Near-ideal spring growing weather has left the 2007 California tomato crop in excellent condition to this point in the season, with harvest activities set to begin in late June or early July. In the past 2 years, cool, wet spring weather and extreme summer heat has plagued the California tomato crop by slowing growth, increasing disease and pest problems, reducing yields, and increasing production costs. As a result of higher input costs and competition from other crops, California tomato growers were able to negotiate an increase in the average contract price to $63 per ton (excluding various incentives and deductions) for tomatoes to be delivered to processors. Assuming this season's strong start carries through the summer, both yield and grower revenue in California will likely recover from the poor performance of the past 2 years. Ideal growing conditions in 2004 pushed the State's processing tomato yields to a record high 41.54 tons per acre but yields were subsequently sunk by poor weather in 2005 (36.36 tons) and again in 2006 (35.83 tons).

Figure 3

U.S. processing tomatoes: Production & f.o.b. plant door grower price 1/



1/ Average price free on board (f.o.b.) delivered to the processing plant door.
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, except 2007 forecast by ERS.

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

Item	2007 May	2007 April	2006 May	Change previous: Month	Change previous: Year
	-- Index --			-- Percent --	
Consumer Price Indexes (12/97=100)					
Processed fruits and vegetables	126.2	124.9	122.6	1.1	2.9
Canned vegetables	126.7	126.2	126.0	0.3	0.5
Frozen vegetables (1982-84=100)	181.2	178.2	178.1	1.7	1.7
Dry beans, peas, lentils	131.6	129.3	118.7	1.8	10.9
Olives, pickles, relishes	121.2	117.7	108.6	3.0	11.6
Producer Price Indexes (1982=100)					
Canned vegetables and juices	144.0	143.4	138.8	0.4	3.7
Pickles and products	193.4	193.4	189.1	0.0	2.3
Tomato catsup and sauces 1/	137.7	137.5	133.7	0.1	3.0
Canned dry beans	130.5	130.5	136.8	0.0	-4.6
Vegetable juices 1/	117.3	117.3	115.9	0.0	1.2
Frozen vegetables	146.2	145.3	138.8	0.6	5.3
Frozen vegetable combinations	108.4	107.7	107.1	0.6	1.2
Dried/dehy. fruit & vegetables	180.4	175.6	163.0	2.7	10.7

1/ Index base year is 1987.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (http://www.bls.gov/data/home.htm).

Exports of processed tomato products during the first 9 months of the 2006/07 marketing year (July-June) increased 2 percent to $229 million. Similar to last year, Canada (55 percent of the total), Mexico (15 percent), and Japan (6 percent) remained the top three foreign markets for U.S. processed tomato products. With the exception of tomato paste (down 12 percent from a year earlier), the export value for each of the major tomato products was running ahead of a year earlier. Exports of tomato sauce, which account for about half of the value tomato product exports, rose 3 percent to $113 million while tomato ketchup exports were up 13 percent to $22 million. Although volume is relatively small, exports of tomato juice quadrupled to more than $2 million so far this season, with 73 percent shipped to Canada.

Frozen Stocks Down

Stocks of frozen vegetables (excluding potatoes and adjusting cob corn to a cut-basis) in cold storage warehouses on May 1 were down 15 percent from a year earlier. Reductions were noted for a majority of vegetables including okra, broccoli, asparagus, carrots, and spinach, among others, while increases were reported for snap beans (up 20 percent), cob corn, and brussels sprouts. Relative to historical averages and current domestic and export demand, frozen stocks appear to be in the lower end of the range. Given lower inventories and higher processing and storage costs, wholesale prices for frozen vegetables (excluding potatoes) have generally been running about 4 percent above year-earlier levels during the first 5 months of 2007. However, these costs have not yet been passed onto consumers, with retail prices for frozen vegetables during January-May remaining about even with a year earlier. USDA will release its second look at contract area planted and green pea production on July 10.

Processed Trade: Imports and Exports Up

During January to April 2007, the value of processed vegetable (excluding potatoes, pulses, and mushrooms) imports rose 11 percent. Higher prices pushed dried and

dehydrated products up 15 percent, while canned and frozen product import values were each 10 percent higher. The increase in dried and dehydrated vegetable imports was fueled by gains in dried whole garlic (up 123 percent), and whole dried tomatoes (up 32 percent). Among canned vegetables, import value was running above a year earlier for tomato paste (548 percent), artichokes (18 percent), and asparagus (27 percent). The top five sources of processed vegetable imports so far in 2007 include Mexico (29 percent of the total), China (15 percent), Canada (14 percent), Peru (6 percent), and Italy (4 percent).

The value of processed vegetable exports during January-April was running 4 percent above a year earlier. Export value increased for all three major processing categories led by gains for frozen vegetable products. Frozen export volume was up 9 percent because of increased movement of sweet corn, snap beans, green peas, and miscellaneous frozen vegetable mixtures. Relatively low wholesale prices and more favorable exchange rates have aided processors who have found difficulty in recent years competing in key world markets.

Table 7--Frozen vegetables: U.S. cold storage holdings, May 1

Commodity	2004	2005	2006	2007 1/	Change from a year ago
		-- 1,000 pounds --			*Percent*
Asparagus	7,385	6,968	5,069	3,573	-30
Lima beans	32,424	39,039	30,624	29,884	-2
Snap beans	74,123	115,008	93,755	112,908	20
Broccoli	101,292	115,721	104,609	64,094	-39
Brussels sprouts	14,160	18,953	12,943	13,084	1
Carrots	164,138	194,148	191,926	139,304	-27
Cauliflower	15,871	24,709	25,087	21,016	-16
Sweet corn, all 2/	478,140	443,752	336,582	318,842	-5
Okra	18,306	11,687	12,770	6,311	-51
Onions, all	39,364	50,679	54,276	40,756	-25
Blackeye peas	3,521	2,325	5,174	3,778	-27
Green peas	78,373	136,455	104,255	99,213	-5
Southern greens	19,289	18,886	17,293	13,076	-24
Spinach	81,836	50,742	94,750	69,310	-27
Squash	26,928	40,575	52,992	47,690	-10
Other vegetables	312,771	333,795	336,959	281,193	-17
Total	1,467,921	1,603,442	1,479,064	1,264,032	-15

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Cut basis, with cob converted using factor of 0.4706.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Cold Storage.*

Table 8--Value of processed vegetable trade 1/

Item	2006 Annual	January - April 2005	January - April 2006	January - April 2007	Change 2006-07
		-- Million dollars --			*Percent*
Imports:					
Canned	876	257	267	294	10
Frozen	526	171	182	200	10
Dehydrated 2/	344	95	116	134	15
Exports:					
Canned	554	175	176	181	3
Frozen	177	48	59	64	9
Dehydrated 2/	129	41	40	42	5

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

Source: Derived by ERS from data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Potatoes

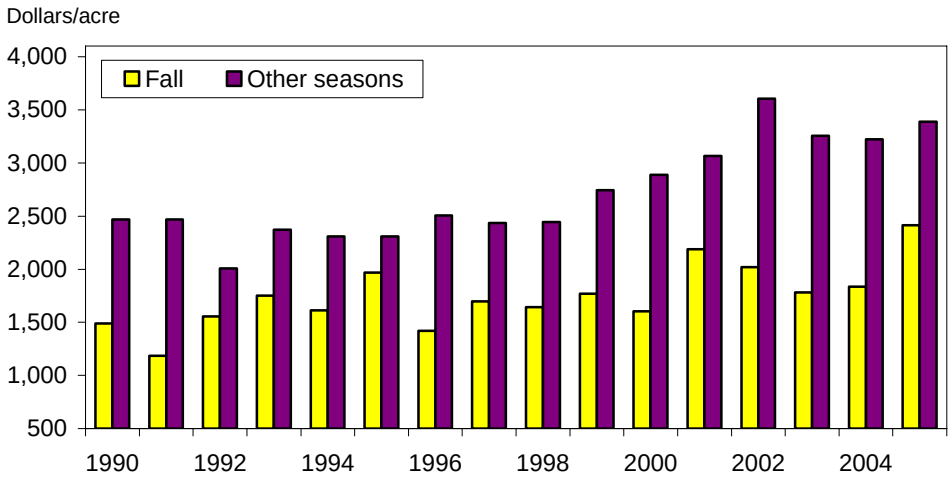
Stars May Align Again This Year

If the direction of spring potato prices in California, Florida, and Texas is an indicator of average domestic prices for the 2007 crop, growers may expect another double-play year of both higher production and prices. Projected average prices across the 3 States for spring-crop potatoes are $19 per cwt compared with $12.30 per cwt in 2006. Efforts by the United Potato Growers of America to reduce all season area planted 15 percent from the 2004 level (to just over 1 million acres nationwide) remain elusive. Even a 1-percent increase in area harvested will raise production unless average yield declines by more than 1 percent.

Demand for potatoes and available supply are both stronger than in 2006 as evidenced by the 4-percent expansion of market shipments through May 2007. Shipments of seed potatoes show the most impressive growth at 21 percent while chipping potatoes are up 5 percent. Shipments of tablestock potatoes, however, have been lower from March through May, mirroring slower shipments from Idaho. Strong domestic demand for processing potatoes continues this year, including demand for imported frozen potato products. For the 2006/07 crop, the amount of potatoes used for processing is up 8 percent through May.

Figure 4

Potatoes: Return per acre for fall crop versus other seasons



Source: Computed by ERS from data of USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Potatoes.*

Table 9--U.S. potatoes: Processing use in 9 major States 1/

Season	Thru Nov.	Potatoes processed in: Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Other	Season total
				-- *Million cwt* --					
2001-02	65.4	15.8	15.1	18.3	17.0	16.5	18.5	28.9	195.5
2002-03	77.0	15.6	14.9	18.7	18.1	16.5	18.6	31.7	211.0
2003-04	72.4	15.4	14.3	18.8	17.1	16.7	19.6	32.4	206.8
2004-05	70.7	15.2	15.0	18.4	16.6	17.8	19.2	38.0	211.0
2005-06	65.6	15.6	14.9	18.6	17.9	16.9	17.9	31.0	198.3
2006-07	72.3	16.8	16.5	19.3	19.1	16.5	19.3		
% change	*10.3*	*7.9*	*11.1*	*3.9*	*7.0*	*-2.5*	*7.8*		

- - - = not available.

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

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Potato Stocks*.

Table 10--U.S. potatoes: Domestic use as a share of production sold, selected years

Item	1990	1995	2000	2002	2004	2006
			-- Percent --			
Table stock	32.5	30.5	30.0	31.3	32.5	27.5
Processing	60.4	62.4	61.9	62.3	61.7	66.3
Frozen french fries	29.5	31.5	31.6	29.6	30.3	33.2
Other frozen	6.5	6.6	5.8	6.9	5.7	6.7
Chips	12.1	11.5	11.3	12.2	12.7	13.8
Dehydrated	10.6	11.0	11.7	12.2	11.6	11.4
Canned	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.8
Starch and other	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4
Other sales	7.1	7.1	8.1	6.4	5.8	6.2
Seed	6.3	6.3	5.0	5.7	5.4	5.7
Livestock feed	0.9	0.8	3.1	0.7	0.5	0.5

Source: Computed by ERS from data of USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Table 11--Potatoes: Fall crop stocks as a percentage of usage, 15 major States 1/

Crop	Fall potato stocks on:						
year	Dec. 1	Jan. 1	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Apr. 1	May 1	June 1
				-- Percent --			
2001	100.0	86.8	85.5	82.6	75.6	67.7	52.9
2002	100.0	87.5	86.0	83.0	76.1	66.0	55.3
2003	100.0	87.2	85.7	83.0	75.8	67.4	54.1
2004	100.0	87.3	86.0	82.6	76.7	68.7	58.4
2005	100.0	86.9	85.8	82.2	74.4	65.6	54.8
2006	100.0	87.2	85.4	81.6	74.2	64.4	53.0
Change 2/		*0.4*	*-0.5*	*-0.8*	*-0.3*	*-1.8*	*-3.1*

1/ Usage during current and future months. 2/ Percent change 2006 from 2005.

Source: Computed by ERS from data of USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The volume of potatoes used for processing in the Pacific Northwest States of Idaho, Washington, and Oregon is running about 6 percent greater than a year earlier. Stocks as a percent of the fall crop are at 19 percent in May, the lowest in several years (as they have been since December 2006). Overall, stocks of french fries and other frozen potatoes in cold storage are at the lowest level in many years. The Pacific States show the sharpest decline in frozen stocks as both domestic and foreign demand have boosted marketings. Low stocks and high disappearance rates suggest more imports and exports if both domestic and foreign demand are vigorous.

Assuming that total sales of the 2006 crop grew at the same pace as the 2.5-percent growth of U.S. potato production, total sales will approximate 400.5 million cwt. Of this amount, 266 million cwt will likely be processed and 110 million cwt will be marketed as tablestock. Thus, using the average price of $7.42 per cwt for the 2006 crop, the corresponding value of sales will be nearly $3 billion. It follows that average sales per acre harvested is estimated at $2,664, or 5 percent higher than the 2005 crop. After subtracting the value of net exports, the value of potatoes used domestically will be about $2.9 billion. In per capita terms, this amounts to $8.80 (at wholesale), which is 6 percent more than for the 2005 potato crop.

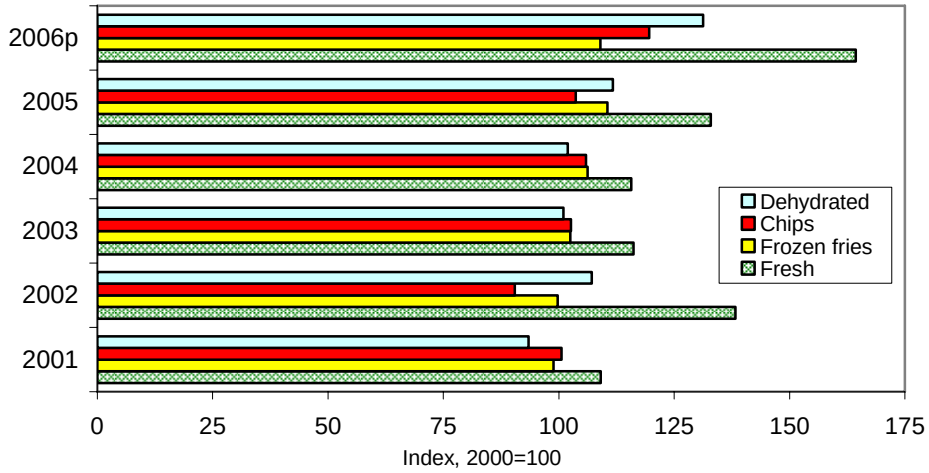
Foreign Sales of Fries Are Matched by Imports

U.S. potato exports in first quarter 2007 are being shipped at a faster pace than in 2006, especially for frozen french fries. The major foreign markets for fries are Japan, Mexico, Canada, and China. Canada's currency appreciation against the U.S. dollar since 2003 is helping boost import demand for U.S. frozen fries. Thus far in 2007, the U.S. dollar depreciated from 1.17 Canadian dollars in January to 1.06 in June. U.S. potato chip exports to Canada were also significantly higher in the first quarter than in 2006. However, potato chip exports to Japan slowed considerably in the first quarter due in part to the yen's depreciation vis-à-vis the dollar since 2005. Also, U.S. chip exports to Mexico are nowhere near their pace in early 2006.

While exports are expanding, U.S. potato imports are also arriving at a faster clip. Imported frozen French fries, potato chips, and potato starch are all up in value and volume during the first quarter of 2007. The jump in volume of fresh or chilled potato imports from January to March is noteworthy after declining in early 2006. Canada is the major source of these imports. U.S. demand for Canadian seed potatoes is especially strong despite the higher exchange value of the Canadian currency. The robust demand for processing and processed potatoes in the United States is reflected in larger shipments of fresh and processed potatoes from north of the border. If, as expected, imports rise along with domestic production in 2007, U.S. per capita consumption of potatoes will climb again this year after falling in 2005.

Figure 5

U.S. potatoes: Selected export unit values, 2001-06



p = preliminary.

Source: Computed by ERS from data of U.S. Dept of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Sweet Potatoes

Production and Prices Are Expected Up Again

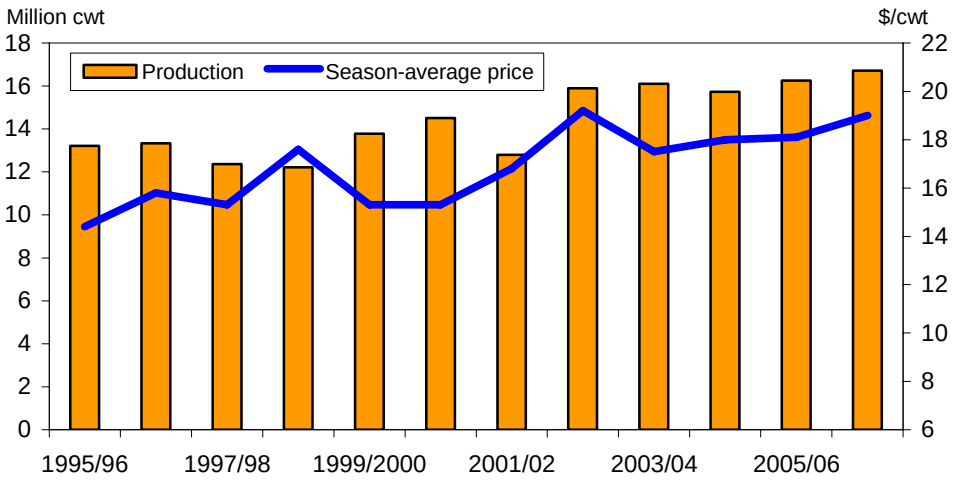
USDA projects that the total area planted with sweet potatoes in 2007 may be down 2.4 percent, or 2,300 acres, from 2006's 95,200 acres (updated area estimates will be released in the June 29 *Acreage* report). If the area harvested and yield per acre are as high as or higher than levels in 2006, production can increase by 500,000 cwt in 2007, a 3-percent gain. Spring growing conditions are normal or better in general than in 2006, and barring any excessive rainfall or severe drought during the summer, the U.S. sweet potato crop is expected to benefit from an average price of at least $18 per cwt and may reach $19.

If area harvested in 2007 is at least 88,000 acres and yield remains around 190 cwt per acre, domestic sweet potato production should approximate 16.7 million cwt. U.S. and foreign demand for sweet potatoes was up in 2006 as evidenced in higher prices, production, exports, and domestic consumption. These increases are expected to continue in 2007, especially as exports expand at a 2-digit pace and per capita consumption is at least 4.7 pounds. Domestic consumption is driven in part by population growth, which represents about 3 million people a year.

At an average price of $19 per cwt, the total value of domestic sweet potatoes is estimated at $318 million (at wholesale), 6.5 percent higher than last year. At this gross value, the crop's return per acre is estimated at about $3,600, an amount that is exceeded only by 2002/03's record $3,711 per acre. Note that average yield and total production value for the U.S. are weighted heavily by North Carolina and California. California sweet potatoes' exceptionally high yield and above-average prices account for a good portion of the growth in U.S. crop value per acre. Yields of around 300 cwt per acre in California are attributed to excellent soil, climate, quality seed, minimal pests, and drip irrigation. The California crop, however, has the disadvantage of a shorter shelf life (does not store as well) relative to sweet potatoes produced in other States.

The Beauregard is the dominant sweet potato variety grown in Louisiana, Mississippi, and California. In North Carolina, the Hernandez and Jewel varieties are planted as well. In California, between 45 and 50 percent of production is

Figure 6
U.S. sweet potatoes: Production and season average price



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Beauregard, and the rest are specialty varieties such as Garnet (red-skinned), Hanna and Golden Sweets (yellow to white fleshed), and orange-fleshed "yams". These specialty varieties command premium prices over the Beauregard, and account for California's average price advantage over the other States. Warm summer days (ideally 85 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit) in the northern San Joaquin Valley are one reason for California's exceptionally high yield.

A more direct indicator of demand for sweet potatoes is the volume of shipments from growers, shippers, and packers. Shipments from Eastern North Carolina and Louisiana are up 9 percent in 2006/07 (July thru May). Year-to-date shipments are 7 percent larger than the last crop year's volume at this time. Prices of medium U.S. No. 1 grade are on a pace 5 percent higher than in 2005/06. If prices in other States largely follow this pace, the average wholesale price for sweet potatoes can reach $19 per cwt in 2007. In terms of consumer spending for sweet potatoes, the consumption value per capita rises from 80 to 85 cents in 2007, second only to 90 cents in 2002/03.

U.S. sweet potato exports from July 2006 to June 2007 are estimated at $35 million, up 13 percent from 2005/06. Export volume is 90 million pounds, representing 5.6 percent of domestic production. The average export price is 39 cents per pound. U.S. imports of sweet potatoes are expected to jump 24 percent in value and 32 percent in volume in 2006/07. The fastest growing imports are from China, by far the world's leading producer of sweet potatoes. The United Nations reports that China accounted for 82 percent of global sweet potato production in 2005. The U.S. produced less than 1 percent of the total 122 million metric tons harvested around the world in 2005.

One development that can push demand for U.S. sweet potatoes to a higher level is the success of the new Evangeline variety. Louisiana State University researchers in Baton Rouge have developed this new variety with 30 to 50 percent higher sugar content than the popular Beauregard. Yields of Evangelines are similar to Beauregards thus far, but they do not produce as many jumbo sizes. Their appeal to consumers may be further enhanced by more consistent shape and a darker orange flesh. Plantings in other States have not been tested, and success in Louisiana is still unproven.

Table 12--Sweet potatoes: Shipping point prices from two major States 1/

Item/year	July-Sep.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	Year 2/
			-- Index, 2000-01 = 100 --		
1999-00	--	--	128.3	102.4	126.2
2000-01	--	99.8	98.9	70.2	100.0
2001-02	--	96.5	94.5	93.2	96.0
2002-03	92.3	95.8	116.9	136.9	108.0
2003-04	162.2	142.1	138.2	129.9	141.6
2004-05	128.2	123.0	116.6	115.7	120.8
2005-06	115.2	119.2	117.3	124.1	119.2
2006-07	124.3	124.5	125.4	128.7	125.4
Percent change	7.9	4.5	6.8	3.7	5.1

-- = not available. Data are through May 2007.

1/ Weighted fresh-market prices in Eastern North Carolina and Louisiana, using domestic shipments as weights. 2/ Marketing year runs from July through June.

Source: Computed by ERS from data of USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Market News*.

Dry Beans

Exports Down, Imports Surge

During the first 8 months of 2006/07, U.S. export volume for dry edible beans was down 11 percent to 4.71 million cwt. With 4 months remaining, prices up, and stocks dwindling for several classes, export volume is likely to shrink further from the strong levels experienced a season ago. Movement to foreign nations increased notably for black, light red kidney, baby lima, and navy beans, but declined for most others including pinto, Great Northern, and dark red kidney beans. Through April, export movement of U.S. black beans was up 32 percent to 72 million pounds—the largest since the 1981/82 season, with Mexico accounting for about 92 percent of the volume. Through April, Mexico accounted for 30 percent of total U.S. dry bean export volume, up from 28 percent a year earlier. Although down 7

Table 13--U.S. dry beans: Crop year export volume to date

	Crop year	September - April			Change
Item	2005/06	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2005-06
		-- 1,000 cwt --			*Percent*
Pinto	2,643	780	1,727	1,330	-23
Navy	1,061	716	809	893	10
Black	763	360	547	719	32
Great Northern	516	312	405	304	-25
Garbanzo	380	156	332	332	0
Baby lima	265	115	170	209	23
Dark red kidney	252	118	203	94	-54
Small red	182	68	138	52	-62
Light red kidney	153	41	108	150	39
Large lima	135	118	112	87	-22
Cranberry	84	30	58	83	43
Pink	65	10	34	14	-59
Blackeye	32	37	27	13	-52
Other	797	331	611	430	-30
Total	7,327	3,192	5,281	4,711	-11

Source: Compiled by ERS from data of U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Table 14--U.S. dry bean crop year export volume to date, by selected destination

	Crop year	September - April			Change
Destination	2005/06	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2005-06
		--1,000 cwt--			*Percent*
Mexico	2,354	623	1,505	1,407	-7
Canada	666	241	547	573	5
United Kingdom	668	422	509	368	-28
Cuba	52	45	44	347	681
Japan	359	208	241	256	6
Spain	168	75	156	176	13
Haiti	483	190	270	170	-37
Dominican Republic	423	111	380	156	-59
Saudi Arabia 1/	10	2	4	142	3534
Angola	328	49	166	134	-20
France	172	97	151	93	-38
Other	1,644	1,275	1,625	1,117	-31
Total	7,327	3,192	5,281	4,711	-11

1/ Largely navy beans in 2006/07.

Source: Compiled by ERS from data of U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Table 15--U.S. dry beans: Crop year import volume to date

Item	Crop year 2005/06	September - April 2004/05	September - April 2005/06	September - April 2006/07	Change 2005-06
		-- 1,000 cwt --			Percent
Pinto	44	98	26	51	101
Navy	0	134	133	93	-30
Black	277	131	166	301	82
Garbanzo	255	159	140	184	32
Baby lima	3	8	1	20	1293
Large lima	22	6	7	38	443
Dark red kidney	109	73	77	93	21
Light red kidney	103	72	62	80	29
Small red	62	46	41	43	5
Blackeye	20	0	0	129	--
Blackgram/urd 1/	322	205	191	235	23
Misc. kidney	256	348	164	141	-14
Other	769	432	433	414	-4
Total	2,242	1,712	1,440	1,821	26

1/ Includes dry beans classified as vigna mungo hepper.

Source: Compiled by ERS from data of U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

percent from a year earlier, volume shipped to Mexico was the sixth strongest since 1989, with black beans accounting for 47 percent of the shipments this year.

Whenever domestic prices of dry beans increase and stocks begin to dwindle, imports begin to move higher. This year has been no exception as higher prices have led to a 26 percent increase in dry bean import volume over the first 8 months of the 2006/07 marketing year. Only the 2001/02 season featured September-April import volume larger than this season. Imports are up for several classes including black beans (up 82 percent), garbanzo beans (32 percent), and light red kidney beans (29 percent).

Interestingly, about 17 percent of dry bean imports so far this year consisted of black beans despite strong domestic production a year ago and heavy export volume this season. Canada (28 percent of the total), China (23 percent), Mexico (16 percent), and Peru (16 percent) have accounted for the lion's share of dry beans shipped into the U.S. market. Low-cost black bean imports from China had an average import value of about 23 cents per pound compared with 26 cents for black beans imported from Canada. In general, the U.S. average import value for black beans (26 cents/lb) did not differ much from U.S. exports of black beans, which had an average export value of 27 cents per pound.

Domestic supplies of dry beans are expected to remain limited and prices above long-run averages in the coming marketing year. Thus, imports will continue to snag an increasing share of U.S. dry bean markets. In 2006, imports accounted for 12 percent of dry bean net domestic use—up from 6 percent in 2000 and 4 percent during the 1990s. Import penetration is projected to reach 13 percent in 2007.

Little Activity In Bean Markets

U.S. dry edible bean markets remain quiet awaiting the June 30 USDA *Acreage* report, which will confirm or refute earlier industry intentions to reduce area 8 percent. With the notable exception of pinto beans, grower and dealer prices have not moved much since April. In early June, pinto bean grower prices were down

Table 16--U.S. dry beans: Monthly grower prices for selected classes, 2006-2007

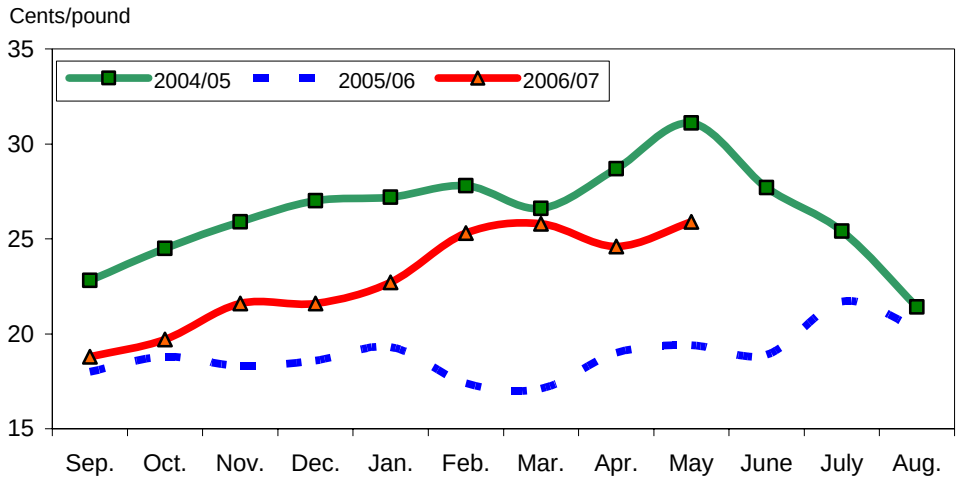
Commodity	2006		2007		Chg. prev. year:	
	May	June 1/	May	June 1/	May	June
	--- Cents per pound ---				--- Percent ---	
All dry beans	19.30	19.00	25.90	--	34.2	--
Pinto (ND/MN)	13.50	13.50	22.20	22.00	64.4	63.0
Navy (pea bean) (MI)	19.50	19.50	22.75	22.75	16.7	16.7
Great Northern (NE/WY)	17.80	18.00	26.00	26.00	46.1	44.4
Black (MI)	21.80	22.00	26.50	26.50	21.6	20.5
Light red kidney (MI)	20.70	20.50	25.88	26.00	25.0	26.8
Dark red kidney (MN/WI)	20.70	20.50	30.00	30.00	44.9	46.3
Small red (ID/WA)	19.50	19.50	24.00	24.00	23.1	23.1
Pink (ID/WA)	19.50	19.50	22.50	22.50	15.4	15.4
	--- Ratio ---					
Dry bean/corn price ratio	8.89	8.88	7.44	--	-16.3	--

-- = not available. 1/ Partial month estimate.

Source: USDA, AMS, *Bean Market News* except "All beans" from USDA, NASS, *Agricultural Prices.*

Figure 7

U.S. dry edible beans: Average monthly grower price



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices.*

5 percent from April—the only class for which prices did not either increase or remain steady. Across all dry bean classes, the May 2007 grower price was estimated at $25.90 per cwt—up 34 percent from a year earlier. April price estimates were reported higher than a year ago in every major State excluding California, where prices were largely unchanged from the highs of a year earlier. Although May grower prices in North Dakota averaged 48 percent above the lows of a year earlier, prices declined 5 percent from April due largely to the influence of lower pinto bean prices. Although it will have little or no effect on 2007 plantings, the ratio of the U.S. all dry bean price to field corn price declined substantially in May as the increase in dry bean prices did not maintain the pace of gains in the field corn market.

Huron County Was Top Producer

Huron County in the East Central region of Michigan produced 42 percent of the State's dry bean crop in 2005. As a result, the county retained its position as the

nation's top producing area for dry edible beans. Although it is possible Huron remained the top producer in 2006, until estimates for Michigan counties are released later this year, North Dakota's Pembina County stands as the top producer. Production in Pembina County jumped 50 percent in 2006 as harvested area increased 39 percent, yields rose 8 percent (to 14.7 cwt), and acreage losses declined from 20 percent in 2005 to just 3 percent in 2006. Dry bean production is spread among several counties in North Dakota, with the top five accounting for 57 percent of the State's 2006 crop. In 2005, four of the top five dry bean counties in the Nation were located in North Dakota (Walsh, Wells, Grand Forks, and Pembina).

With national yields improving 20 percent in 2005, California's Monterey County reported the highest dry bean yields with 35.0 cwt per acre. Nearby Kings County also enjoyed strong yields, with 28.85 cwt per acre placing third. Sandwiched between these two in second place was Dundy County in Minnesota with 30.22 cwt per acre. Montana's Yellowstone County (28.5 cwt) and Minnesota's Chippewa County (27.5 cwt) round out the five most productive areas on an acre for acre basis. Among counties planting at least 10,000 acres in 2005, Grant County in Washington posted the highest yield at 24.5 cwt per acre.

Table 17--Dry edible beans: Production in top 30 counties, 2003-06 1/

County & State	2003	2004	2005	2006	Change 2005-06
		--1,000 cwt--			*Percent*
Huron, MI	860	1,310	1,630	--	--
Walsh, ND	1,170	695	1,380	1,087	-21
Wells, ND	760	489	995	553	-44
Grand Forks, ND	1,135	715	975	1,035	6
Pembina, ND	923	455	815	1,221	50
Scotts Bluff, NE	754	559	785	--	--
Polk, MN	615	284	774	660	-15
Box Butte, NE	559	463	682	--	--
Benson, ND	414	198	590	457	-23
Twin Falls, ID	583	657	580	560	-3
Tuscola, MI	325	448	515	--	--
Chase, NE	289	274	481	--	--
Ramsey, ND	278	153	405	392	-3
Morrill, NE	374	227	388	--	--
Steele, ND	646	368	385	408	6
Bay, MI	275	303	380	--	--
Traill, ND	297	190	335	455	36
McLean, ND	243	264	325	125	-62
Yuma, CO	325	266	315	400	27
Sanilac, MI	220	230	305	--	--
Gratiot, MI	168	202	293	--	--
Towner, ND	263	54	290	239	-18
Grant, WA	223	218	278	--	--
Sheridan, NE	219	107	267	--	--
Stanislaus, CA	245	200	251	--	--
Weld, CO	204	227	250	172	-31
Park, WY	217	204	237	--	--
Jerome, ID	248	247	235	205	-13
Nez Perce, ID	50	98	200	254	27
Canyon, ID	120	132	198	182	-8

-- = Data for 2006 not yet released. 1/ Sorted by 2005 production levels.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *www.nass.usda.gov*

Dry Peas and Lentils

Prices Highest Since 2003/04

Activity in U.S. dry pea and lentil markets remains relatively quiet as the industry awaits the June 30 *Grain Stocks* report which will enumerate the volume of dry peas, lentils, and chickpeas held in storage as of June 1. With reduced production last fall, the previous (December 1) stocks report indicated dry pea stocks were 3 percent lower than a year earlier at 6.3 million cwt, while the volume of lentils in storage totaled 2.8 million cwt, down 8 percent from a year earlier. Since that time, export volume has been moderate for lentils and relatively strong for dry peas, with added demand from India. Together with acreage competition from other field crops this spring and tight world supplies, dry pea and lentil prices have been bid higher, with green pea grower prices in May double those of a year earlier at $10.60 per cwt.

According to preliminary data, during the 12-month marketing season beginning July 2006, grower prices for U.S. No. 1 grade whole green peas in the Idaho/Washington region averaged $8.06 per hundred pounds (cwt), up 53 percent from a year earlier and the highest since 2003/04. Grower prices, which increased steadily each month since beginning the marketing year at a low of $5.84/cwt,

Table 18--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Monthly grower prices by class, 2005/06-06/07

Crop year & month	Dry peas	Chickpeas			Austrian winter peas	All Lentils
		All	Large	Small		
		--- *Cents per pound* ---				
2005/06						
July	5.16	27.90	28.20	--	7.57	11.90
August	4.25	20.60	25.70	--	6.75	11.80
September	4.66	26.50	26.80	--	6.22	11.50
October	4.51	25.10	25.20	--	6.83	11.80
November	4.80	25.20	25.40	--	7.33	11.30
December	4.99	24.60	24.80	--	6.99	12.20
January	4.74	27.40	27.80	--	6.93	11.10
February	5.02	26.20	30.20	18.60	7.76	11.00
March	5.05	22.20	25.20	--	6.54	10.50
April	4.88	26.80	30.90	15.40	6.44	9.51
May	5.25	15.90	--	14.50	--	9.68
June	5.30	28.20	30.70	11.30	6.23	7.81
2006/07						
July	5.03	22.80	--	--	--	7.80
August	4.46	24.60	26.30	--	6.68	9.18
September	5.71	25.40	25.50	--	--	12.10
October	5.80	21.30	25.00	15.90	6.04	11.00
November	6.46	25.10	25.20	--	6.37	13.20
December	7.03	25.00	25.10	--	6.69	11.50
January	7.21	28.20	28.50	--	6.64	14.00
February	7.73	28.50	29.40	--	7.72	13.60
March 1/	8.30	27.50	29.60	--	8.39	12.10
April	9.64	30.00	30.10	--	--	13.30
May	10.60	27.00	29.00	--	--	14.60
Percent change						
May 05-06	101.9	69.8	--	--	--	50.8

-- = not available. 1/ Prices for May 2007 are partial-month averages.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices.*

Table 19--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Price support program activity

Item	Units	2005/06			2006/07 (thru June 11)		
		Dry peas	Chick peas	All lentils	Dry peas	Chick peas	All lentils
Loan deficiency payments (LDP) 1/							
Applications	Number	7,925	390	2,763	7,178	0	2,787
Quantity	000 cwt	14,866	185	3,526	13,288	0	2,594
Value	000 $	35,179	304	6,058	27,744	0	12,625
Unit value	$/cwt	2.37	1.64	1.72	2.09	0	4.87
Market loan gains 2/							
Loans made	Number	172	0	363	139	4	179
Gain quantity	000 cwt	909	0	769	648	0	405
Gain value	000 $	2,129	0	3,169	1,030	0	1,579
Avg. gain	$/cwt	2.34	0	4.12	1.59	0	3.90

1/ All loan deficiency payments (LDP and eLDP). 2/ Net market gain from the use of marketing loans. Avg. (average) gain is the added unit value from placing crop under loan.

Source: USDA, Farm Service Agency, http://www.fsa.usda.gov/

finished at over $10 per cwt in June. For Brewer (regular) lentils, the preliminary July-June marketing season grower price for food grade lentils in Idaho/Washington averaged $14.01, up 30 percent from the relatively low level of a year earlier. With the exception of an early spring lull, lentil markets also largely trended higher each month from a low of $10.94 per cwt in July 2006 to over $15 in mid-June 2007—the highest since 2003/04.

Posted Prices Remain Above Loan Rates

New loan activity has been very limited for both dry peas and lentils (there was little all season for small chickpeas) with posted prices remaining above loan rates since March. Through June 11, there were 7,178 requests for loan deficiency payments (LDPs) covering 13.29 million cwt of 2006-crop dry peas. With an average payment rate of $2.09 per cwt, the value of these LDPs was $27.74 million. Thus far, North Dakota has accounted for 68 percent of the 2006-crop dry pea LDP volume. Another $1.03 million ($1.59 per cwt) in net market gains were realized by dry pea growers who opted to use marketing loans in 2006/07. North Dakota accounted for 57 percent of loan volume in 2006/07. As of June 11, less than 4 percent of 2006 loans remained outstanding. The average payment rate for 2006 crop lentils through June 11 was $4.87 per cwt on volume of about 2.6 million cwt. North Dakota (38 percent) and Washington (30 percent) accounted for two-thirds of the $12.6 million in 2006-crop lentil LDPs.

Exports Mixed in 2006/07

During the first 10 months (July-April) of 2006/07, U.S. export volume for dry peas and lentils was down 8 percent to 9.9 million cwt (table 20). While volume was stronger for green and yellow peas, export movement was weaker than a year earlier for lentils, chickpeas, and miscellaneous dry peas. Lentil exports through April were down 31 percent from a year ago. Lentil exports are less concentrated this season, with the top 5 destinations accounting for 57 percent of volume—down from 68 percent a season earlier. Spain accounted for 29 percent of all U.S. lentil exports through April, followed by Sudan, Peru, Cuba, and Sri Lanka. Backed by strong

demand from India and Spain, yellow pea export volume has already reached a record high in 2006/07 and green pea volume will also set a new standard this year. Although the average export value for yellow peas was down 2 percent through April to about 10 cents a pound, green pea export volume managed to increase despite a 13 percent rise in average export price to 11 cents a pound.

Table 20--U.S. dry peas & lentils: Trade volume by class, July-April 1/

	Crop year	July - April			Change
Item	2005/06	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2005-06
		--1,000 cwt--			*Percent*
Exports:					
Green peas	3,274.4	1,705.5	2,579.4	3,208.9	24
Yellow peas	2,626.7	1,052.3	2,339.9	3,098.8	32
Split peas	195.5	178.3	169.4	192.5	14
Austrian winter	30.5	9.2	21.3	46.3	118
Misc. dry peas	2,588.2	572.3	2,460.1	1,069.4	-57
Chickpeas, all	391.0	181.8	365.3	354.7	-3
Lentils, all	3,495.4	1,299.0	2,879.6	1,978.6	-31
Total	12,601.9	4,998.4	10,814.9	9,949.3	-8
Imports:					
Green peas	209.2	86.3	178.6	178.4	0
Yellow peas	87.4	33.5	76.2	39.9	-48
Split peas	264.8	246.4	218.4	286.9	31
Austrian winter	3.2	0.9	2.3	4.1	74
Misc. dry peas	151.0	79.4	124.4	137.4	10
Chickpeas, all	236.4	203.6	173.8	236.6	36
Lentils, all	260.0	147.7	201.8	256.2	27
Total	1,211.9	797.9	975.5	1,139.6	17

1/ Excludes planting seed.

Source: Derived from data of U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Table 21--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Total export volume by selected destination 1/

	Year 2/	July - April			Change
Destination	2005/06	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2005-06
		-- 1,000 cwt --			*Percent*
India	1,183	107	979	2,575	163
Spain	2,094	406	2,010	1,742	-13
Kenya	507	208	407	773	90
Canada	1,384	661	1,337	578	-57
Cuba	748	622	417	422	1
Phippines	578	283	498	315	-37
Ethiopia	1,141	160	1,085	301	-72
China	332	1	320	269	-16
Peru	256	124	217	239	10
Sudan	711	518	323	197	-39
Pakistan	58	6	57	191	235
Afghanistan	74	34	32	156	392
Mexico	96	107	81	146	80
Other	3,611	2,427	3,545	2,736	-23
Total	12,602	4,998	10,815	9,949	-8

1/ Includes all dry peas, lentils, and chickpeas. 2/ Based on a July-June marketing year.

Source: Compiled by ERS from data of U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Commodity Highlight: Processing Snap Beans

In the United States, snap beans are also popularly known as green beans or string beans—so named in the past for their stringy pods. However, the tough pod strings have long been bred out of most of today's popular varieties. Snap beans may be various shades of green, with some commercial yellow waxy and yellow (called wax beans). Bean pod shapes vary from round to flat.

In the United States, snap beans are largely produced for three distinct markets—fresh, canning, and freezing. Fresh-market production during 2004-06 accounted for about 25 percent of the 2.1 billion pounds produced in the United States—about the same share as for frozen snap beans. Canning is the most intensive use, with 50 percent of all snap beans grown in the United States destined for canneries. A smaller volume is used to make storable dehydrated/freeze-dried products, which when rehydrated can be used in soups and stews.

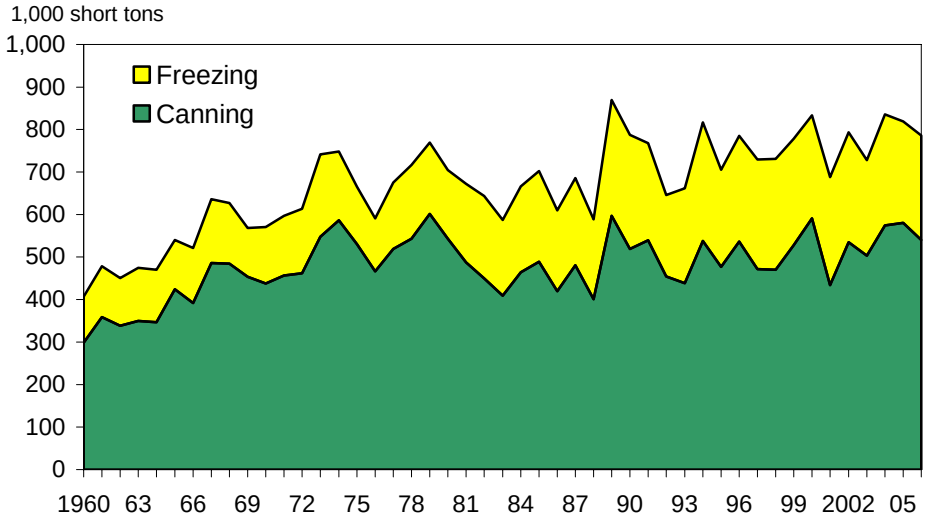
Because of lower prices for product destined for processing, snap beans for processing only commanded about 30 percent of the $419 million in farm cash receipts for snap beans during 2004-06. The value (delivered to the processing plant door) of the canning crop averaged $76 million, while snap beans used for freezing were valued at $48 million in 2004-06. Virtually all snap beans for processing are machine-harvested, with an increasing volume of fresh snap beans now also picked by machine. Snap beans destined for canning, freezing, and dehydrating are usually processed within hours after harvest.

Snap beans, the most widely consumed species (*Vulgaris*) of the genus *Phaseolus*, are thought to have originated in Central America and include dozens of varieties. Snap beans are harvested and eaten at the immature pod stage, being most tender and succulent before the seeds cause the pod walls to expand. In contrast, their closely related cousins, dry edible beans, are harvested after the seeds are fully developed and the pods are dry.

Like many agricultural commodities, snap bean production is concentrated on large farms. According to the 2002 Census, 53 percent of farms producing snap beans for

Figure 8

U.S. snap beans for processing: Production, 1960-2006



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Vegetables Summary*.

Table 22--U.S. snap beans for processing: Area, production, and value

Year	Acres Planted	Acres Harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Average price 1/	Crop value
	1,000 acres		*Tons*	*1,000 tons*	*$/ton*	*Mil. $*
Canning:						
1980	215.3	199.3	2.73	543.6	152.00	82.8
1990	177.3	166.9	3.11	519.0	180.00	93.4
2000	170.7	160.0	3.69	590.9	167.00	98.5
2001	131.7	125.1	3.47	434.1	149.00	64.8
2002	146.6	136.9	3.91	534.7	137.00	73.3
2003	142.2	132.6	3.80	503.5	143.00	71.9
2004	147.6	140.1	4.10	574.0	144.00	82.4
2005	147.3	143.3	4.05	580.3	116.00	67.4
2006	142.6	137.3	3.93	540.0	142.00	76.8
Freezing:						
1980	59.8	56.4	2.85	160.6	169.00	27.2
1990	80.8	76.3	3.52	268.5	189.00	50.8
2000	59.6	58.4	4.15	242.6	181.00	44.0
2001	73.1	68.9	3.69	254.0	182.00	46.4
2002	68.0	64.9	3.99	259.0	181.00	46.9
2003	58.7	57.0	3.93	224.2	190.00	42.6
2004	62.4	60.9	4.30	261.9	189.00	49.5
2005	62.9	61.3	3.90	238.9	198.00	47.3
2006	69.3	66.0	3.73	245.8	189.00	46.4

-- = not available. Tons = short tons, equal to 2,000 pounds.
1/ Season-average farm price.

Sources: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Vegetables Summary.*

processing accounted for 86 percent of national harvested area. Each of these farms harvested at least 500 acres of snap beans destined for processing. About one-third of the farms producing snap beans for processing grow less than 260 acres and account for less than 5 percent of the harvested area.

About 98 percent of total processing snap bean acreage was harvested under contracts between growers and processors during 2004-06. The remaining acreage was harvested from open-market transactions. Weather's impact on yield is the major factor affecting open-market buying of processing snap beans. Favorable weather results in higher yields, allowing mostly budgeted procurement. The average U.S. yield on open-market acreage is consistently lower than on contract acreage.

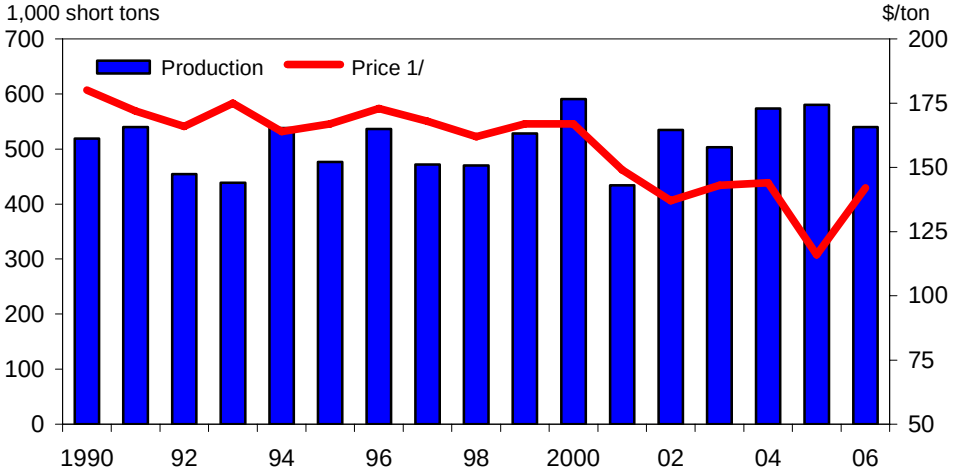
According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United States was the top producer of string (snap) beans during 2003-05, with 42 percent of output. Mexico (29 percent), France (15 percent), Poland (2 percent), and Morocco (2 percent) round out the top five producers. U.S. canning production has not changed much over the past three decades, but fresh and frozen output has increased. Production of snap beans for frozen use has been on a slow upward trend the past three decades.

Wisconsin Is Top Producer

According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, snap beans for processing are grown in 33 States on 1,712 farms in the United States. The production of snap beans for

Figure 9

U.S. snap beans for canning: Production and price, 1990-2006



1/ Price is f.o.b. processing plant door.
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Vegetables Summary.*

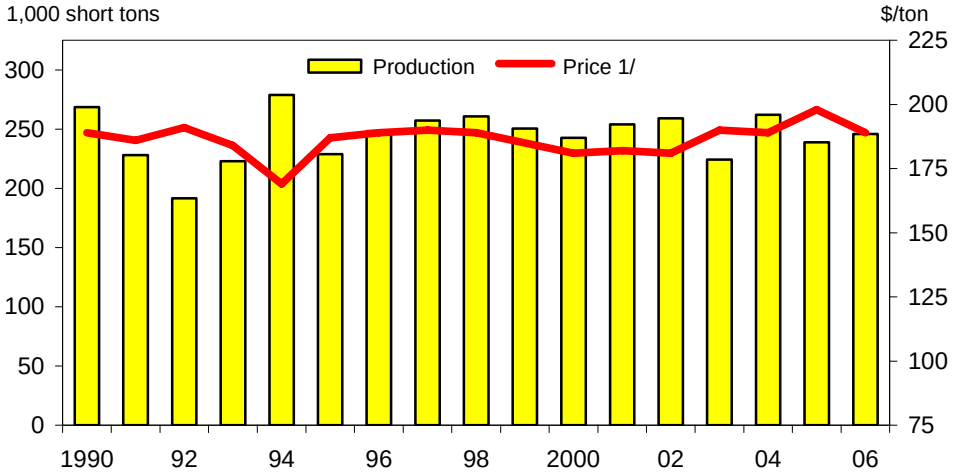
processing is concentrated in the upper Midwest, New York, and the Pacific Northwest. Wisconsin (38 percent of 2004-06 output), Oregon (13 percent), and New York (9 percent) are the top producers of snap beans for canning and freezing. Michigan (8 percent) and Illinois (7 percent) round out the top five States. In the United States, there is minimal overlap between the fresh and processing markets, largely because of differences in varieties and the geographic location of processing plants. Also, most canned and frozen snap beans are produced under processor contracts, requiring specific product attributes.

According to the 2002 census, 619 farms reported growing snap beans for processing in Wisconsin, with 52 percent each harvesting 500 or more acres. Most of Wisconsin's snap bean crop is destined for the processing-market, with less than 1,000 acres devoted to the fresh market (compared with 73,167 acres for processing). Mirroring national trends, Wisconsin's production rose 21 percent between 1994-1996 and 2004-06, after rising just 5 percent between 1984-86 and 1994-96. The top three counties (Portage, Waushara, and Adams) account for about half of the crop, with Portage County producing about one-fifth of the state's average of $34 million in processing snap beans. Snap bean harvest in Wisconsin is most active from mid July thorough mid September. Both canned and frozen snap bean products are processed in Wisconsin and shipped nationwide.

Oregon follows Wisconsin in processing-market snap bean production, with 13 percent of the nation's output during 2004-06. In 2002, 185 farms harvested snap beans for processing in Oregon. However, unlike Wisconsin, Oregon's snap bean production has been declining this decade, dropping 23 percent between 1994-96 and 2004-06. The top counties are Marion, Benton, and Yamhill, with Marion County in the Willamette Valley harvesting 62 percent of the State's acreage. Oregon's harvest of processing snap beans is most active from late July through August, with the majority of the State's output used for frozen products. The highest reported yields for snap beans are in Oregon, with an average of nearly 6 tons per acre during 2004-06. Oregon and other western States irrigate nearly all snap bean acres, while the lower-yielding States tend to be those which irrigate a much smaller proportion.

Figure 10

U.S. snap beans for freezing: Production and price, 1990-2006



1/ Price is f.o.b. processing plant door.
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Vegetables Summary.*

With 9 percent of U.S. production during 2004-06, New York was the third leading source of snap beans used for processing. Acreage is spread among several counties with Genesee (32 percent of state area) in the western section of the State the leading producer. Orleans (18 percent), Wyoming (10 percent), and Ontario (9 percent) counties follow Genesee. Produced on just 59 farms, New York's processing snap bean production remained largely unchanged at around 69,000 short tons between 1994-96 to 2004-06. New York's harvest runs from mid-July through September, with the peak occurring from late July to early September.

Michigan was the fourth leading producer of snap beans for processing with 8 percent of national output produced by 107 farms. The processing market accounted for 87 percent of the State's snap bean crop during 2004-06. St. Joseph County (30 percent of State acreage) in the southwestern part of the State is the leading source of snap beans for processing in Michigan, followed by Montcalm (13 percent), and Mason (11 percent) counties. Processing snap bean production declined 10 percent in Michigan between 1994-96 and 2004-06. Michigan harvests processing snap beans from the first of July through early October.

Illinois supplies about 7 percent of U.S. processing-market snap beans from 65 farms. Mason County (42 percent of the area) in the west-central part of the state and Tazewell county (20 percent) produce the lion's share of the State's processing snap bean crop. Acreage increased 10 percent between 1994-96 and 2004-06. Harvest generally begins the first of July and ends in late August, with volume peaking during the first half of August.

Wholesale Manufactured Value Nears $600 Million

Since the early 1990s, processed vegetable manufacturing has undergone considerable consolidation. According to the 2002 Census of Manufacturers, there were 14 commercial manufacturers of canned snap beans (green and wax) in the United States—down from 19 firms in 1997 and 25 firms in 1992. However, the volume of factory shipments of canned snap beans remained steady between 1992 and 1997 before declining 2 percent between 1997 and 2002. Meanwhile, the value of those manufacturer shipments increased 12 percent to $462 million between 1997 and 2002.

For frozen snap beans, consolidation since 1997 has been greater than on the canning side of the industry. As a result, there are now fewer manufacturers producing about the same volume of product. There are now just 9 commercial manufacturers of frozen snap beans (whole, regular cut, and french cut) in the United States—down from 19 firms in 1997 and 17 firms in 1992. Although the volume of factory shipments of frozen snap beans was not reported in 2002, lower prices likely pushed the value of those shipments down 15 percent from 1997 to $133 million.

Snap beans are manufactured according to three general attributes; size, type of cut, and bean type. Sizes include common retail or consumer canned packs such as a 24-can case containing 15-ounce cans (24/300's) or a case of 12 1-pound frozen cartons/poly bags. Common foodservice packs include a 6-can case of No. 10 cans (6/10's) with each can weighing about 6.3-pounds. For frozen snap beans, common foodservice packs include a case containing 12 2-pound carton/poly bags as well as various industrial sized totes and bulk bins. The type of cut includes uncut whole beans, fancy/regular transverse cut, and the longitudinal french-style cut. Bean types (for snap beans) include green, wax, and Italian beans. Italian green beans tend to be a longer and thinner type of snap bean.

The annual average price received by growers (unadjusted for inflation) at the processing plant door for snap beans during 2004-06 was 12 percent lower than 1994-96, and 9 percent below 1984-86. Prices for snap beans destined for canning decreased 20 percent between 1994-96 and 2004-06 while those destined for freezing increased 6 percent. However, while prices for raw snap beans were declining, higher processing costs pushed wholesale prices of canned snap beans up 22 percent between 1994-96 and 2004-06. During first-quarter 2007, a case of canned snap beans (24/300's) averaged 3 percent below a year ago at $8.63. Reflecting strong competition, rising imports, and weak demand, wholesale prices for frozen snap beans increased just 7 percent between 1994-96 and 2004-06. During the first-quarter of 2007, a case of frozen snap beans (12-1 lb packages) averaged 4 percent higher than a year earlier at $7.53.

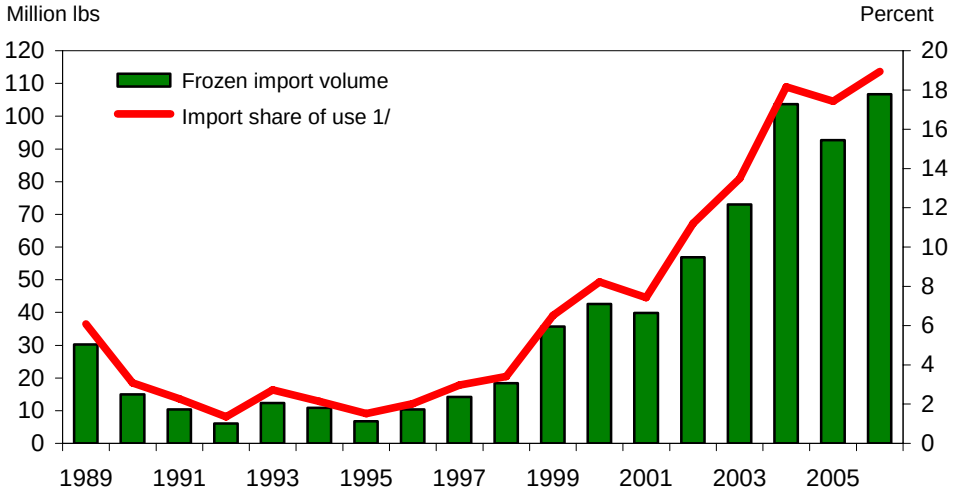
According to Food Institute analysis of data from Information Resources, Inc, supermarket sales of frozen snap beans averaged $206 million during 2004-06, down less than 1 percent from the average of the previous 3 years. With average prices remaining steady during this period, the decline was due to a small reduction in sales volume. For canned snap (green) beans, supermarket sales value averaged $363 million during 2004-06—down 10 percent from 2001-03. All the reduction was due to a 13 percent drop in volume as average prices rose 3 percent during this period.

Frozen Imports Rising

The United States is a net importer of both canned and frozen snap beans. Most of the growth in processed snap bean trade during the past decade has centered on imports of frozen products. During 2004-06, the United States imported 18 percent of the frozen snap beans consumed domestically—up from just 2 percent a decade earlier. Frozen snap bean imports, which averaged $40 million in value during 2004-06, began to surge in the late 1990s, with volume more than doubling during this decade. Canada (34 percent of the total), France (24 percent), China (21 percent), Belgium (9 percent), and Poland (4 percent) were the top five foreign sources of frozen snap beans during 2004-06. During this time, seven nations exported at least million pounds of frozen snap beans to the United States compared

Figure 11

Frozen snap beans: U.S. import volume and share of domestic use



1/ Calendar year import share of net domestic use, including stocks.
Source: Derived by ERS from data of U.S. Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

with just two nations during 1994-96. The United States exported less than 3 percent of the snap beans it produced for frozen products during 2004-06, little changed from 1994-96. U.S. frozen snap bean exports were valued at $7 million during 2004-06, with Canada and Japan accounting for two-thirds of the total.

The United States exported an average of just $2 million in canned snap beans during 2004-06. In volume terms, canned snap bean exports utilized less than 1 percent of available canned snap bean supplies during 2004-06—about the same as in 1994-96. During 2004-06, the United States imported 3 percent of the canned snap beans consumed domestically—up from about 2 percent a decade earlier. Canned imports were valued at $16 million during 2004-06, with Canada (77 percent of the total), Mexico (5 percent), and China (4 percent) the main foreign suppliers.

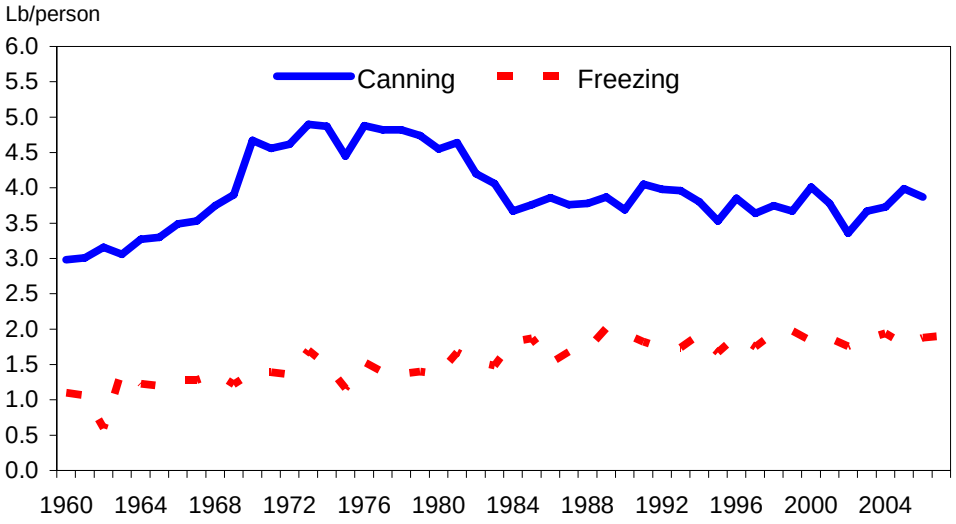
Frozen Domestic Use Up, Canned Sluggish

From the early 1930s, net domestic use (a proxy for consumption) of processing snap beans largely remained on an upward trend in the United States, peaking in 1973. After reaching a record high of 6.6 pounds per capita in 1973, net domestic use of processing-market snap beans declined in the late 1970s and has since largely remained steady at about 5.6 pounds per person the past two decades. Total domestic use of processing snap beans averaged 1.7 billion pounds annually during 2004-06—up 15 percent from 1994-96.

After 1973, per capita use of canned snap beans slipped as consumers broadened diets, moved away from canned vegetables in general (main issues back then were likely sodium content and taste preferences), sourced a greater proportion of meals away from home, and found favor with convenient frozen microwavable foods. In addition, low unemployment rates, strong income growth, and low price inflation during the past two decades has supported consumer spending on a range of fresh and frozen foods. By the early 1990s, immigration from Asia (which favors snap bean use) and the trend in away from home eating helped boost consumption of ethnic cuisines from Asia and Mediterranean countries as consumers sought diversity in their diets. At the same time, an increasing Hispanic population (which

Figure 12

U.S. snap beans for processing: Per capita availability (use), 1960-2007



Source: Computed and prepared by USDA, Economic Research Service.

does not generally favor snap beans) may be an ominous sign for snap bean consumption in coming years.

Although total snap bean use has been rising over the past three decades, there have been differences in trends among the three markets. Net domestic disappearance of all snap beans (in fresh-weight equivalent) totaled 2.3 billion pounds during 2004-06, with use in processed products accounting for 75 percent. Net domestic disappearance of fresh-market snap beans has doubled since bottoming out in 1990. Meanwhile, snap beans for use in frozen products also managed a small gain—rising 14 percent between 1994-96 and 2004-06 to 555 million pounds. During the same period, snap beans used in canned products increased 16 percent to 1.1 billion pounds. However, when expressed on a per capita basis, only fresh-market snap bean use has been notable (doubling). On a per capita basis, both canning (up 4 percent to 3.9 pounds) and freezing (up 2 percent to 1.9 pounds) use registered small gains between 1994-96 and 2004-06.

Snap beans (green/wax) provide Vitamins A and C, potassium, calcium, phosphorous, and fiber, with a one-cup serving containing just 34 calories. Snap beans can be served as a main dish (e.g., stir-fry with meat), a side vegetable, in casseroles and soups, and as a mixture with other salad vegetables. Popular recipes featuring snap beans include green bean casserole, swiss-style green beans, three-bean salad, stir-fry chicken and beans, shepherd's pie, and pickled green beans.

Most Processed Snap Beans Consumed At Home

On a fresh-equivalent basis, U.S. consumers ate 2.3 billion pounds of snap beans during 2004-06. While canning accounted for 50 percent of this, use for frozen products amounted to 24 percent or 555 million pounds. According to USDA's 1994-96 Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals (CSFII), processing snap beans, like most other foods, are largely purchased at retail for home consumption (84 percent). This likely reflects the dearth of uses for processing snap beans in fast foods (less than 1 percent of use) as well as competition with fresh market snap beans on restaurant menus and institutional meals.

In the away-from-home market, U.S. consumers most often eat processed snap beans in standard full-service restaurants (7 percent of use). Like most other traditional plate vegetables, shippers of both fresh and processed snap beans have had little success finding a niche in the expanding fast-food market. This market is responsible for 1 percent of canned snap bean consumption and less than 1 percent of frozen snap bean use. 1/

Regionally, people in the South (as defined by the Census Bureau) and Midwest eat more processing-market snap beans than do consumers in other areas of the country. Compared with people in the west (who reported the lowest consumption), southerners consume nearly twice the processing snap beans. Low snap bean consumption in the West may reflect both the influence of the Hispanic population (who eat few processing snap beans) and the West's status as the national leader in fast food and other restaurant spending—places where snap beans are poorly represented. While per capita use of snap beans used in canned products is greatest in the South, use of snap beans in frozen products is most popular in the Northeast.

In general, the metropolitan status of consumers had limited impact on the consumption behavior of processing snap bean consumers. The CSFII indicated that Americans in metropolitan areas consume just 6 percent fewer processing snap beans on a per capita basis than the national average. On the other side of the spectrum, rural consumers reported use of snap beans in processed forms to be 5 percent above the national average. Likely reflecting income disparities (rural incomes tend to be lower than those in suburban or metropolitan areas), rural consumers reported the highest per capita use of canning snap beans and the lowest use of snap beans in frozen products.

Preferences along racial lines indicate that non-Hispanic Black Americans consume the greatest amount of processing snap beans per capita (7.2 pounds per person compared with a 5.8 pound national average). Blacks were the top consumers of both canning (4.6 pounds) and freezing (2.6 pounds) snap beans. According to the survey, Hispanics had the lowest per capita use of both canning (2.2 pounds) and freezing snap beans (1.6 pounds). The CSFII results also suggest a positive correlation between income and frozen snap bean use, with consumers in the survey's top income bracket reporting the highest per capita use. Use of canned snap beans was negatively correlated with income, with per capita use at 4.5 pounds in the low income bracket and declining to 3.4 pounds for the high income group.

For snap beans consumed in frozen products, there appears to be a positive correlation between age and consumption for both men and women, with per capita use strongest for those 60 and over (about 3 pounds per capita) and weakest for children aged 2 to 11 (less than 1 pound per capita). The pattern was similar for canned consumption, with the exception of teenagers (male and female), who eat by far the fewest canned snap beans (1.9 pounds per person).

Although near-term consumption has been relatively steady for processing-market snap beans, the longer-run market appears less certain. At least part of the future success for this crop may be linked to the ability of the industry to entice more Hispanic consumers to eat snap beans. With the population base for this racial group expected to expand substantially over the next several decades, their current low consumption rate may be an industry concern. Some offset to this may be achieved if retiring baby boomers, already strong snap bean consumers, decide to spend more time in home meal preparation.

1/ For a general description of the methodology used to make these estimates, refer to the text box on page 13 of "Factors Affecting Spinach Consumption in the United States". The link is: http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/VGS/jan04/vgs30001/

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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. Outbreak Linked to Spinach Forces Reassessment of Food Safety Practices
http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/June07/Features/Spinach.htm

Discusses the 2006 U.S. foodborne illness outbreak traced to contaminated spinach. While the risk of contracting a foodborne illness from eating spinach is low, spinach and leafy greens have been associated with numerous outbreaks due to contamination with *E. coli* O157:H7. The outbreak has forced the spinach and leafy green industries to consider new approaches to food safety.

2. Factors Affecting Carrot Consumption in the United States
http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/2007/03Mar/VGS31901/

Examines the consumption distribution of fresh-market (including fresh-cut) and processed carrots in the United States. The majority of carrots are purchased at retail and consumed at home, with at-home per capita consumption of fresh baby/cut carrots greatest in the central and eastern regions. Non-Hispanic Whites and Asians were found to consume the most carrots.

3. Eliminating Fruit and Vegetable Planting Restrictions
http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/err30/

This report finds that market effects would likely be limited and confined to specific regions and commodities. Eliminating these planting restrictions for commodity program participants might enable some producers to switch from program crops to fruit and vegetables in such areas as California, the upper Midwest and the coastal plain in the Southeastern States.

4. Fruit and Vegetable Backgrounder
http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/vgs/apr06/VGS31301/

Fruit and Vegetable Backgrounder describes the economic characteristics of the U.S. fruit and vegetable industry, providing supply, demand, and policy background for an industry that accounts for nearly a third of U.S. crop cash receipts and a fifth of U.S. agricultural exports. A variety of challenges face this complex and diverse industry in both domestic and international markets, ranging from immigration reform and its effects on labor availability, to international competitiveness.

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• Receive timely notification (soon after the report is posted on the web) via USDA's Economics, Statistics and Market Information System (which is housed at Cornell University's Mann Library). Go to http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/aboutEmailService.do and follow the instructions to receive e-mail notices about ERS, Agricultural Marketing Service, National Agricultural Statistics Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board products.

• Receive weekly notification (on Friday afternoon) via the ERS website. Go to http://www.ers.usda.gov/Updates/ and follow the instructions to receive notices about ERS outlook reports, *Amber Waves* magazine, and other reports and data products on specific topics. ERS also offers RSS (really simple syndication) feeds for all ERS products. Go to http://www.ers.usda.gov/rss/ to get started.

5. NAFTA at 13: Implementation Nears Completion
http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/WRS0701/

Implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is drawing to a close with the last of the transitional restrictions governing agricultural trade to be removed in 2008. The agricultural sectors of Canada, Mexico, and the United States have become more integrated, with the importance of Canadian and Mexican produce to U.S. fruit and vegetable consumption continuing to expand.

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 workbook (spreadsheet) tables:

1. Per capita availability (a.k.a. use or 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. 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

3. 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

4. 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

5. 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

6. 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

7. 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

8. 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

9. 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

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 and harvested area
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

A. U.S. Trade Data—FASonline: This relatively simple, yet powerful online application allows the user to freely access and download detailed U.S. export and import data.
http://www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade/

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

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

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

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

F. 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/mncs/index.htm

G. NASS Vegetables: Links to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service's annual and quarterly reports on vegetables & melons.
http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1177

H. FAS, HTP: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service's horticultural web site, with links.
http://www.fas.usda.gov/htp/default.htm

I. Organic Farming and Marketing: USDA, ERS Briefing Room contains articles, data, graphics, and links.
http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Organic/

J. Truck Rate Report: USDA, AMS weekly report on cost of shipping by trailer truck.
http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/wa_fv190.txt

Price table 1—Commercial vegetables and potatoes: Indexes of prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1995-2007 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	656	572	719	907	874	785	795	862	958	835	964	769	808
	2001	810	980	923	916	964	805	837	968	894	688	731	1,144	888
	2002	1,054	1,283	1,816	803	770	731	771	807	795	704	735	694	914
	2003	752	755	824	865	924	1,015	797	920	964	959	1,201	1,059	920
	2004	853	958	771	880	746	738	703	882	898	1,065	1,087	799	865
	2005	633	813	1,119	1,231	892	840	742	768	856	862	947	1,406	926
	2006	882	817	949	936	813	880	933	1,016	1,075	859	796	1,002	913
	2007	1,172	1,125	1,303	1,110	1,048								
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	620	645	715	699	748	806	884	651	520	466	524	547	652
	2003	533	554	567	592	590	559	570	483	458	443	479	493	527
	2004	488	504	530	569	558	558	552	495	485	444	477	506	514
	2005	534	535	578	566	576	572	622	574	491	472	532	574	552
	2006	596	572	707	701	662	703	861	694	535	519	584	591	644
	2007	612	634	720	731	748								
							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	136	131	117	119	129	143	125	144	115	121
	2001	121	147	138	137	144	120	125	145	134	103	109	171	133
	2002	158	192	272	120	115	109	115	121	119	105	110	104	137
	2003	112	113	123	129	138	152	119	138	144	143	180	159	138
	2004	128	143	115	132	112	110	105	132	134	159	163	120	129
	2005	95	122	167	184	133	126	111	115	128	129	142	210	139
	2006	132	122	142	140	122	132	140	152	161	129	119	150	137
	2007	175	168	195	166	157								
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	127	141	138	148	159	175	129	103	92	104	108	129
	2003	105	110	112	117	117	110	113	96	90	87	95	97	104
	2004	96	100	105	112	110	110	109	98	96	88	94	100	102
	2005	106	106	114	112	114	113	123	113	97	93	105	113	109
	2006	118	113	140	138	131	139	170	137	106	103	115	117	127
	2007	121	125	142	144	148								

1/ Prices for 2007 are preliminary. 2/ Includes fresh and processing vegetables. 3/ Includes fresh potatoes and dry edible beans.
For longer historical price series, see the *Vegetables and Melons Situation and Outlook Yearbook* at:
http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1212

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices.*

Price table 2—Fresh vegetables: U.S. monthly and season-average f.o.b. shipping-point prices, 2002-07 1/

Commodity	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average	Prcnt change May- May	Prcnt change 1st quarter
								--Dollars per cwt--							Percent	Percent
Asparagus	2003	98.90	96.30	104.00	130.00	85.60	68.10	189.00	132.00	166.00	145.00	128.00	--	105.00	--	--
	2004	--	171.00	76.50	81.70	74.30	64.60	146.00	138.00	129.00	127.00	--	--	81.30	-13.2	24.1
	2005	--	--	88.60	103.00	68.70	73.50	143.00	150.00	162.00	162.00	--	--	87.40	-7.5	-28.4
	2006	--	122.00	133.00	113.00	74.70	96.40	105.00	162.00	122.00	127.00	--	--	91.30	8.7	43.9
	2007	--	--	119.00	114.00	121.00									62.0	--
Broccoli	2003	25.80	29.10	28.10	27.10	29.70	24.60	27.00	29.80	49.10	38.90	42.60	52.60	32.70	--	--
	2004	33.60	28.50	21.60	24.00	27.20	28.70	24.20	29.70	57.00	43.90	43.70	38.50	33.20	-8.4	0.8
	2005	22.60	33.30	42.60	39.80	22.40	39.70	22.40	30.50	27.70	22.40	20.40	34.10	28.50	-17.6	17.7
	2006	32.60	23.80	27.60	32.40	29.00	51.10	26.20	56.90	39.40	24.60	27.50	53.10	33.70	29.5	-14.7
	2007	59.30	25.60	27.60	36.80	28.50									-1.7	33.9
Cantaloups	2003	--	--	--	--	24.30	14.40	16.40	15.70	14.20	17.10	26.70	19.80	16.80	--	--
	2004	--	--	--	--	15.30	12.10	11.00	14.30	15.50	14.80	18.30	33.80	14.70	-37.0	--
	2005	--	--	--	--	22.60	18.10	13.80	10.70	14.90	14.40	15.60	--	15.90	47.7	--
	2006	--	--	--	--	29.10	18.50	16.00	20.80	10.30	16.00	28.20	--	17.20	28.8	--
	2007	--	--	--	--	--									--	--
Carrots	2003	19.30	19.10	18.70	19.40	19.90	19.90	19.90	20.40	19.50	18.80	21.30	24.30	19.00	--	--
	2004	24.50	24.90	24.60	24.20	24.90	22.50	20.20	18.00	16.70	16.20	17.30	17.00	20.20	25.1	29.6
	2005	20.30	21.00	21.00	21.10	21.20	21.30	21.80	21.20	21.00	21.10	23.10	22.00	20.90	-14.9	-15.8
	2006	21.70	21.50	21.50	21.50	20.80	21.40	21.50	22.40	19.30	19.80	20.20	19.10	20.60	-1.9	3.9
	2007	18.80	28.10	28.30	29.60	33.00									58.7	16.2
Cauliflower	2003	24.50	30.60	33.20	27.50	39.50	46.30	27.40	24.90	40.40	25.80	57.00	80.00	35.10	--	--
	2004	27.20	42.20	24.20	23.50	28.80	46.20	27.50	26.00	31.00	32.20	27.10	40.90	30.80	-27.1	6.0
	2005	27.60	38.00	50.60	36.70	29.70	38.10	25.60	31.50	28.50	19.70	23.60	44.30	30.30	3.1	24.1
	2006	32.70	26.40	31.40	32.80	29.00	51.10	26.20	56.90	39.40	24.60	34.80	41.60	35.00	-2.4	-22.1
	2007	32.20	29.40	51.50	51.20	24.40									-15.9	25.0
Celery	2003	8.29	11.80	12.60	17.00	11.00	9.34	12.70	11.80	13.30	15.90	20.60	15.30	13.40	--	--
	2004	20.80	24.40	13.90	15.60	15.00	13.80	11.60	9.25	11.20	14.60	18.10	13.40	14.80	36.4	80.8
	2005	12.90	22.90	28.40	20.80	15.50	9.62	9.69	9.82	12.00	11.70	13.10	10.70	13.90	3.3	8.6
	2006	9.64	10.80	14.90	16.60	12.70	17.80	21.00	23.80	27.70	27.10	22.00	20.20	18.50	-18.1	-45.0
	2007	27.40	58.90	31.90	18.80	21.80									71.7	234.5
Corn, sweet	2003	27.70	24.00	18.90	14.90	16.50	16.90	20.00	19.60	19.70	22.90	27.30	33.70	19.30	--	--
	2004	30.30	20.90	20.30	17.20	15.60	12.50	16.60	20.90	21.30	27.50	29.30	18.10	19.30	-5.5	1.3
	2005	21.30	28.60	26.10	21.50	18.00	22.50	22.30	20.40	24.70	25.50	25.70	22.40	22.10	15.4	6.3
	2006	35.00	35.00	34.00	27.20	15.40	21.60	21.10	22.70	25.90	21.20	20.00	14.40	23.20	-14.4	36.8
	2007	29.40	23.70	30.60	24.80	22.20									44.2	-19.5
Cucumbers	2003	--	--	22.20	21.50	20.70	16.60	23.10	20.00	24.80	13.90	13.30	19.90	19.90	--	--
	2004	28.10	22.20	30.30	23.30	13.60	15.50	18.20	23.60	25.00	23.70	18.70	--	20.20	-34.3	21.0
	2005	20.20	17.20	32.60	29.30	30.70	28.70	25.70	21.10	20.10	23.10	32.60	53.10	23.00	125.7	-13.2
	2006	23.90	27.70	40.70	29.40	21.30	24.30	27.00	27.20	22.50	17.00	31.70	26.20	25.20	-30.6	31.9
	2007	22.80	--	28.90	17.60	26.40									23.9	-16.0
Head lettuce	2003	11.00	11.80	10.40	12.50	21.20	32.20	11.90	21.50	23.90	26.30	43.60	26.20	18.10	--	--
	2004	16.00	19.70	10.50	14.80	10.50	13.30	10.70	17.10	15.20	24.10	14.10	13.60	16.90	-50.5	39.2
	2005	11.50	11.70	27.80	30.10	13.90	17.30	11.00	13.50	12.70	12.40	9.81	16.10	15.50	32.4	10.4
	2006	10.60	12.00	19.10	22.40	33.70	11.80	12.20	20.70	16.30	11.80	12.50	22.40	16.60	142.4	-18.2
	2007	18.40	15.50	29.70	17.80	13.90									-58.8	52.5
Onions, dry bulb	2003	9.27	12.80	16.20	33.60	32.00	22.80	16.20	12.00	11.40	12.00	12.60	11.50	13.70	--	--
	2004	13.10	12.20	11.60	19.40	17.60	16.10	13.00	9.92	8.44	6.27	6.28	5.76	9.06	-45.0	-3.6
	2005	4.82	3.99	4.18	17.70	19.50	17.80	15.10	11.60	12.10	13.00	11.00	8.90	12.40	10.8	-64.8
	2006	8.64	8.04	7.45	15.10	15.60	17.00	16.80	13.70	12.20	10.90	11.00	18.50	13.10	-20.0	85.8
	2007	26.00	31.10	43.10	57.20	22.60									44.9	315.3
Snap beans	2003	75.30	61.40	38.60	66.80	45.00	45.10	43.80	61.30	58.20	49.10	41.70	48.40	49.30	--	--
	2004	76.20	43.50	42.50	48.60	22.50	27.90	50.70	67.60	68.30	82.90	53.90	47.50	45.20	-50.0	-7.5
	2005	71.40	77.80	85.30	60.70	55.20	38.40	58.90	72.70	65.30	40.80	89.10	82.00	54.20	145.3	44.6
	2006	44.00	56.00	44.90	44.40	34.80	34.20	61.20	79.60	76.10	60.40	47.20	67.70	51.00	-37.0	-38.2
	2007	66.40	89.10	101.00	58.10	41.80									20.1	77.0
Tomatoes	2003	50.90	31.70	55.60	30.00	23.70	45.70	36.60	40.00	33.00	31.00	31.80	32.10	37.40	--	--
	2004	24.70	32.30	41.00	44.20	32.20	21.10	22.50	35.80	37.30	70.80	119.00	--	37.60	35.9	-29.1
	2005	15.40	40.90	40.70	65.10	49.40	40.20	28.20	26.20	46.40	36.40	32.80	76.80	41.80	53.4	-1.0
	2006	82.70	46.50	24.80	34.40	23.30	30.90	25.10	27.80	79.80	53.20	28.10	24.80	43.30	-52.8	58.8
	2007	26.70	34.60	28.80	54.90	49.80									113.7	-41.5

-- = Not available. 1/ 2007 prices are preliminary. One hundredweight (cwt) is equal to 100 pounds. The prices in this table can also be read as cents per pound.
Prices beginning with 2006 are measured at the point of first sale. Prior to 2006, prices are f.o.b. shipping-poir
For longer historical price series, see the *Vegetables and Melons Situation and Outlook Yearbook* at:
http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=121

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices.*

Price table 3—Vegetables: Producer Price Indexes, by month, 1996-2007 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change May - May
								--1982=100--							*Percent*
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	-4.6
	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	19.4
	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	-9.7
	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	36.6
	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	-4.7
	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	-26.0
	2003	147.8	127.5	153.0	167.7	165.0	138.8	133.3	136.6	164.7	156.9	148.4	184.7	152.0	53.9
	2004	143.8	125.9	140.3	133.1	132.9	101.0	102.8	128.3	141.9	200.0	211.1	143.7	142.1	-19.5
	2005	122.0	152.8	168.5	174.7	144.2	160.0	126.8	132.3	153.3	144.0	163.1	200.8	153.5	8.5
	2006	207.6	138.8	137.6	174.4	147.9	128.7	134.1	179.5	193.1	167.7	138.3	178.4	160.5	2.6
	2007	175.3	190.3	222.4	222.9	142.1									-3.9
Melons	1996	--	--	--	--	91.5	84.4	45.4	57.0	37.3	99.5	68.6	--	69.1	--
	1997	--	--	--	--	83.2	68.5	51.1	49.3	37.7	142.5	95.5	--	75.4	-9.1
	1998	--	--	--	--	113.3	74.1	56.3	60.1	89.9	--	52.2	--	74.3	36.2
	1999	--	--	--	--	86.6	62.8	42.4	62.1	--	63.4	59.1	--	62.7	-23.6
	2000	--	--	--	--	68.0	64.3	56.4	43.8	48.7	93.6	124.2	--	71.3	-21.5
	2001	--	--	--	--	118.6	53.4	53.3	76.1	57.1	60.0	114.9	--	76.2	74.4
	2002	--	--	--	--	--	74.7	80.5	58.7	60.1	66.2	55.3	--	65.9	-100.0
	2003	--	--	--	--	120.5	60.6	60.1	35.8	49.0	64.9	106.8	--	71.1	--
	2004	106.8	141.3	157.3	90.2	95.4	75.1	56.1	66.6	76.6	108.8	114.4	150.6	103.3	-20.8
	2005	156.1	75.4	96.5	162.2	114.8	99.9	83.8	62.3	80.7	67.3	--	--	99.9	20.3
	2006	--	--	99.8	99.8	95.6	93.8	70.3	80.2	75.0	76.2	105.1	154.7	95.1	-16.7
	2007	126.2	102.9	96.9	127.6	153.5									60.6
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	-0.8
	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	1.8
	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	-0.7
	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	0.2
	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	0.2
	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	5.7
	2003	128.8	129.0	128.9	129.3	129.4	129.3	129.4	129.1	130.0	130.7	131.1	131.3	129.7	0.9
	2004	131.5	131.7	131.9	131.9	131.7	132.8	133.0	133.3	133.4	134.6	135.4	135.5	133.1	1.8
	2005	135.7	135.9	136.1	136.3	137.6	137.6	137.7	137.7	137.5	137.7	137.6	138.0	137.1	4.5
	2006	138.0	136.8	137.1	137.3	138.8	140.2	140.0	140.5	141.4	141.5	142.2	142.2	139.7	0.9
	2007	142.8	143.0	142.9	143.4	144.0									3.7
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	0.6
	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	-0.6
	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	0.7
	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	0.3
	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	1.7
	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	1.8
	2003	133.4	134.1	133.3	134.0	134.1	133.9	134.9	134.2	134.2	135.2	135.1	135.0	134.3	2.6
	2004	135.1	136.0	135.3	135.3	134.3	134.7	135.4	135.8	136.8	138.1	137.2	137.0	135.9	0.1
	2005	137.3	137.3	137.4	137.5	137.5	137.4	137.2	136.8	136.6	136.7	136.1	136.4	137.0	2.4
	2006	137.3	137.7	138.7	138.6	138.8	139.5	139.4	139.3	139.9	142.0	142.7	142.6	139.7	0.9
	2007	144.0	144.9	144.4	145.3	146.2									5.3
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	-4.2
	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	1.5
	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	2.0
	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	2.2
	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	-6.3
	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	7.3
	2003	150.6	150.2	149.8	147.8	147.5	147.3	146.5	145.2	144.2	143.3	143.5	146.1	146.8	-1.7
	2004	145.4	145.1	144.5	144.4	144.2	144.2	144.3	144.1	145.7	144.8	143.9	144.5	144.6	-2.2
	2005	145.6	145.9	145.2	145.7	146.8	146.0	145.3	145.9	150.4	150.6	152.3	154.3	147.8	1.8
	2006	154.7	156.4	158.1	159.3	163.0	165.0	165.1	165.5	168.1	168.5	169.8	171.9	163.8	11.0
	2007	175.7	177.2	176.5	175.6	180.4									10.7

-- = not available. 1/ Indexes for 2007 are preliminary. 2/ Excludes potatoes. 3/ Includes vegetable juices. 4/ Includes both fruits and vegetables.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (http://www.bls.gov/data/home.htm).

Price table 4—Vegetables: Consumer Price Indexes, by month, 2002-07 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
							1982-84=100							
Fresh vegetables 2/	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	251.7	251.0	247.2	244.6	245.6	248.4	270.7	291.0	295.1	261.2
	2005	271.0	263.2	267.0	280.1	280.6	266.9	268.5	261.0	265.6	274.1	274.6	288.3	271.7
	2006	300.6	289.7	279.7	276.8	275.6	272.9	271.5	274.4	294.2	301.8	288.6	286.1	284.3
	2007	298.3	308.6	302.4	299.3	293.3								
Potatoes, fresh	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	224.3	229.0	237.4	240.7	238.9	228.5	232.0	226.9	230.5	231.1
	2005	237.5	235.8	228.3	235.0	239.1	246.7	256.7	263.8	258.6	265.8	253.5	251.7	247.7
	2006	261.1	264.7	264.6	261.5	270.4	276.0	282.5	293.6	290.4	278.2	267.8	266.8	273.1
	2007	272.4	269.9	276.0	277.6	284.7								
Lettuce, fresh	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	232.1	224.1	221.7	219.8	228.4	229.2	236.2	249.0	276.9	239.8
	2005	258.3	237.9	253.5	287.5	271.6	257.6	247.7	247.4	249.4	258.4	258.7	260.0	257.3
	2006	260.8	258.0	254.2	267.2	285.5	264.0	246.9	265.8	274.2	269.7	265.1	281.9	266.1
	2007	292.2	294.7	287.6	283.3	265.6								
Tomatoes, fresh	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	274.4	272.3	252.9	243.5	249.5	253.8	316.3	422.7	425.0	296.8
	2005	309.6	274.8	297.1	310.6	333.6	293.0	287.3	267.6	273.5	297.2	299.0	342.3	298.8
	2006	393.1	354.7	311.5	297.9	293.9	276.1	271.8	271.8	336.5	405.5	347.8	318.5	323.3
	2007	307.2	317.2	291.9	309.8	309.7								
Other, fresh	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	263.7	263.0	259.8	257.1	255.3	263.5	282.8	283.5	282.5	270.1
	2005	277.9	280.8	279.4	289.9	284.8	272.2	276.0	265.2	274.0	277.4	282.7	295.2	279.6
	2006	298.2	289.6	285.8	282.4	273.5	278.2	279.1	276.1	291.5	288.1	286.8	288.0	284.8
	2007	311.5	328.6	324.9	313.0	303.4								
Frozen vegetables	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	173.5	176.9	174.5	177.0	178.1	177.6	177.5	173.8	171.4	175.8
	2005	177.0	176.3	174.7	177.2	178.6	176.5	180.2	177.7	181.5	179.1	176.8	177.5	177.8
	2006	179.4	182.9	179.7	179.7	178.1	175.7	178.8	181.3	179.6	177.7	178.1	178.7	179.1
	2007	179.0	182.1	180.4	178.2	181.2								
							December 1997=100							
Processed fruits and vegetables	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	114.2	115.9	115.3	116.6	117.2	115.6	116.2	115.0	114.2	115.5
	2005	117.9	117.1	116.3	118.8	119.3	119.7	121.3	120.6	121.2	120.6	118.8	120.3	119.3
	2006	121.8	122.5	122.4	121.3	122.6	122.8	123.8	124.1	123.3	122.8	122.7	123.5	122.8
	2007	124.9	125.5	125.4	124.9	126.2								
Canned vegetables	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	115.8	118.0	116.9	118.3	119.7	117.0	117.7	115.9	116.5	117.0
	2005	119.3	117.5	117.9	120.5	121.0	121.0	125.6	125.5	124.8	126.0	121.9	124.4	122.1
	2006	124.8	125.0	126.6	124.1	126.0	126.5	128.1	127.9	125.3	124.7	125.5	125.9	125.9
	2007	127.1	127.0	127.6	126.2	126.7								
Dried beans, peas, lentils	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	110.0	109.4	110.2	110.1	110.7	108.3	111.2	111.9	113.8	110.4
	2005	115.2	116.0	116.4	118.4	117.5	118.3	118.3	118.1	118.3	118.7	118.9	116.6	117.6
	2006	117.2	117.3	117.1	119.4	118.7	119.3	120.7	121.3	120.8	120.5	121.0	123.6	119.7
	2007	126.1	124.5	126.8	129.3	131.6								

1/ Not seasonally adjusted. 2/ Includes potatoes.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (http://www.bls.gov/data/home.htm).

Price table 5—Fresh-market vegetables: U.S. average retail prices, by month, 1997-2007

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change May - May
								--Cents/lb.--							Percent
Potatoes, white	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	--
	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	12.7
	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	1.8
	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	-4.2
	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	39.9
	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	-8.3
	2004	45.7	44.6	45.9	46.1	43.5	46.2	47.1	46.4	44.6	45.0	44.3	44.9	45.4	-6.7
	2005	45.8	44.8	44.0	45.0	45.2	45.5	47.7	49.1	48.2	50.5	49.9	49.8	47.1	3.9
	2006	50.4	51.7	51.7	52.2	53.3	54.1	55.6	57.2	56.3	54.5	51.7	51.7	53.4	17.9
	2007	51.7	51.4	51.8	52.9	53.0									-0.6
Broccoli	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	--
	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	39.7
	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	-23.1
	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	23.3
	2001	98.7	97.8	108.3	95.4	99.9	100.5	98.1	97.8	96.9	101.1	89.7	97.3	98.5	-14.9
	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	3.7
	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	11.1
	2004	131.9	121.6	112.5	102.2	110.7	106.0	106.9	106.7	120.8	139.9	133.5	141.4	119.5	-3.8
	2005	123.5	134.6	131.8	148.9	129.9	130.7	144.2	132.0	135.2	119.6	128.8	122.9	131.8	17.3
	2006	135.5	149.3	135.8	136.7	137.3	143.2	151.1	152.1	168.9	140.9	138.9	146.0	144.6	5.7
	2007	182.8	172.0	145.8	154.1	141.2									2.8
Lettuce, iceberg	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	--
	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	46.7
	1999	64.9	65.8	77.4	75.3	69.1	65.2	62.7	65.2	62.3	66.9	67.7	66.8	67.4	-21.2
	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	16.2
	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	8.3
	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	-17.2
	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	10.4
	2004	87.6	80.5	81.3	80.1	71.0	75.1	73.7	80.8	77.1	83.0	84.9	82.3	79.8	-10.7
	2005	81.7	73.0	82.9	100.4	92.6	89.5	88.5	85.5	84.8	92.6	87.3	85.4	87.0	30.4
	2006	87.4	79.4	81.5	86.9	96.7	84.8	78.3	86.4	95.3	87.3	85.0	89.6	86.6	4.4
	2007	92.6	92.0	91.5	98.6	87.9									-9.1
Tomatoes, field grown	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	--
	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	25.3
	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	-12.8
	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	6.4
	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	-9.0
	2002	145.1	129.8	129.2	131.9	133.2	129.9	124.3	118.1	115.8	123.6	143.0	165.5	132.5	7.2
	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	5.2
	2004	147.2	151.0	152.9	151.9	151.0	133.1	125.3	131.2	132.1	171.5	233.7	246.7	160.6	7.8
	2005	166.0	142.8	154.8	171.0	191.1	165.5	160.7	141.6	142.9	154.7	157.4	184.8	161.1	26.6
	2006	216.2	191.0	164.9	157.3	154.3	145.7	147.9	148.8	190.8	218.8	178.4	163.9	173.2	-19.3
	2007	162.1	164.4	155.5	163.0	168.5									9.2
Lettuce, romaine 1/	2006	134.1	140.5	138.3	147.6	147.6	132.0	123.7	135.9	143.0	141.0	142.9	145.5	139.3	--
	2007	161.2	181.7	163.1	154.5	150.4									1.9
Peppers, sweet 2/	2005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	192.7	--	--	--	--
	2006	--	--	--	--	163.8	169.5	176.8	171.3	171.0	208.0	195.5	189.0	180.6	--
	2007	190.5	211.9	218.2	235.2	222.6									35.9
Cabbage 2/	2006	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	56.1	60.0	58.5	59.5	60.6	58.9	--
	2007	61.0	66.5	68.9	65.1	61.0									--
Celery 2/	2007	--	128.3	--	92.1	--									--

-- = not available. 1/ Romaine data was first reported by BLS in January 2006. 2/ Reported by BLS as statistically valid data are available.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (http://www.bls.gov/data/home.htm).

Price table 6—Representative wholesale prices for selected fresh-market vegetables and melons in Chicago, 2006-07

Commodity	Shipping point 1/	Shipping container	2006 Apr. 3	May 1	June 1	July 1	Aug. 1	Sep. 1	Oct. 2	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	2007 Jan. 3	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Apr. 2	May 1	June 1
Artichokes	CA	Carton, 24s	29.00	33.00	32.00	25.00	28.00	40.00	47.00	41.00	44.50	46.50	54.00	54.50	23.00	17.00	16.50
Beans, round green, machine-pick	FL, GA, MI	Bushel cartons	25.00	14.50	12.75	11.50	11.50	19.00	25.50	17.00	14.50	25.00	25.50	49.00	20.50	13.00	12.50
Beets, medium	TX, IL, CA	25 lb sacks/filmbags	10.00	14.00	13.00	10.50	10.50	7.75	12.50	8.25	8.00	8.25	8.25	8.75	11.00	12.00	11.50
Bok choy, baby	CA, FL	30 lb cartons	11.00	12.00	12.50	12.50	13.00	13.00	12.00	11.00	13.00	12.00	17.00	23.00	13.00	12.00	11.25
Brussels sprouts	CA, MX	25 lb cartons	25.50	27.00	--	--	47.00	44.00	28.50	19.00	19.00	23.00	28.00	33.00	15.50	45.00	44.00
Cabbage, round-green, medium	NY, GA	50 lb cartons	9.50	8.25	9.50	8.00	6.50	9.00	8.50	11.25	10.25	12.00	14.00	14.50	11.75	10.00	10.50
Chinese cabbage (Napa)	CA	30 lb cartons	14.50	12.00	16.00	18.00	18.00	15.00	14.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	16.00	18.50	13.00	12.00	11.25
Carrots, baby peeled	CA	Carton, 24-1 lb filmbag	14.50	16.00	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50	17.25	17.00	16.00	17.00	17.50	17.50	18.00	17.00	16.75
Eggplant, medium	FL, GA, MX	1 1/9 bushel cartons	17.00	16.00	13.00	14.50	18.25	9.50	15.00	9.50	11.50	17.00	13.00	19.00	33.00	19.00	12.50
Garlic, white colossal	CA, MX	30 lb cartons	37.50	37.50	37.50	38.00	38.00	38.00	37.00	39.00	37.00	37.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	40.00	40.50
Greens, kale	CA	Carton, 24s	11.50	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	10.50	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	15.00	14.25	13.00	13.00	12.75
Greens, kohlrabi	CA, TX, IL	Carton, 12s/24s	18.50	20.50	18.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	15.50	--	24.00	21.00	22.50	21.00	24.00	25.00	21.00
Greens, turnip tops	GA, IL	Carton, 24s	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.25	9.25	9.50	10.75	10.25	10.25	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.50	10.25	10.25
Greens, mustard	CA	Carton, 24s	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.25	9.25	9.50	10.75	10.25	10.25	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.50	10.25	10.25
Greens, collards	GA, CA	Carton, 24s	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.25	9.25	9.50	10.75	10.25	10.25	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.50	10.25	10.25
Leeks	CA, IL, MX	Carton, bunched 12s	19.00	17.00	17.00	15.00	15.50	14.50	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.50	16.00	15.00	14.50	15.50	13.50
Lettuce, Boston	CA	Carton, 24s	11.00	19.00	10.00	11.00	13.50	19.00	17.00	13.00	12.75	15.00	14.50	14.25	10.00	9.50	13.00
Lettuce, Romaine	CA	Carton, 24s	13.50	28.50	13.50	13.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	13.50	13.00	14.50	19.00	14.50	13.00	10.50	10.50
Mushrooms, button, large	PA	10 lb carton	15.00	14.50	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Mushrooms, shiitake	PA	5 lb carton	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	5 lb carton	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	10 lb carton	12.50	12.75	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.75
Mushrooms, portobellas, lrg	PA	5 lb carton	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Okra, small-medium	FL, MX, TN	1/2 bushel carton	9.50	15.50	14.00	16.00	24.00	22.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	27.00	24.50	26.00	21.25	12.50	16.50
Onions, green	CA, MX	Carton, bunched 48s	13.00	10.50	10.50	13.50	21.00	23.00	31.00	13.00	12.50	17.00	15.50	15.00	8.00	9.25	16.50
Parsley, curly	CA	Cartons, bunched 60s	13.00	13.00	21.00	19.00	17.00	20.00	17.00	26.00	26.00	28.00	19.50	15.00	13.00	14.50	14.00
Peas, snow	CA, GU	10 lb carton	12.50	19.00	19.50	32.00	32.00	10.00	28.00	16.00	16.50	28.00	11.00	10.00	11.00	10.00	7.00
Peas, sugar snap	CA, GU	10 lb carton	14.00	20.00	10.00	38.50	35.00	20.00	24.00	16.00	16.00	28.00	12.50	12.00	13.50	16.00	15.00
Peppers, green bell, large	FL, CA	1 1/9 bushel carton	9.00	--	8.00	18.50	12.50	25.00	14.50	12.00	9.50	19.00	17.50	14.00	15.50	13.00	19.00
Peppers, jalapeno, medium	FL, GA, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	16.00	--	11.00	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	11.00	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.50	12.00	18.00	25.00
Radishes	FL, MI	Carton, 30-6oz filmbag	7.50	7.50	7.50	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.50	8.00	8.25	10.00	9.00	11.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Spinach, flat	CA	Cartons, bunched 24s	14.50	12.00	12.50	13.00	15.00	17.00	--	13.00	14.00	16.00	19.50	13.00	12.50	11.00	11.50
Squash, zucchini, medium	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	11.50	6.00	12.00	7.00	8.00	8.50	10.00	12.25	8.50	16.50	15.00	7.00	12.00	8.00	6.75
Squash, yellow straightneck, med.	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	13.50	6.00	8.75	7.50	8.00	8.00	10.00	8.25	8.25	13.50	20.00	16.50	16.50	8.50	7.00
Sweet potatoes, US #1, Beauregrd	LA	40 lb carton	17.00	17.00	18.75	19.25	19.25	20.00	20.00	18.50	18.50	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.50	22.00
Tomatoes, mature green, lrg, 6x6	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	9.00	12.00	10.00	11.00	9.50	16.00	31.50	8.25	9.00	9.50	14.00	9.00	13.00	27.00	9.00
Tomatoes, vine ripe, large, 6x6	MX, CA, FL	25 lb carton	10.50	0.00	11.50	11.00	9.50	17.00	34.00	14.50	11.00	8.50	14.50	10.00	11.50	27.00	10.75
Tomatoes, greenhse, v. ripe, md/lrg	CD, NL, MX	5 kg carton (on vine)	13.00	8.00	10.50	7.00	6.00	12.50	20.50	11.50	10.00	16.50	13.00	11.50	7.50	13.50	12.50
Tomatoes, cherry	FL, CA, MX	Flats, 12 1-pint buckets	9.00	13.00	12.50	13.00	13.50	13.00	26.00	9.75	11.50	8.50	12.25	11.00	15.50	15.00	14.50
Tomatoes, plum-type, med/lrg	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	14.00	26.00	11.00	12.75	11.00	21.00	39.50	18.50	12.50	10.50	10.50	8.00	10.00	14.50	5.00
Turnips, purple top, medium-large	CA, IL	25 lb filmbags	10.00	9.50	9.50	8.00	9.25	9.25	10.50	9.00	8.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	12.00	18.25	15.00
Cantaloups	CA, CR, MX	1/2 carton 15s	15.50	9.50	17.50	11.50	14.00	13.50	11.00	16.50	24.00	13.50	18.00	13.50	13.50	12.50	15.00
Honeydews	CA, HD, CR	2/3 cartons 6s	10.50	7.50	11.50	11.50	10.50	10.50	8.50	8.50	10.25	21.00	24.50	17.00	9.50	14.50	9.00
Watermelon, various red	CA, TX, MX	Carton 3s or 4s, per lb	0.32	0.31	0.27	0.30	0.29	0.29	0.30	0.35	0.30	0.32	0.37	0.38	0.45	0.33	0.36
Watermelon, red seedless	CA, MX	Carton 4s or 5s, per lb	0.34	0.31	0.27	0.30	0.36	0.31	0.34	0.41	0.33	0.29	0.43	0.46	0.48	0.39	0.39

-- = 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: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Fruit & Vegetable Market News,* FV Market News Portal, http://marketnews.usda.gov/portal/fv

Price table 7—Canned vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 2000-07 1/

Year &	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Carrots 5/		Beets 6/		Tomato paste 7/	
quarter	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	55-drum	6/10
					-- Dollars per case --						*$/lb*	*$/case*
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	12.00	9.00	12.00	0.32	17.63
II	8.33	15.08	8.33	12.05	8.75	15.08	9.00	12.00	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	15.09	8.75	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	20.38
Average	8.33	15.06	8.33	12.14	8.82	15.11	8.94	11.75	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	8.17	14.80	8.17	14.38	9.17	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	18.67
II	8.42	15.46	8.33	15.92	9.13	15.75	8.75	11.50	9.00	13.00	0.30	20.25
III	8.50	15.63	8.33	16.17	9.00	15.59	9.00	11.50	9.00	14.00	0.30	20.25
IV	8.42	15.29	8.46	15.84	8.92	15.54	9.00	11.75	8.50	15.00	0.30	20.25
Average	8.38	15.30	8.32	15.58	9.06	15.72	8.85	11.56	8.88	13.50	0.30	19.86
2005												
I	8.58	14.08	8.54	13.54	8.96	15.67	9.00	11.75	8.83	14.58	0.30	20.25
II	8.75	13.42	8.67	13.25	9.13	15.33	9.00	11.75	9.00	14.00	0.30	20.25
III	8.67	13.58	8.71	12.83	9.13	15.42	9.00	12.00	9.00	13.63	0.31	20.54
IV	8.71	12.25	8.88	12.50	9.13	15.25	9.00	12.00	8.96	13.38	0.33	21.13
Average	8.68	13.33	8.70	13.03	9.09	15.42	9.00	11.88	8.95	13.90	0.31	20.54
2006												
I	8.63	12.25	8.88	12.13	9.25	15.46	9.00	12.00	9.05	12.80	0.36	21.46
II	8.63	12.25	8.75	12.13	9.17	15.50	9.00	12.00	9.03	12.25	0.37	22.58
III	8.38	11.75	8.45	12.00	8.71	15.50	9.00	12.00	8.50	11.88	0.40	23.25
IV	8.38	11.75	8.57	12.00	8.63	15.50	9.00	12.00	8.50	11.88	0.44	23.25
Average	8.51	12.00	8.66	12.07	8.94	15.49	9.00	12.00	8.77	12.20	0.39	22.64
2007												
I p	8.38	12.27	8.63	12.00	9.25	15.50	--	--	8.43	11.90	0.46	23.25
II f	8.83	13.13	8.83	13.13	9.34	15.50	--	--	8.71	11.90	0.46	23.25
III f	8.90	12.00	8.80	12.00	9.10	15.50	9.00	12.00	8.55	12.00	0.38	23.00
IV f	8.40	12.00	8.50	12.00	9.07	15.50	9.00	12.00	8.50	12.00	0.35	23.00
Average	8.63	12.35	8.69	12.28	9.19	15.50	9.00	12.00	8.55	11.95	0.41	23.13

p = Preliminary. f = ERS forecast. -- = not available.

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.

Source: American Institute of Food Distribution, *Price Trends.*

Price table 8—Frozen vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 2000-07 1/

Year and	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Cauliflower 4/		Broccoli 6/		Spinach 7/	
quarter	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
						Dollars per case						
2000												
I	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
2001												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.53	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.46	6.84	0.47	6.88	0.53	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.47	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
IV	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.49	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
Average	6.86	0.47	6.84	0.48	6.89	0.54	9.49	0.71	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
2002												
I	6.88	0.49	6.93	0.49	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.50	7.05	0.55	9.49	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.51	7.07	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.51	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.05	0.50	7.06	0.51	7.02	0.55	9.48	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
2003												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
2004												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.38	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.38	0.56	7.38	0.58	7.38	0.58	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
IV	7.30	0.54	7.33	0.58	7.28	0.57	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
Average	7.22	0.55	7.23	0.56	7.29	0.56	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.49
2005												
I	7.00	0.48	7.33	0.57	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
II	7.04	0.47	7.33	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
III	7.12	0.48	7.33	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.53
IV	7.10	0.48	--	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
Average	7.07	0.48	7.33	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
2006												
I	7.10	0.50	7.25	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.32	0.52
II	7.35	0.50	7.63	0.56	7.63	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.30	0.72	8.81	0.49
III	7.58	0.50	7.63	0.56	7.34	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
IV	7.58	0.50	7.63	0.56	7.20	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
Average	7.40	0.50	7.53	0.56	7.36	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.30	0.72	8.72	0.50
2007												
I p	7.58	0.44	7.53	0.63	7.20	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
II f	7.58	0.44	7.53	0.63	7.20	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
III f	7.60	0.45	7.60	0.58	7.20	0.53	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.70	0.50
IV f	7.65	0.46	7.65	0.58	7.20	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.40	0.50
Average	7.60	0.45	7.58	0.60	7.20	0.53	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.72	0.50

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: American Institute of Food Distribution, *Price Trends.*

Price table 9—Potatoes and pulses: Prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 2000-07 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average
							Dollars per hundredweight (cwt)							
Potatoes, all uses	2000	5.56	5.78	6.14	6.49	6.28	5.97	6.58	5.32	4.79	4.39	4.50	4.93	5.08
	2001	4.72	5.28	5.12	5.47	5.22	5.71	6.36	7.20	6.23	5.28	6.16	6.73	6.99
	2002	7.34	7.33	8.24	8.01	8.59	9.38	10.59	7.39	6.29	5.53	6.24	6.62	6.67
	2003	6.44	6.47	6.79	6.99	6.94	6.67	6.84	5.57	5.24	5.03	5.42	5.76	5.89
	2004	5.70	5.87	6.09	6.62	6.47	6.47	6.44	5.60	5.23	4.61	4.89	5.28	5.66
	2005	5.64	5.79	6.44	6.20	6.23	6.30	7.05	6.61	5.69	5.37	6.26	6.83	7.06
	2006	7.08	6.76	8.50	8.35	7.83	8.41	10.46	8.23	6.24	5.96	6.74	6.84	7.42
	2007	6.98	7.23	8.34	8.53	8.69								
Potatoes, table stock	2000	6.21	6.62	6.74	6.61	7.30	7.40	8.81	8.15	5.90	4.66	4.16	4.77	5.27
	2001	3.54	5.41	4.48	5.53	7.23	8.31	8.93	12.96	10.96	8.69	8.68	9.37	10.79
	2002	10.49	11.63	13.19	12.17	14.69	16.28	16.70	15.31	11.52	8.34	8.62	8.60	9.59
	2003	8.09	8.54	8.58	8.80	9.09	9.16	8.96	8.04	7.08	6.95	6.70	6.52	7.32
	2004	6.26	6.68	7.20	7.82	7.76	9.04	9.07	7.87	6.97	5.09	4.89	5.56	6.75
	2005	6.13	6.58	8.04	7.22	7.43	8.23	10.37	11.30	10.77	8.90	8.76	9.03	10.36
	2006	9.58	9.13	13.78	12.32	10.51	11.90	13.99	14.54	10.10	9.30	8.42	8.37	10.49
	2007	8.53	9.20	11.95	11.68									
Potatoes, processing	2000	5.18	5.27	5.21	5.41	5.37	5.34	4.89	4.46	4.48	4.34	4.69	5.07	4.70
	2001	4.95	5.15	5.10	5.19	5.10	4.96	5.24	4.43	4.56	4.47	4.89	5.15	5.05
	2002	5.37	5.27	5.34	5.66	6.02	5.83	6.09	4.67	4.62	4.79	5.14	5.35	5.16
	2003	5.38	5.32	5.28	5.33	5.59	5.60	5.39	4.69	4.64	4.52	4.85	5.31	5.10
	2004	5.29	5.24	5.24	5.54	5.64	5.54	5.30	4.76	4.60	4.45	4.88	5.10	5.06
	2005	5.29	5.30	5.37	5.47	5.68	5.51	5.45	4.92	4.65	4.66	4.89	5.51	5.39
	2006	5.65	5.59	5.74	6.04	6.30	6.46	6.20	5.26	5.14	5.13	5.74	5.95	5.74
	2007	6.13	6.16	6.34	6.78									
Dry edible beans	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	17.60	17.60	19.10	17.40	18.40
	2004	17.20	17.50	20.20	19.60	19.90	20.00	19.20	20.90	22.80	24.50	25.90	27.00	25.70
	2005	27.20	27.80	26.60	28.70	31.10	27.70	25.40	21.40	18.00	18.80	18.00	18.10	18.50
	2006	19.20	17.40	17.10	18.90	19.30	19.00	21.70	19.50	18.80	19.70	21.60	21.60	20.00
	2007	22.70	25.30	25.80	24.60	25.90								
Green peas, whole-dry 2/	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	5.81
	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	6.80
	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	8.89
	2003	9.08	9.81	10.88	10.60	10.44	9.92	9.30	7.56	7.63	8.09	8.84	9.08	9.26
	2004	9.56	9.94	10.50	10.56	10.88	8.43	7.38	6.45	6.41	6.66	6.93	6.69	6.36
	2005	6.63	6.56	6.03	5.69	5.47	5.38	5.31	5.15	4.84	4.81	4.80	4.75	5.26
	2006	4.97	5.31	5.50	5.78	6.00	5.91	5.84	5.93	6.44	6.70	7.19	7.58	8.00
	2007	7.81	8.69	9.50	10.25	10.43	10.38							
Yellow peas, whole-dry 2/	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	5.80
	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	6.90
	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	7.66
	2003	7.42	7.94	8.03	8.50	8.75	8.67	8.44	6.63	6.43	6.75	7.53	7.75	7.97
	2004	7.91	8.72	9.03	9.25	9.42	7.73	7.13	6.08	5.97	6.25	6.43	6.25	6.05
	2005	6.00	6.00	5.73	5.56	5.59	5.55	5.25	5.15	4.66	4.63	4.63	4.63	4.99
	2006	4.75	4.97	5.00	5.25	5.50	5.50	5.53	5.35	5.78	6.10	6.66	7.04	7.10
	2007	7.13	7.94	8.63	8.75	9.20	9.50							
Lentils, regular (Brewer) 2/	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	10.85
	2001	10.84	10.50	10.22	10.25	9.90	9.91	9.78	9.84	9.83	9.75	9.72	9.71	9.58
	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	14.84
	2003	15.42	17.63	18.63	18.70	18.63	18.56	15.20	14.50	14.85	16.50	16.88	16.50	17.41
	2004	17.13	19.00	20.90	21.25	20.38	15.80	14.19	13.25	14.38	15.56	15.95	15.38	13.93
	2005	14.69	14.19	13.45	12.56	12.19	11.40	11.25	11.25	11.34	11.25	10.78	10.08	10.77
	2006	10.38	10.31	10.25	10.69	10.75	10.94	10.94	12.25	13.06	14.15	14.25	14.50	13.95
	2007	14.59	14.81	14.75	14.75	14.85	15.25							

-- = not available. 1/ Prices for 2007 are preliminary. 2/ Grower bids for U.S. no. 1 grade reported by the *Bean Market News* for Idaho & Washington.
The season averages for peas and lentils presented here are calculated by ERS based on a July-June marketing year.

Sources: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices,* and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Bean Market News.*

Price table 10—U.S. fresh-market herbs: Selected monthly wholesale prices in San Francisco, CA, 2006-07

Herb	Unit	2006			2007			Change from prev. year		
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
		Dollars per hundredweight (cwt)						*--- Percent ---*		
Anise	24-ct crtn	12.38	12.44	19.25	22.80	35.25	28.38	84.2	183.4	47.4
Arrugula	12-ct ctns	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	8.00	.0	.0	6.7
Basil	12-ct ctns	7.81	8.38	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.8	1.4	.0
Celeriac	12-ct ctns	11.75	10.25	10.38	13.00	13.00	13.00	10.6	26.8	25.2
Chervil	12-ct flmbag	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.50	6.50	6.88	- 7.1	- 7.1	- 1.7
Chives	12-ct flmbag	4.50	4.50	4.50	5.75	5.75	6.00	27.8	27.8	33.3
Cilantro	60-ct ctns	8.97	12.88	12.13	22.95	17.88	11.44	155.9	38.8	- 5.7
Cipolinos	10-lb ctns	18.50	18.56	18.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	- 5.4	- 5.7	- 5.4
Dill	12-ct ctns	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.50	9.00	8.44	- 3.2	16.1	8.9
Dry Eschallot	5-lb sack	4.63	4.50	5.00	5.75	5.75	5.75	24.2	27.8	15.0
Horseradish	50-lb sack	2.05	2.05	2.05	2.08	2.08	2.15	1.5	1.5	4.9
Lemon grass	Per lb-ctns	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.80	1.25	1.85	14.3	78.6	164.3
Marjoram	12-ct flmbag	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.88	5.88	5.88	12.0	12.0	12.0
Oregano	12-ct flmbag	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.63	5.63	5.75	7.2	7.2	9.5
Rosemary	12-ct flmbag	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.63	5.63	5.75	7.2	7.2	9.5
Mint	12-ct ctns	8.13	8.25	8.00	8.00	8.50	9.25	- 1.6	3.0	15.6
Sage	12-ct flmbag	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.63	5.63	5.75	7.2	7.2	9.5
Salsify	5-1kg flmbg	24.63	25.00	24.63	29.00	29.00	29.00	17.7	16.0	17.7
Savory	24-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.75	2.4	2.4	4.5
Sorrel	12-ct flmbag	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.63	5.63	5.75	7.2	7.2	9.5
Tarragon	12-ct flmbag	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.50	6.50	7.50	- 7.1	- 7.1	7.1
Thyme	12-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.75	2.4	2.4	4.5
Watercress	12-ct ctns	8.00	8.00	8.00	11.70	12.50	12.50	46.3	56.3	56.3

-- = not available.

Source: Derived from data provided by USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, FV Data Portal, http://marketnews.usda.gov/portal/fv

Price table 11—Farm-retail price spreads, 2004-07

Item	Annual			2006					2007	
	2004	2005	2006	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Market basket 1/										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	194.4	198.2	201.9	201.7	203.1	204.3	203.3	203.6	205.9	207.8
Farm value (1982-84=100)	124.4	122.3	120.0	120.3	126.1	124.2	122.7	123.0	130.8	131.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	232.1	239.2	246.0	245.5	244.6	247.4	246.8	247.0	246.4	249.1
Farm value-retail cost (%)	22.4	21.6	20.8	20.9	21.7	21.3	21.2	20.8	22.2	22.1
Fresh fruit										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	318.5	330.7	350.7	348.2	357.6	361.1	360.2	363.5	366.5	372.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	200.5	173.4	195.4	224.2	230.5	198.0	177.0	196.5	175.8	196.5
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	372.9	403.3	422.4	405.4	416.3	436.4	444.8	440.6	454.5	454.3
Farm value-retail cost (%)	19.9	16.6	17.6	20.3	20.4	17.3	15.5	17.1	15.1	16.6
Fresh vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	261.2	271.7	284.3	274.4	294.2	301.8	288.6	286.1	298.3	308.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	146.5	145.5	157.9	163.6	195.5	174.8	125.4	135.2	167.5	190.5
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	320.2	336.7	249.3	331.3	345.0	367.1	372.5	363.7	365.5	369.3
Farm value-retail cost (%)	19.0	18.2	18.9	20.2	22.6	19.7	14.7	16.0	19.1	21.0
Processed fruits and vegetables										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	183.1	192.3	201.0	203.6	202.3	201.5	201.3	202.6	204.8	205.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	125.4	138.0	137.6	137.6	137.5	136.6	137.1	137.4	135.6	136.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	201.1	209.3	220.7	224.2	222.5	221.7	221.3	222.9	226.4	227.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	16.3	17.1	16.3	16.1	16.2	16.1	16.2	16.1	15.7	15.8
Fats and oils										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	167.8	167.7	168.0	167.5	167.9	169.1	168.1	166.7	170.2	171.7
Farm value (1982-84=100)	128.4	108.2	101.8	108.1	107.4	114.4	125.8	123.7	122.6	126.3
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	182.3	189.6	192.3	189.3	190.2	189.2	183.7	182.5	187.7	188.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	20.6	17.3	16.3	17.4	17.2	18.2	20.1	20.0	19.4	19.8
Meat products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	183.2	187.5	188.8	189.0	190.0	190.5	190.7	189.4	190.6	190.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	116.9	121.4	117.8	115.9	123.2	121.1	118.2	116.5	130.2	123.4
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	251.3	255.4	261.7	264.0	258.5	261.7	265.1	264.2	252.6	258.9
Farm value-retail cost (%)	32.3	32.8	31.6	31.1	32.9	32.2	31.4	31.1	34.6	32.8
Dairy products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	180.2	182.4	181.4	180.0	179.9	182.0	180.6	181.0	183.5	183.8
Farm value (1982-84=100)	125.9	118.7	102.6	95.7	101.8	107.7	110.2	113.7	116.5	117.5
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	230.3	241.1	254.0	257.7	251.9	250.5	245.5	243.1	245.3	244.9
Farm value-retail cost (%)	33.5	31.2	27.1	25.5	27.2	28.4	29.3	30.1	30.4	30.7
Poultry										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	181.7	185.3	182.0	183.8	183.9	182.9	181.8	182.5	181.8	183.2
Farm value (1982-84=100)	142.9	139.4	128.1	137.6	140.0	139.1	140.9	129.4	136.3	148.3
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	226.4	238.1	244.1	237.0	234.4	233.4	228.9	243.6	234.2	223.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	42.1	40.3	37.7	40.1	40.7	40.7	41.5	38.0	40.1	43.3
Eggs										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	167.0	144.1	151.2	145.6	147.1	146.3	159.3	176.5	176.6	190.5
Farm value (1982-84=100)	92.2	60.1	70.0	66.7	63.9	65.6	116.0	114.3	135.4	107.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	301.4	295.2	297.0	287.4	296.5	291.2	237.1	288.3	250.6	339.1
Farm value-retail cost (%)	35.5	26.8	29.7	29.4	27.9	28.8	46.8	41.6	49.3	36.3
Cereal and bakery products										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	206.0	209.0	212.8	214.6	213.6	214.6	214.5	214.8	216.3	219.0
Farm value (1982-84=100)	103.7	96.4	110.3	108.4	110.9	120.0	122.9	119.8	121.9	122.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	220.3	224.6	227.2	229.4	227.9	227.8	227.3	228.1	229.5	232.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	6.2	5.7	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.8	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.9

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: USDA, ERS, http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/agoutlook/aotables/2007/04Apr/aotab08.xls