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# Vegetables and Melons Outlook

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## Tomato and Pepper Prices Ease, Potato Prices Flat

The fresh-market tomato and bell pepper markets have cooled considerably in December with the resumption of near “normal” shipment volume from Florida after 2 months of strong prices caused largely by weather-reduced shipments from Florida, California, and Mexico. Fresh tomato f.o.b. shipping-point prices averaged 71.1 cents per pound in October and 99.0 cents in November 2004, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The November average price was 225 percent above a year earlier and the highest level for any month since the record high of January 1990 (\$1.16 /lb). With revisions later this month, the November price will likely exceed the record high.

The December U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) estimate of U.S. fall-season potato production is 409.8 million cwt—down less than 1 percent from 2003. Although fall area harvested is 6 percent smaller than last year, yield per acre is up 6 percent from 376 to 399 hundredweight (cwt). The season average price for the 2004 U.S. potato crop is expected to approximate last year’s \$5.89 per cwt, and not exceed \$6 for the second straight year. Subdued demand, higher yields, and smaller acreage have each contributed to weak prices.

The December estimate of the 2004 U.S. dry edible bean crop indicated a decline of 19 percent from a year ago to 18.1 million cwt—the smallest crop since 1983. With reduced acreage, and rain and frost-affected yields, North Dakota’s 4.8 million cwt crop was the State’s smallest since 1993, with notable reductions in the top two crops—pinto beans (down 39 percent) and navy beans (down 44 percent). U.S. navy bean production continues to trend lower, reaching a record low (the previous low was in 1921) this fall due to a 21-percent reduction in yields.

According to USDA estimates, production of dry peas and lentils surged to a record high in 2004. Production of dry edible peas (green and yellow) jumped 108 percent to 10.8 million cwt, exceeding 1943’s record 10.0 million. This increase was driven by a 52-percent increase in area harvested and 37 percent higher yields. Production of lentils rose 67 percent to 4.1 million cwt due to a combination of a 36-percent rise in U.S. lentil acreage and a 23-percent gain in yields. November prices are running 15-20 percent below a year earlier for dry peas.

The value of U.S. production of vegetables and melons is forecast to grow at an annual rate of 2.5 percent over the next decade, reaching close to \$20 billion in fiscal year 2014 from \$16 billion in 2005. The volume of U.S. vegetable and melon production is expected to increase from 130 billion pounds in 2005 to more than 141 billion pounds by 2014, a rate of increase roughly equal to the growth of the U.S. population.

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The next release is  
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World Agricultural  
Outlook Board

## Industry Overview

**Fresh vegetables:** With supplies of tomatoes and peppers recovering from storm damage this fall, fresh-market vegetable prices are returning to seasonal norms. However, shipping-point prices during the Oct.-Dec. quarter will average above the average of the previous 5 years for the second consecutive year. Given favorable weather, fresh vegetable shipping-point prices over the next 3 months are expected to average just below those of a year earlier.

**Processing vegetables:** Pack of frozen sweet corn has declined for five consecutive years as market shipments have been sluggish. Shipments in 2003/04 were down 8 percent from a year earlier and stood 31 percent below the 1998/99 high.

**Potatoes:** Given a projected average price of \$5.29 per cwt for the U.S. fall potato crop, the value of 2004 fall potato production will be about \$2.2 billion—up marginally from a year earlier. Combining all seasons in 2004, the value of total U.S. production is projected to be about \$2.7 billion—about equal to 2003's value.

**Long-run outlook:** The value of U.S. production of vegetables and melons is forecast to grow at an annual rate of 2.5 percent over the next decade, reaching nearly \$20 billion in fiscal year 2014, compared with an estimated \$16 billion in 2005. This outlook reflects a 0.9-percent annual growth in production volume and a 1.6 percent average annual gain in prices received by vegetable and melon shippers.

**Dry beans:** Even with reduced domestic and foreign demand caused by higher U.S. prices, stocks of most major bean classes will be low or exhausted by next summer, which may prompt an increase in imports.

**Dry peas and lentils:** Through December 10, loan deficiency payments for dry peas totaled close to \$29 million—up from \$14 million for the 2003 crop. Although the average payment per cwt is lower than a year ago, volume is larger due to the record-large dry pea crop.

**Squash:** Domestic consumption of squash averaged an estimated 1.3 billion pounds annually during 2001-03, up 32 percent from 1991-93. The farm value of the U.S. squash crop averaged \$192 million annually during 2001-03.

**Legislation:** The Specialty Crop Competitiveness Act of 2004 now awaits the President's signature and the appropriation of funds by Congress. This four title Act authorizes a total of \$54 million annually over each of the next 5 years to enhance production and use of specialty crops and improve the world competitiveness of U.S. producers of fruits (including dried fruit), vegetables, tree nuts, and nursery crops (including floriculture). None of these funds will be used as direct subsidies. About 80 percent of the funding (all of which is subject to the annual appropriation of funds) is earmarked for block grants through the various State Departments of Agriculture for planning and providing programs, subject to approval of the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, of importance to local producers and consumers of specialty crops. The Act also authorizes an additional appropriation of \$2 million annually to support section 3205 of the 2002 Farm Bill, which provides assistance to remove, resolve, or mitigate sanitary and phytosanitary and related barriers to trade. Another important research title in the Act authorizes the annual appropriation of \$5 million for research into methyl bromide alternatives.

Table 1--U.S. vegetable industry: Area, production, crop value, unit value, trade, and per capita use, 2001-04

Item	Unit	2001	2002	2003	2004 1/
<i>Area harvested</i>	1,000 ac.	6,318	6,874	6,538	6,619
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	1,000 ac.	2,020	1,931	1,929	1,950
Processing	1,000 ac.	1,333	1,340	1,337	1,328
Potatoes	1,000 ac.	1,221	1,266	1,249	1,172
Dry beans	1,000 ac.	1,250	1,739	1,347	1,225
Other 2/	1,000 ac.	494	599	677	944
<i>Production</i>	Mil. cwt	1,256	1,322	1,282	1,311
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	Mil. cwt	470	463	458	463
Processing	Mil. cwt	300	341	311	340
Potatoes	Mil. cwt	438	458	458	452
Dry beans	Mil. cwt	20	30	23	18
Other 2/	Mil. cwt	30	29	32	38
<i>Crop value</i>	\$ mil.	14,759	15,503	15,280	15,610
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	8,877	9,416	9,593	9,800
Processing	\$ mil.	1,256	1,335	1,289	1,393
Potatoes	\$ mil.	3,058	3,045	2,686	2,668
Dry beans	\$ mil.	426	514	414	475
Other 2/	\$ mil.	1,142	1,193	1,298	1,275
<i>Unit value 3/</i>	\$/cwt	11.75	11.73	11.92	11.91
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$/cwt	18.88	20.34	20.95	21.19
Processing	\$/cwt	4.19	3.91	4.14	4.10
Potatoes	\$/cwt	6.99	6.67	5.89	5.90
Dry beans	\$/cwt	22.10	17.10	18.40	26.22
Other 2/	\$/cwt	38.22	41.53	40.37	33.68
<i>Trade</i>					
<i>Imports</i>	\$ mil.	4,530	4,817	5,431	5,998
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	2,597	2,617	3,024	3,265
Processing	\$ mil.	1,020	1,189	1,276	1,410
Potatoes	\$ mil.	523	575	682	800
Dry beans	\$ mil.	51	67	49	63
Other 4/	\$ mil.	340	369	400	460
<i>Exports</i>	\$ mil.	3,231	3,273	3,318	3,403
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	1,183	1,203	1,298	1,300
Processing	\$ mil.	834	798	799	810
Potatoes	\$ mil.	700	723	646	720
Dry beans	\$ mil.	176	180	164	143
Other 4/	\$ mil.	338	369	411	430
<i>Per capita use</i>	Pounds	440	438	443	446
<i>Vegetables</i>					
Fresh & melons	Pounds	169	170	168	172
Processing	Pounds	116	120	120	123
Potatoes	Pounds	139	132	139	136
Dry beans	Pounds	7	7	7	7
Other 2/	Pounds	9	9	9	9

1/ ERS forecasts for 2004. 2/ Other includes sweet potatoes, dry peas, lentils, and mushrooms. 3/ Ratio of total value to total production. 4/ Other includes mushrooms, dry peas, lentils, sweet potatoes, and vegetable seed. All trade data are on a calendar year basis.

Sources: ERS and National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

## Fresh-Market Vegetables

### Tomato Prices Ease As Shipments Recover

Fresh tomato f.o.b. shipping-point prices averaged 71.1 cents per pound in October and 99.0 cents in November 2004, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. The November price was 225 percent above a year earlier and the highest level for any month since the record high of January 1990 (\$1.16 /lb). With coming revisions, the November price could approach or exceed the record high. The market in December has cooled considerably with the resumption of near "normal" shipment volume from Florida.

### What Happened to Tomatoes This Fall?

An unusually severe storm hit central California on October 19 and 20, 2004, damaging a portion of the fall fresh tomato crop and halting harvest. Although lower shipments were expected, supplies from the central California crop were expected to recover before the season ended in late November. Growers in the San Diego area were spared the first storm and continued shipping tomatoes. However, on October 26 and 27, a second storm hit central and southern California, delivering a severe blow to much of the entire State's field-grown crop. Daily shipments of round-type and roma tomatoes from California dropped well below (50-75 percent) year-earlier levels.

These acute weather events in California came on the heels of an unprecedented series of mid-to-late summer hurricanes and tropical storms that brought winds and heavy rains to East Coast vegetable and melon producing areas from Florida to New England, battering crops and early-fall plantings. In Florida, the storms delayed or damaged fall plantings of crops such as tomatoes and bell peppers, requiring replanting of crops in many areas. Thus, shipments of these crops were set for a delay that lasted until early December, with market volume not expected to reach seasonal norms until mid-December.

In November, the volume of fresh-market tomatoes from Florida usually begins to increase with the State accounting for over half of total supplies (57 percent on

Table 2--U.S. quarterly f.o.b. shipping-point prices, selected vegetables and melons, 2004-2005

Commodity	2004				2005				Change 1st Q 1/ Percent
	First	Second	Third	Fourth *	First *	Second *	Third *	Fourth *	
	--- Dollars per 100 lb ---								
Asparagus	196.00	126.00	217.67	--	155.00	120.00	130.00	--	-20.9
Broccoli	27.90	26.60	36.97	42.90	30.00	27.00	31.00	37.00	7.5
Cantaloup	--	14.50	15.70	19.50	--	18.00	16.00	21.00	--
Carrots	24.67	23.87	18.30	17.60	19.00	20.00	18.00	18.00	-23.0
Cauliflower	31.23	32.87	28.17	48.50	33.00	34.00	29.00	40.00	5.7
Celery	19.70	14.80	10.84	16.90	16.00	18.00	13.00	15.00	-18.8
Sweet corn	23.90	18.30	21.30	24.80	25.00	18.00	21.00	23.00	4.6
Cucumbers	26.87	18.70	30.10	20.50	29.00	19.00	24.00	17.00	7.9
Lettuce, head	15.20	12.83	17.77	18.70	17.00	17.00	19.00	18.00	11.8
Onions, dry bulb	17.43	18.37	14.77	10.30	11.00	16.00	14.00	11.50	-36.9
Snap beans	54.07	37.80	63.90	61.90	56.00	41.00	60.00	52.00	3.6
Tomatoes, field	37.67	34.90	32.43	84.25	33.00	32.00	31.00	37.00	-12.4
All vegetables 2/	921	823	889	1,135	860	840	890	850	-6.6

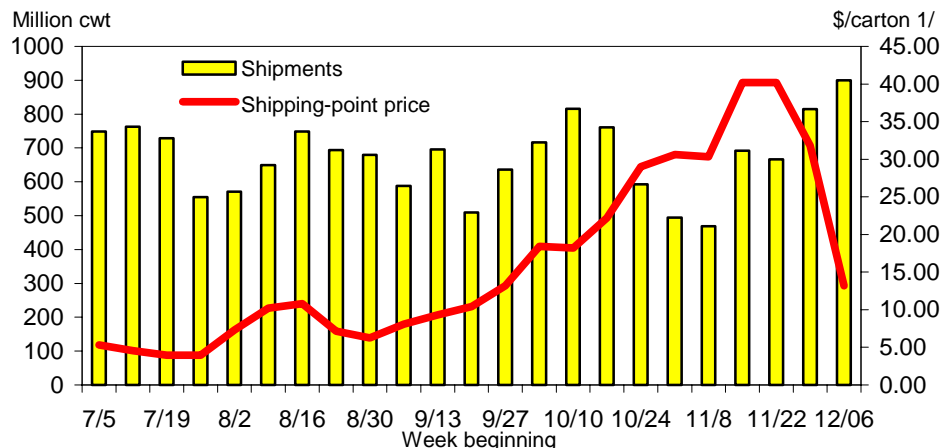
-- = not available. \* = ERS forecast. 1/ Change for first-quarter 2005 over first-quarter 2004.

2/ Index base is 1910-14=100.

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

Figure 1

**U.S. fresh-market tomatoes: Weekly shipments & shipping-point price**



1/ \$ per 25-lb carton of mature green tomatoes. Volume excludes grape & cherry tomatoes.  
 Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

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

Item	Annual 2003	October 2004	November		Change previous:	
			2003	2004	Month	Year
--1,000 cwt --						
Percent						
Snap beans	2,871	151	259	271	79	5
Broccoli	9,122	643	652	679	6	4
Cabbage	13,424	910	1,172	967	6	-17
Cantaloup	29,211	1,483	1,079	1,187	-20	10
Carrots	12,227	716	930	746	4	-20
Cauliflower	4,835	324	312	350	8	12
Celery	16,739	1,272	1,847	1,830	44	-1
Sweet corn	10,698	242	253	202	-17	-20
Cucumbers	726	788	1,156	1,189	51	3
Head lettuce	39,340	3,046	2,505	3,071	1	23
Romaine	12,211	1,054	1,063	976	-7	-8
Dry onions	46,172	3,702	3,733	3,612	-2	-3
Bell peppers	14,656	702	1,092	795	13	-27
Spinach	927	63	71	84	33	18
Tomatoes, round 2/	35,179	2,285	2,778	1,698	-26	-39
Tomatoes, roma	9,410	601	643	623	4	-3
Cherry tomatoes 3/	3,049	155	294	205	32	-30
Watermelon	35,290	371	600	596	61	-1
Selected total	296,087	18,508	20,439	19,081	3	-7

1/ Data for 2004 are preliminary. Includes domestic and imported product. 2/ Includes both round and greenhouse produced tomatoes. 3/ Includes grape tomatoes.

Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

average over the past 3 years). Meanwhile, California shippers are winding down and supplying about 21 percent of the U.S. market. Imports also begin to rise, with Mexico accounting for about 23 percent and others (primarily hothouse producers in countries such as Canada and the Netherlands) providing 4-5 percent of the market. By December, Florida's growers typically ship two-thirds of the Nation's fresh tomato supplies, and imports from Mexico account for nearly 30 percent.

Prices for fresh-market tomatoes are highly volatile and react readily to supply shortfalls as well as oversupply situations. Shipping-point prices for mature green tomatoes rose steadily from early September to late October, moving from \$6.00 to over \$30.00 (depending on size and quality) per 25 pound box. With market volume short and food service operators competing for suitable tomatoes, the November 2004 national fresh-market tomato retail price likely more than doubled the

\$1.46 per pound average of the previous three Novembers. It also likely exceeded the previous record high of \$2.36 per pound set in February of 1990 (the data were released after this was written). As supplies slowly increased in early December and market pipelines filled, shipping-point and retail prices began to come down. Barring any further disruptions (such as freezing temperatures), consumers should see a return to seasonal norms (around \$1.50 per pound) for field-grown tomatoes sometime in late December or January.

### ***Bell Peppers Also Hit Hard by Storms***

Among vegetables, it appears that along with tomatoes, the bell pepper market received the brunt of the impact (in terms of duration of impact) from the stormy fall weather. Like tomatoes, shipping point prices for bell peppers were also strong in October and November as shipment volume dwindled. And also like tomatoes, bell pepper prices have come down from their highs of the past 2 months as market volume from Florida (and Mexico) has increased. The shipping-point price for large bell peppers moved from about \$1.36 per pound in early to mid-November closer to a more seasonal norm of \$0.37 per pound on December 1.

Given the popularity and widespread use of bell peppers in food service and retail markets, shortages and higher prices are noteworthy. Similar to the use trend for fresh tomatoes, consumption of bell peppers has been rising during the past decade, with domestic use reaching a record 2 billion pounds in 2003—about double that of 1987.

### ***Asparagus Crop Down***

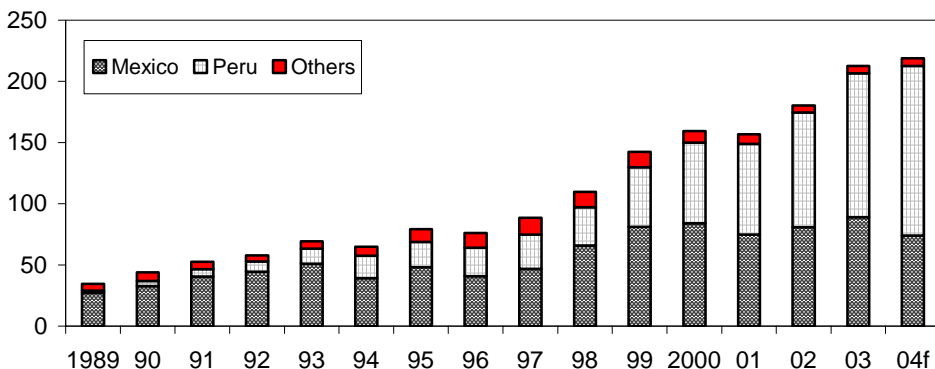
According to preliminary USDA data, 2004 fresh-market asparagus production declined 7 percent to 1.29 million cwt. This was also down 8 percent from the average of the past 5 years but just 1 percent below the output of 2002. Output declined despite strong yields in both California and Washington as harvested area for all asparagus fell 20 percent. This was a reflection of substantial acreage cuts (primarily in California and Washington) forced by 2 years of relatively low prices and increased import competition. Further acreage cuts are anticipated in the next few years, especially in Washington State.

Average shipping-point value per pound improved 13 percent to \$1.31 per pound. This helped the value of the fresh crop to improve 5 percent to \$169 million, with

Figure 2

#### **U.S. fresh-market asparagus import volume is trending higher**

Million lb



f = ERS forecast.

Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

California accounting for 80 percent of the total. Despite the large share, gross receipts from sales of fresh asparagus fell slightly in California from a year ago due to a decline in volume. Fresh market sales in Washington State likely improved 41 percent to \$31 million as growers there attempt to move more of the State's volume into the fresh market. This is being tried in anticipation of the 2005 closing of the last asparagus cannery in the State, which will be replaced by imports of lower cost canned product from Peru.

Imports of fresh asparagus continue to trend higher with volume in 2003 rising 18 percent to a record 213 million pounds. In 2004, despite higher transportation costs, imports could equal or exceed this level. Since 1998, Peru's share of the U.S. fresh asparagus import market has risen from 28 percent to 55 percent in 2003, with a further gain to more than 60 percent expected this year. At the same time, Mexico's market share has declined from 60 percent in 1998 to 42 percent in 2003 even as their total shipments to the United States have risen courtesy of expanding U.S. demand for fresh asparagus. Imports, which now enter year round, accounted for 66 percent of U.S. fresh market asparagus consumption in 2003—up from 54 percent in 1998 and 47 percent in 1993.

### **Winter Outlook**

This winter (largely January-March), fresh-market vegetable and melon area for harvest is expected to rise slightly from a year earlier (USDA-NASS estimates will be released on January 7). Barring an early winter freeze in either Florida or California (where it was cool in early December), favorable yields should lead to increased supplies this winter compared with a year ago. Import pressure is not expected to be unusually strong this winter due largely to expected average yields in West Mexico, the weaker dollar, and higher transportation costs. Given average domestic and import supplies and a good employment outlook, winter season shipping-point prices for commercial fresh-market vegetables are expected to average at or just below the highs of a year earlier. Lower prices are expected for onions, cucumbers, celery, and carrots, while prices may average higher for lettuce, sweet corn, and broccoli.

Table 4--Selected fresh-market vegetable trade volume, January - October

Item	Annual 2003	January - October			Change 2003-04 Percent
		2002	2003	2004	
--1,000 cwt--					
<b>Exports, fresh:</b>					
Onions, dry bulb	6,790	4,908	5,468	4,790	-12
Lettuce, head	4,536	3,478	3,781	3,922	4
Lettuce, other	4,336	3,719	3,520	3,822	9
Broccoli	3,113	2,844	2,759	2,752	0
Tomatoes	3,142	2,809	2,560	3,166	24
Other	17,238	14,471	14,505	14,150	-2
Total	39,155	32,230	32,592	32,604	0
<b>Imports, fresh:</b>					
Tomatoes	20,711	16,171	18,404	17,492	-5
Cucumbers	9,003	6,768	6,861	7,151	4
Onions, dry bulb	6,461	4,714	5,332	5,569	4
Peppers, sweet	5,416	4,478	4,551	4,650	2
Squash *	4,758	2,947	3,320	3,630	9
Other	23,299	14,621	14,466	20,474	42
Total	69,648	49,699	52,934	58,965	11

\* Excludes chayote.

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

## Processing Vegetables

### *Fewer Companies Can Fruits and Vegetables*

According to the recently released 2002 Census of Manufacturing, there were 637 companies producing canned fruit and vegetables in 2002—down 4 percent from the previous census in 1997. The average number of production workers in the industry dropped 7 percent to 58,980.

Between 1997 and 2002, the number of companies with shipments in excess of \$100,000 in 2002 dropped for every major vegetable covered (table 7). Despite this, the value of canned vegetable shipments (excluding most tomato products, mushrooms, and pickles) increased 3 percent to \$2.78 billion. Canned whole and stewed tomatoes were the largest single vegetable category in both number of companies (23) and shipment value (\$739 million). Green beans, sweet corn, and green peas were the only other vegetables with more than \$100 million in product shipments.

Since 1997, the number of companies producing canned mushrooms dropped from 12 to 5, with the value of product shipments falling 5 percent to \$109 million. This likely reflects industry consolidation and strong import competition with attendant low prices.

The value of product shipments of canned vegetable juices rose 37 percent to \$602 million, reflecting the popularity of vegetable juice drinks and favorable media

Table 5--Canning vegetables: Number of companies and value of shipments 1/

Item	Number of companies		Value of shipments		
	1997	2002	1997	2002	Change
	-- Number --		--Million dollars--		Percent
All canned vegetables 2/	--	--	2,690.6	2,775.4	3
Tomatoes, whole & stew	27	23	618.7	739.0	19
Green & wax beans	19	14	412.7	462.0	12
Sweet corn, whole kernel	13	6	423.9	444.3	5
Green peas	14	9	201.3	152.3	-24
Sweet corn, cream style	12	7	157.2	138.1	-12
Asparagus	8	7	82.2	77.8	-5
Beets	5	3	61.7	75.3	22
Sauerkraut	7	6	70.8	58.4	-18
Spinach	5	4	54.0	39.6	-27
Carrots	11	7	41.7	32.2	-23
Green lima beans	7	6	23.8	17.3	-27
Others	--	--	542.6	539.1	-1
Mushrooms	12	5	115.4	109.2	-5
Canned vegetable juices	--	--	439.0	601.7	37
Tomato 3/	20	13	398.3	528.4	33
Other	6	4	40.1	49.0	22
Pickles & other pickled 4/	--	--	1,232.9	1,521.1	23
Dill pickles	20	12	501.4	503.7	0
Sweet pickles	14	8	197.2	202.0	2
Refrigerated pickles	16	7	152.2	147.6	-3

-- = not available. 1/ Number of companies with at least \$100,000 in product shipments.

2/ Excludes hominy and mushrooms. 3/ Includes mixtures with 70 percent or more of tomato juice. 4/ Includes cucumber pickles and other pickled products.

Source: 2002 Economic Census, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.



reports about the health benefits of tomato-containing products. Tomato juice and tomato juice-containing products accounted for 88 percent of all vegetable juice shipments in 2002.

The value of shipments for pickles and other pickled vegetables and fruits rose 23 percent largely because of increased sales of pickled peppers and other undisclosed pickled products. The shipment value of the three major pickled cucumber products (dill, sweet, and refrigerated) has changed little since 1997, remaining around \$850 million.

### ***Market Shipments Weak for Frozen Green Peas and Sweet Corn***

Carryover stocks for 10 selected frozen vegetables (excludes potatoes) entering the 2004/05 packing season were down 3 percent from a year earlier and were the lowest since 1997/98. Carryover was lower for every crop except sweet corn and green peas. Although frozen green pea carryover was above last year's low level, stocks this year were low relative to recent history. However, market shipments for frozen green peas have declined the past 2 years, which has kept a lid on wholesale prices. Carryover of all frozen sweet corn (on a cut-basis) was up 22 percent and was the highest on record. This was a reflection of declining shipments as pack has dropped for five consecutive years. Total frozen sweet corn pack in 2003 was 10 percent below the average of the previous 5 years and shipments were down 8 percent from a year earlier and stood 31 percent below the 1998/99 high.

Domestic and export demand for many processed vegetables has remained weak the past several years. As a result, freezers reduced their sweet corn contract acreage 9 percent this season. With a smaller pack this year, frozen stocks of all sweet corn on November 1 were down 5 percent from the high of a year earlier. However, stocks appear strong compared with current demand, and as a result, wholesale sweet corn prices have remained below last year's strong levels.

Cold storage holdings of frozen vegetables (excluding potatoes) on November 1 amounted to 2.6 billion pounds—up 1 percent from a year earlier. Although stocks

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

Item	2004		2003	Change previous:	
	Oct.	Sep.	Oct.	Month	Year
	-- Index --			-- Percent --	
<b>Consumer Price Indexes (12/97=100)</b>					
Processed fruits and vegetables	116	116	114	0.5	1.6
Canned vegetables	118	117	116	0.6	1.6
Frozen vegetables (1982-84=100)	178	178	175	-0.1	1.4
Dry beans, peas, lentils	111	108	109	2.7	1.7
Olives, pickles, relishes	112	108	106	3.9	5.4
<b>Producer Price Indexes (1982=100)</b>					
Canned vegetables and juices	135	133	130	1.2	3.6
Pickles and products	181	181	180	0.1	0.7
Tomato catsup and sauces 1/	129	126	125	2.0	2.6
Canned dry beans	124	124	123	-0.4	0.3
Vegetable juices 1/	110	110	109	0.0	1.2
Frozen vegetables	137	136	134	0.8	2.3
Dried/dehy. fruit & vegetables	146	145	144	0.3	1.0

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

are up slightly, October retail prices for frozen vegetables (which include potatoes) were running 3 percent above a year earlier.

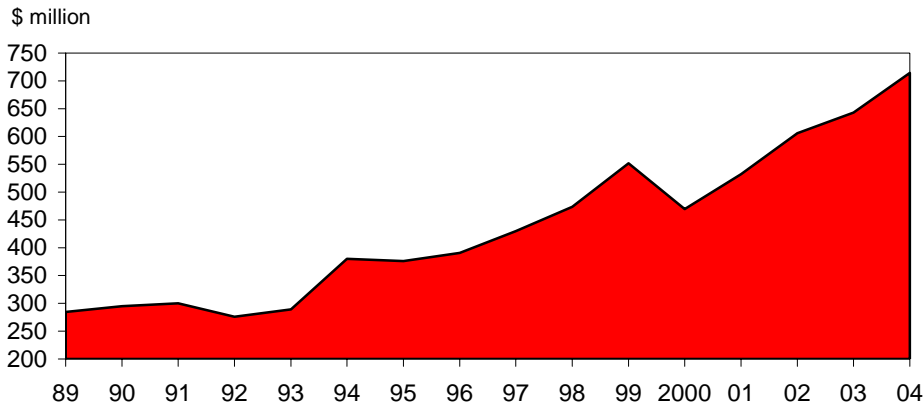
**Processed Trade: Imports Up, Exports Down**

During January to October 2004, the value of processed vegetable (excluding potatoes, pulses, and mushrooms) imports jumped 12 percent. Canned products increased 12 percent, while frozen and dehydrated were up 13 and 9 percent, respectively. Among canned vegetables, import value was running above a year earlier for sweet corn (46 percent), tomato products (18 percent), artichokes (12 percent), and miscellaneous canned vegetables (18 percent).

The value of processed vegetable exports during January-October was running 1 percent below a year earlier due primarily to lower frozen exports. Frozen vegetable export volume was down 8 percent, because of reduced movement of sweet corn (second in importance only to potatoes among frozen exports) and frozen vegetable mixtures. The volume of U.S. frozen vegetable exports has been trending lower for several years as U.S. products continue to have difficulty competing in key world markets. For example, although the volume of frozen sweet corn exports to Japan is up 7 percent, volume is lower to Canada, Vietnam, and Taiwan due in part to competition with other exporting nations.

Figure 3

**U.S. canned vegetable import value is trending higher**



Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

Table 7--Value of processed vegetable trade 1/

Item	Annual 2003	January - October		Change 2003-04	
		2002	2003		2004
--Million dollars--					
<b>Imports:</b>					
Canned	643	502	524	589	12
Frozen	398	284	330	375	13
Dehydrated 2/	235	193	194	210	9
<b>Exports:</b>					
Canned	521	420	426	435	2
Frozen	154	126	131	121	-8
Dehydrated 2/	124	101	99	97	-2

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

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

# Potatoes

## Fall Production Lower

The December 2004 USDA estimate of U.S. fall-season potato production is 409.8 million cwt—down less than 1 percent from 2003. Although fall area harvested is 6 percent smaller than last year, yield per acre is up 6 percent from 376 to a record high 399 cwt—6 cwt above the previous high set in 2000. Fall production in the Western States is 3 percent larger than in 2003, but production in the Central States is down 8 percent. Overall U.S. potato production in 2004 will total around 452 million cwt—down 1 percent from last year.

In the West, the 3-percent decline in harvested fall acreage was offset by higher yields, which raised production. With a 9-percent jump in per-acre yield, Idaho's potato crop totaled almost 132 million cwt, or 7 percent larger than a year earlier. Harvested area in the Central and Eastern regions fell 13 and 6 percent. However, despite yields climbing 4 percent in the Central States, production still dropped. In the East, output rose slightly as a 9-percent gain in yield outweighed an 8 percent reduction in harvested area. Generally flat fall potato prices in 2004 indicate lackluster domestic demand, which has been partly offset by a projected 15-percent boost in export volume.

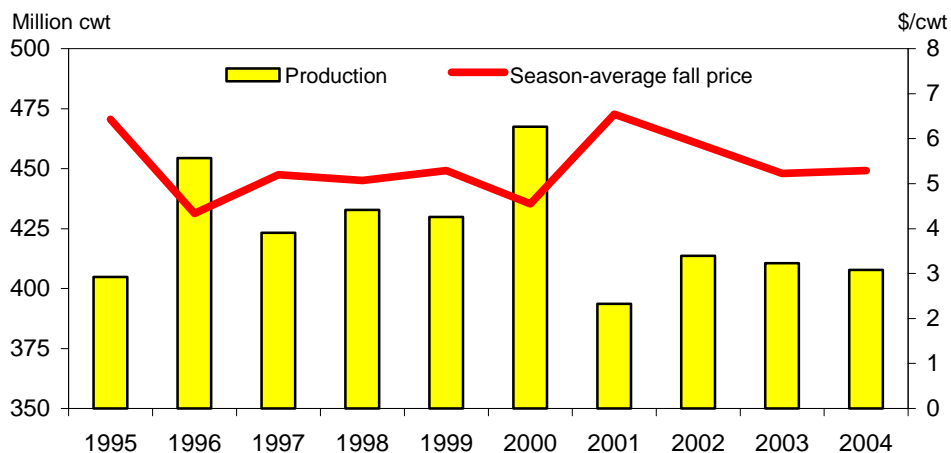
## Prices Remain Weak Despite Reduced Production

According to ERS projections, the average price for the U.S. fall potato crop will average \$5.29 per cwt. This would place the value of fall production at \$2.16 billion in 2004—up marginally from a year earlier. Combining all seasons in 2004, the projected value of total U.S. potato output will be \$2.66 billion—about equal to 2003's value. With the exception of September, domestic potato shipments through October are behind corresponding months in 2003. Stocks in cold storage, another preliminary indicator of languid domestic demand, are up between August and October relative to last year. Furthermore, U.S. seed potato acreage in 2004 was the lowest in more than a decade, signaling continuing soft demand.

The season average price for the 2004 U.S. potato crop is expected to approximate last year's \$5.89 per cwt, and not exceed \$6 for the second straight year. Subdued demand, higher yields, and smaller acreage have each contributed to weak prices. The winter and fall potato crops featured relatively low or flat prices this year, whereas the spring and summer crops generated only incrementally better prices.

Figure 4

### U.S. fall potatoes: Production & season average price



Sources: *Crop Production and Agricultural Prices*, NASS, USDA except 2004 from ERS.

The weighted-average price for all seasons in 2004 is expected to be \$5.90 per cwt. At this price, the value of total production in 2004 will be 3 percent below the past decade's average production value of \$2.74 billion.

Given the reduced area planted and harvested for potatoes in 2004, the higher yields raised average sales per acre for all seasons above \$2,000 from \$1,968 in 2003. However, this value is still lower than \$2,221 in 2002 and \$2,297 in 2001 when average sales per acre of the winter and fall crops were higher because average crop year prices of \$7 and \$6.70 per cwt were significantly higher.

Shipment prices received by farmers through November show generally lower monthly prices compared with 2003, particularly for table potatoes. By State, prices in November are also largely lower than in November 2003. On average for the United States, the November price of \$5 per cwt is 45 cents lower than the same month last year. In Idaho, the 9-percent jump in yield per acre boosted fall production up 7 percent, but pulled average price down to \$4.10 per cwt in November from \$4.30 last year. Idaho's fall production comprises a third of the total U.S. fall crop in volume.

Monthly retail prices of frozen french fries are largely lower through October than in 2003, as are potato chip prices. However, wholesale prices of frozen fries and other frozen potatoes are higher on average than in 2003. The relatively better producer prices in 2004 are in part explained by expanded stocks of fall potatoes in cold storage compared with 2003. In addition, farm marketings are running less per month through July 2004 than a year earlier.

Based on shares of total U.S. potato sales, farm sales of table potatoes in 2003 climbed to almost 30 percent from 29 percent in 2002. This is the highest share within the past decade and it comes partly at the expense of the share of frozen potatoes, which dropped to 33 percent from 34 percent in 2002. These changes attest to the increased penetration of frozen potatoes shipped from Canada, which is

Table 8--Potatoes: Monthly data as a percentage of preceding year's corresponding value

Item	2003			2004										
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
	-- Percent --													
Prices received, all	91.0	87.5	87.2	89.3	91.7	89.7	97.9	94.2	97.3	86.4	106.6	100.6	94.0	91.2
Fresh	83.3	79.4	76.3	77.1	73.4	65.0	72.3	61.9	56.3	53.7	52.5	61.5	83.3	
Processing	94.4	94.4	99.3	100.2	100.9	98.9	94.2	92.9	96.1	88.5	100.4	100.4	94.4	
Retail prices														
Fresh	89.6	92.6	91.6	94.6	94.5	99.1	98.9	93.3	100.0	101.5	100.0	100.5	102.0	
Frozen french fried	93.3	87.8	91.4	94.8	88.8	92.5	90.2	100.3	98.2	105.1	100.0	95.2	93.4	
Potato chips	102.0	102.2	103.2	98.4	103.5	96.9	94.3	98.4	96.2	102.8	97.6	92.5	99.1	
Domestic shipments, all				94.0	102.0	109.7	89.4	91.4	124.2	54.8	77.7	111.6	81.0	86.4
Table potatoes	106.4	94.5	99.7	92.8	96.5	109.5	81.3	91.9	111.2	64.0	89.4	114.2	87.0	93.6
Chipping potatoes	116.9	96.9	103.4	97.1	103.3	103.2	125.4	116.0	156.6	32.2	40.0	103.3	62.7	65.9
Imports from Canada														
Frozen potatoes	130.5	114.8	108.6	112.1	129.3	126.1	116.8	130.3	129.2	118.0	120.7	91.4		
Frozen stocks, all	99.7	101.5	99.0	99.5	99.7	98.0	100.7	107.2	95.4	98.8	105.3	102.3	102.3	
Fall potato stocks 1/			101.3	100.9	100.6	100.6	100.3	102.4	100.3					
Farm marketings	103.3	94.6	109.0	92.9	100.0	94.0	95.6	81.4	61.3	58.5				

1/ In 15 major States.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

projected to reach 25.5 million cwt in 2004. This imported amount is up sharply from 16.4 million cwt in 2003 and 14.4 million cwt in 2002. The outlook for 2005 may favor U.S. suppliers of potatoes for processing since Canada's 2004 potato crop is down 1.7 percent from 2003 despite higher yields, not unlike the U.S. production profile, including reduced acreage. This may indicate the potential for a slowdown of frozen potato shipments from Canada in 2005.

Another factor that may curtail potato imports from Canada in 2005 is the depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the Canadian dollar. Since Canadian suppliers compete in the U.S. market where potato prices are flat or lower, they earn less after converting their U.S.-dollar sales into Canadian dollars. One way around this disadvantage is for Canadian producers to import as much of their production inputs (such as seed potatoes) from the United States where they are cheaper in U.S. dollar terms. However, U.S. seed potato shipments and acreage are down thus far. Also, since higher-priced fuels used in Canada are usually not imported from the United States, only a small portion of their costs can be reduced in this manner.

### ***Despite Rising Exports, Trade Deficit Expands***

The export value of U.S. potato products is expected to grow 15 percent to \$754 million in 2004 based on January to September data. Exports of potato chips will likely exceed \$200 million in 2004 and grow 40 percent from 2003. Exports of frozen fries are expected to be up by 16 percent. The share of frozen fries in total export value will exceed 48 percent, but is still below 49.5 percent in 2001. However, total processed exports as a share of total farm sales fell to 43 percent in 2003 from 45 percent in 2002 and 53 percent in 1999.

U.S. potato imports are also projected to grow 15 percent, to \$809 million in 2004. Imports of frozen fries are up 25 percent and imported potato chips are up 48 percent. Potato starch, a growing import product, is up 22 percent and is projected at \$55 million in 2004. The share of frozen fries in total import value may reach 68 percent, up sharply from 62 percent last year. Total potato imports as a share of U.S. supply will rise to 33 percent from 28 percent in 2003.

The U.S. trade deficit in potato products is anticipated to grow to \$54 million in 2004 from \$48 million in 2003, the first year imports surpassed exports in value. The biggest contributor to this deficit is frozen fries, whose own trade deficit will rise to \$58 million—a 47-percent deterioration from last year. U.S. imports of frozen potatoes from Canada in 2004 will likely exceed 25.5 million cwt—a substantial 56 percent jump from 2003.

Table 9--Potatoes, all seasons and products: Prices received, major States

States	Crop year		November		Change 2003-04 Percent
	2003	2004f	2003	2004	
	-- Dollars per cwt --				
California	14.80	--	13.80	8.60	-37.7
Colorado	4.60	--	5.00	5.05	1.0
Idaho	4.40	--	4.30	4.10	-4.7
Maine	6.05	--	5.85	5.75	-1.7
Michigan	7.05	--	6.70	6.75	0.7
Minnesota	5.05	--	4.90	5.55	13.3
North Dakota	5.45	--	5.00	5.50	10.0
Oregon	5.35	--	5.25	4.40	-16.2
Washington	5.25	--	5.20	4.50	-13.5
Wisconsin	5.70	--	5.45	4.90	-10.1
United States	5.89	5.90	5.46	4.98	-8.8

f = ERS forecast -- = not available.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

## Dry Edible Beans

### *Supplies Tight for Most Classes, Prices Higher*

Dry bean growers in States such as North Dakota and Minnesota struggled to bring harvest to a close a month later than usual this year. With the crop now safely in the bins, the December estimate of the 2004 U.S. dry edible bean crop indicated a decline of 19 percent from a year ago to 18.1 million cwt. National dry bean output was also 3-percent below the October forecast. The small crop this year reflects reductions of about one-third in output for three of the top five States, with the greatest reductions from a year earlier in North Dakota (down 39 percent), Minnesota (down 39 percent), and Nebraska (down 25 percent). Despite unattractive dry bean prices this spring and strong prices for competing crops, dry bean plantings only declined 3 percent. However, below-trend yields (down 11 percent) and a return to near-average acreage losses (10 percent was unharvested) following last year's excellent weather conditions accounted for most of the reduction in dry bean production.

Even with reduced demand caused by rising prices, stocks of many classes are likely to be low or exhausted by next fall. With prices much higher, imports will likely rise. Imports as a share of consumption have more than doubled from 4 percent during the 1980s and 1990s to 10 percent so far this decade. Even with increased imports, domestic supplies will likely remain below average for most classes in the coming months. Thus, continuing high dry bean prices along with expected lower prices for competing grains will set the stage for a significant increase in area planted next spring.

U.S. dry bean production was the lowest since 1983 (15.5 million cwt) when growers opted to sow higher-priced alternative crops, substantially reducing dry bean plantings. In 2004/05, black beans were the only major class to experience an increase in output although production was also higher for chickpeas, small red, small white, and cranberry beans. Output for several classes was the lowest in years, with a few setting or approaching record lows. Some of these were as follows:

- Navy bean production continues to trend lower, reaching a record low (the previous low was in 1921) this fall due to a 21-percent reduction in yields;

Table 10--U.S. dry beans: Production by class, 2000-2004

Item	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Change
						2003-04
						Percent
						--1,000 cwt--
Pinto	10,778	8,750	13,188	10,453	8,034	-23.1
Navy	4,771	2,311	5,389	2,514	2,141	-14.8
Great Northern	2,489	2,108	1,558	2,216	950	-57.1
Black	1,336	783	3,120	1,263	1,875	48.5
Lt. red kidney	1,352	776	1,207	1,095	827	-24.5
Dk. red kidney	1,014	736	1,136	845	679	-19.6
Garbanzo	1,334	1,612	861	417	567	36.0
Small red	313	172	592	581	601	3.4
Pink	320	326	596	612	525	-14.2
Blackeye	382	553	543	785	379	-51.7
Babylima	542	235	501	325	300	-7.7
Large lima	437	326	334	369	331	-10.3
Cranberry	449	147	359	190	192	1.1
Others	1,026	775	928	827	717	-13.3
United States	26,543	19,610	30,312	22,492	18,118	-19.4

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

- Light red kidney output was the second lowest since 1990, with per-acre yield down 9 percent and area harvested 17 percent lower;
- Great Northern production was the second lowest since 1927, but comfortably ahead of 1993's small crop;
- Pinto bean production was the lowest since 1993 as both harvested area (down 10 percent) and yield (down 14 percent) were reduced;
- Dark red kidney output was the lowest since records by type of kidney bean began in 1990 (although output may have been lower in 1988 or 1983);
- Large lima output continues to trend lower and was the third lowest on record;
- Blackeye bean output was the smallest since 1949, with output in both Texas and California lower due to reductions in area and yield.

Further observations regarding production by class in several major States include:

- With reduced acreage and rain and frost-affected yields, North Dakota's 4.8 million cwt crop was the State's smallest since 1993, with notable reductions in the top two crops--pinto (down 39 percent) and navy (down 44 percent) beans;
- Michigan's navy bean crop was that State's third smallest on record, with all three record lows occurring since 2001;
- In Nebraska, the signature bean crop, Great Northern, was the second smallest since 1970, while the light-red kidney bean crop was the smallest since 1988;
- California's dry bean crop was the smallest since records began in 1919 as lima and blackeye output continue to trend lower;
- Like neighboring North Dakota, Minnesota's production was reduced by heavy rains and frost, with output of navy beans (down 46 percent), pintos (down 51 percent), and dark red kidney beans (down 26 percent) each declining.

Short supplies for several bean classes are evident in the sharply higher dealer and grower prices seen in the market. Compared with a year earlier, the greatest increases in mid-December dealer prices were noted for Colorado pinto beans (up 88 percent), Michigan navy beans (up 40 percent), baby lima (up 32 percent), dark-red kidney beans (up 29 percent), light-red kidney beans (up 24 percent), and cranberry beans (21 percent). November grower prices for all dry beans averaged \$27.20 per cwt—42 percent above a year earlier.

Table 11--U.S. dry beans: Monthly grower prices for selected classes, 2003-2004

Commodity	2003		2004		Chg. prev year:	
	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.
	--- Cents per pound ---				--- Percent ---	
All dry beans	17.60	19.10	24.50	27.20	39.2	42.4
Pinto (ND/MN)	14.00	14.00	28.88	33.40	106.3	138.6
Navy (pea bean) (MI)	16.50	17.75	26.38	26.50	59.9	49.3
Great Northern (NE/WY)	15.88	15.00	17.50	17.50	10.2	16.7
Black (MI)	17.63	18.25	19.13	18.50	8.5	1.4
Light red kidney (MI)	23.31	22.75	27.75	27.50	--	20.9
Dark red kidney (MN/WI)	21.38	21.00	29.13	28.80	36.2	37.1
Small red (ID)	21.00	21.00	22.50	22.50	7.1	7.1
Baby lima (CA)	30.00	30.00	39.50	39.00	31.7	30.0
Large lima (CA)	41.69	41.00	41.50	41.80	-0.5	2.0
Blackeye (CA)	29.00	28.25	28.06	28.45	-3.2	0.7
Pink (ID)	20.50	20.00	22.63	22.80	10.4	14.0

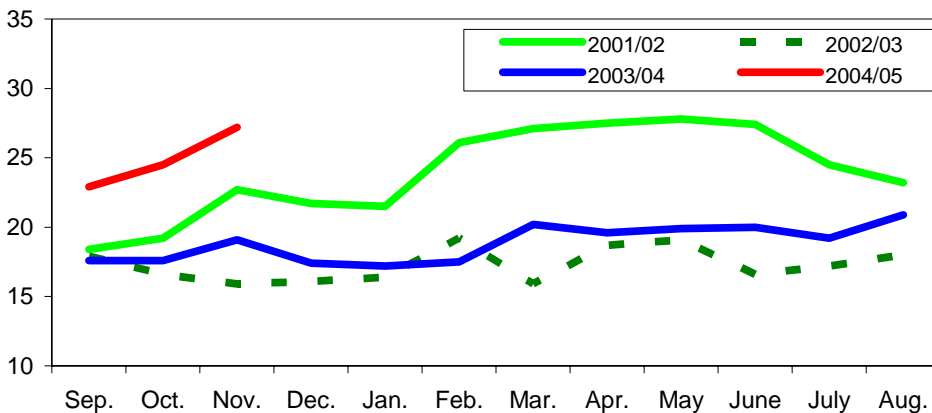
-- = not available.

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

Figure 5

**U.S. dry edible bean grower prices are rising**

Cwt/acre



Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

Table 12--U.S. dry bean export volume

Item	Crop year 2003/04	September - October			Change 2003-04 Percent
		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	
		1000 cwt			
Pinto	2,002	353	405	227	-44
Navy	1,212	315	236	223	-6
Black	816	137	447	181	-59
Great Northern	427	73	210	67	-68
Lgt red kidney	57	35	14	8	-41
Dk red kidney	192	38	39	39	1
Small red	232	14	36	16	-57
Garbanzo	149	74	20	72	253
Baby lima	195	21	34	20	-41
Large lima	99	9	16	25	59
Blackeyes	20	20	4	6	55
Cranberry	97	40	28	8	-72
Other	610	127	194	83	-57
Total	6,106	1,256	1,684	975	-42

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

***Exports Expected To Drop, Imports To Rise in 2004/05***

During the 2004/05 marketing year (September-August), dry bean export volume is expected to decline by about one-fourth to the lowest level since 1985. Given lower supplies, higher prices, and relatively constant domestic demand, export volume is likely to decline again for most bean classes. In 2003/04, export volume fell 7 percent below a year earlier to 6.11 million cwt—the lowest since 1993/94 (also 6.11 million cwt). On a calendar year basis, export volume has declined annually since reaching its most recent peak in 1998.

On the other side of the ledger, imports of dry beans are expected to rise by about one-fifth in 2004/05. Import volume could rival the record high experienced in 2001/02 (278 million lbs). Dry bean imports rose 6 percent to 183 million pounds during the 2003/04 crop year. Canada, Mexico, and China have been the top three foreign suppliers of dry beans during the past few years.



## Pinto Crop Down, Prices Higher

Pinto bean output is estimated to have declined 23 percent to 8.0 million cwt (bags)—the smallest crop since 1993. Area planted was down 2 percent but with rain and frost, acreage abandonment increased, leaving area harvested down 10 percent to 574,200 acres. With excess rain and early frost, productivity per acre was reduced, with yields averaging 13.99 bags—down 14 percent from a year earlier and 15 percent below trend. Output was down in 9 of 14 producing States including North Dakota, the leading producer. North Dakota accounted for 44 percent of the crop—down from an average of 55 percent the previous 2 years.

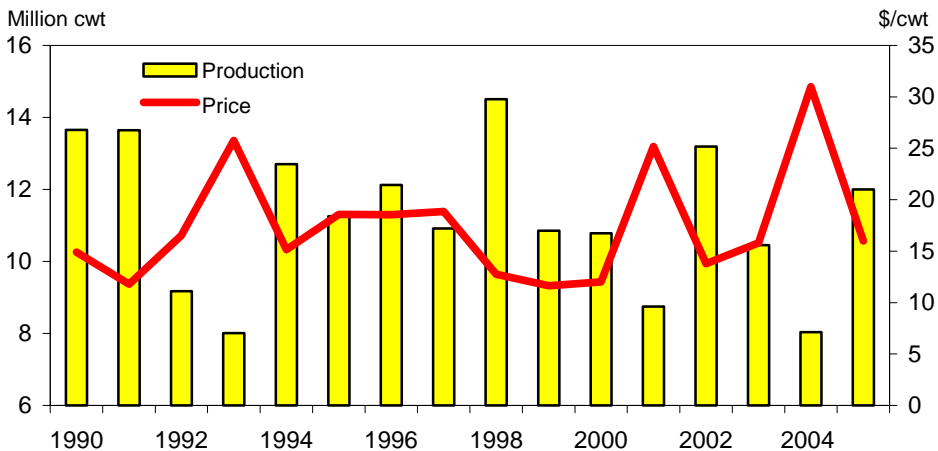
Given the substantial reduction in crop size this year, pinto stocks will likely be drawn down to very low levels by next summer, which will add strength to grower and dealer prices. Dealer prices (CO/NE) reached \$38.50 in mid-December, up 95 percent from the low levels experienced a year ago and the highest on record for that month. Grower prices in North Dakota-Minnesota had climbed to \$32/cwt by mid-December—the highest average price for that month since records began in 1990. The reduction in stocks and much higher pinto prices in relation to other crops will likely set the stage for a substantial increase in planted area for 2005.

Pinto bean exports rose 60 percent in 2003/04 to 200 million pounds. Pinto bean export volume, which relies heavily on shipments for food aid, began to slow in September and October (year-to-date volume was down 44 percent from a year earlier)—likely a reaction to rising prices and uncertainty over the size and quality of the new crop. Since 1997, pinto exports have ranged from a low of 142 million pounds in 1999 to a high of 211 million pounds in both 1997/98 and 1998/99. About 8 percent of pinto bean supplies (production, imports, and estimated stocks) were exported during calendar 2003—down from 12 percent in 2001 and 2002. This was the lowest share of supply exported since 1992 when just under 7 percent of supplies were exported.

The U.S. traditionally imports few pinto beans (largely from Canada) but volume has been on the rise since 1995. In the previous 3 years, pinto exports have averaged 24 million pounds—about 3 percent of domestic consumption. Pinto imports this year could more than double the 18 million pounds of 2003/04 and account for around 4 percent of domestic consumption.

Figure 6

### U.S. pinto beans: Production & grower price



Sources: *Crop Production and Agricultural Prices*, NASS, USDA except 2004 from ERS.

## Dry Peas & Lentils

### *Dry Pea and Lentil Crops Set New Highs*

According to USDA estimates, production of dry peas and lentils surged to a record high in 2004. Production of dry edible peas (green and yellow) jumped 108 percent to 10.8 million cwt, exceeding 1943's record 10.0 million. This increase was driven by a 52-percent increase in area harvested and 37 percent higher yields. Yields, which were strong in both the Pacific Northwest and the Upper Midwest, rose 32 percent in North Dakota where the growing season was ideal for peas. North Dakota, the industry leader in dry peas, also harvested 91 percent more area which resulted in a 152-percent increase in output. Washington, the second leading State, experienced a 64-percent increase in production while Montana became the third leading State with a 103-percent increase in production.

Production of lentils rose 67 percent to 4.1 million cwt due to a combination of a 36-percent rise in U.S. lentil acreage and a 23-percent gain in yields. While increased area for dry peas was largely driven by the income security provided by the marketing loan program, gains in lentil area were driven largely by market prices, which have been strong (above both loan rates and the average of the previous 5 years) the past 2 years. Interestingly, because of unusually favorable growing conditions and strong yields in the upper Midwest, North Dakota leaped to the forefront of national lentil production with a 104-percent increase in output. The previous market leader, Washington, experienced a 23-percent increase in production.

### *Loan Deficiency Payments Update*

As experienced with the 2003 crop, the majority of producers eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan for 2004-crop dry peas opted to forgo the loan and instead obtain a loan deficiency payment (LDP). Through December 10, there were 4,955 LDPs made covering 12.1 million cwt of dry peas. With an average payment rate of \$2.37 per cwt, the value of these LDPs was \$28.6 million. The quantity for which LDPs were received exceeds the NASS production estimate largely because LDPs are available for wrinkled seed peas (for which NASS does not publish production estimates until January) and because NASS production estimates only cover the major producing States, excluding an estimated 20,000-30,000 acres scattered across a number of States.

As the leading producer, it is no surprise that North Dakota was once again the leader with 54 percent of the dry pea LDP payments. Another 41 percent of the LDPs were spread among growers in Washington, Montana, and Idaho. Through

Table 13--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Production by class, 2000-2004

Item	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Change
						2003-04
			--1,000 cwt--			Percent
Drypeas	3,474	3,763	4,727	5,202	10,831	108.2
Austrian winter peas	73	103	183	174	272	56.3
Chickpeas, all	1,334	1,612	861	417	567	36.0
Lentils	3,029	2,898	2,571	2,442	4,084	67.2
Total	7,910	8,376	8,342	8,235	15,754	91.3
Wrinkled seed peas	680	640	599	673	--	--

-- = not available.

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Table 14--U.S. dry peas &amp; lentils: Monthly prices by class, 2003-2004

Commodity	2003		2004		Chg prev year:	
	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.
	--- Cents per pound ---				--- Percent ---	
<i>Dealer prices:</i>						
Green peas, whole	12.75	13.81	10.66	10.88	-16.4	-21.2
Yellow peas, whole	11.75	12.00	9.75	10.00	-17.0	-16.7
Green peas, split	15.56	16.25	13.69	13.70	-12.0	-15.7
Yellow peas, split	14.00	14.81	12.38	12.75	-11.6	-13.9
Lentils, brewer	22.50	22.38	22.50	21.95	0.0	-1.9
Lentils, pardina	23.56	25.81	21.78	21.20	-7.6	-17.9
Austrian winter peas	18.06	17.97	14.75	14.83	-18.3	-17.5
<i>Grower prices:</i>						
Green peas, whole	8.09	8.84	7.09	7.30	-12.4	-17.4
Yellow peas, whole	6.75	7.53	6.25	7.08	-7.4	-6.0
Lentils, brewer	16.50	16.88	15.56	15.85	-5.7	-6.1
Lentils, pardina	17.06	19.50	15.28	15.63	-10.4	-19.8
Austrian winter peas	11.00	11.00	10.00	9.90	-9.1	-10.0

-- = not available.

Source: Adapted from weekly data provided by the *Bean Market News*, AMS, USDA.

December 10, the top five States and each State's leading county receiving LDPs for dry peas were as follows:

- North Dakota (\$15.3 million), led by Divide (19 percent) and McLean (12 percent) Counties;
- Washington (\$5.8 million), led by Whitman County with 46 percent of the State total;
- Montana (\$3.1 million), with 26 percent in Valley County;
- Idaho (\$2.7 million), with 40 percent in Latah County; and
- Oregon (\$0.49 million), with 64 percent of LDPs in Umatilla County.

As in 2003, there have been no LDPs for 2004-crop lentils due to market prices remaining above the \$11.72 per cwt loan rate. For small chickpeas, 140 LDPs have been made on the 2004 crop totaling a little over \$89,000. The 39,000 cwt had an average payment rate of \$2.29 per cwt. Williams County in North Dakota has accounted for about 43 percent of all the small chickpea LDPs. For the 2003 crop, 139 LDPs were made on 72,210 cwt of small chickpeas. The 2003 LDPs were valued at \$113,330 with the average payment being \$1.57 per cwt.

### ***Export Volume Expected To Rise in 2004/05***

U.S. export volume (including food aid) of all dry peas and lentils (excluding seed) rose 27 percent during the first 4 months (July-October) of the 2004/05 crop year to 1.6 million cwt. Lentil exports increased 22 percent during the first 4 months of the crop year and exceeded the average of the previous 3 years (46 million lb). Chickpea export volume increased 97 percent as a larger U.S. crop, lower supplies in Canada, and the weaker dollar aid exporters. With large supplies and lower prices, dry split pea (up 82 percent) and dry green pea (up 23 percent) exports also increased. Exports of dry yellow peas, which are coming off a record-high last year, declined 2 percent. Yellow pea acreage and output has been rising in the United States in concert with the industry's expansion in the upper Midwest and now accounts for about one-third of all dry pea area. In the coming year, overseas movement of peas and lentils is expected to increase as U.S. shippers take advantage of large domestic supplies, lower prices, strong food aid demand, and a more favorable exchange rate.

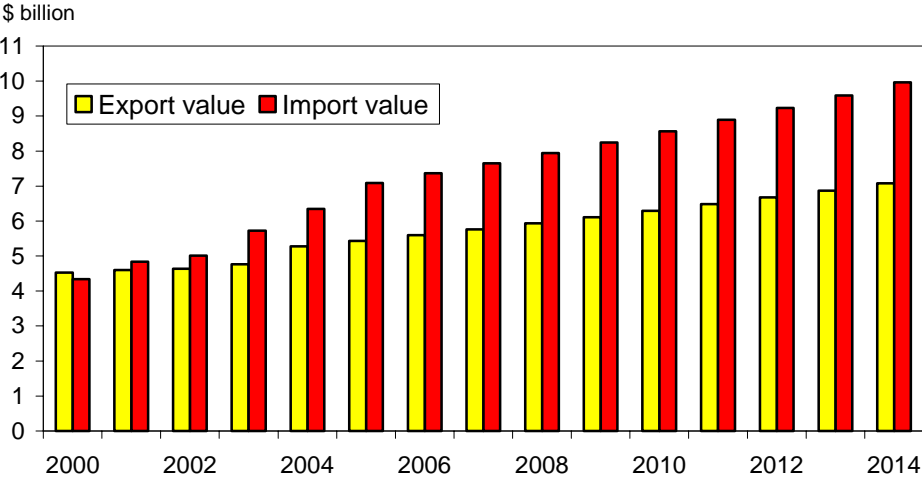
# Long-Run Outlook

The value of U.S. production of vegetables and melons is forecast to grow at an annual rate of 2.5 percent over the next decade, reaching close to \$20 billion in fiscal year 2014 from \$16 billion in 2005. This outlook reflects the 0.9-percent annual growth of production volume, and 1.6 percent average annual inflation rate of prices received by vegetable and melon farmers. The volume of U.S. vegetable and melon production is expected to increase from 130 billion pounds in 2005 to more than 141 billion pounds by 2014, a rate of increase roughly equal to the growth of the U.S. population.

All major vegetables register gains in production value, albeit at varying rates, over the forecast period. Fresh vegetables, as a group, are projected to grow by 3 percent annually from \$10.2 billion in 2005 to \$13.3 billion in 2014, based on average growth of production value in the past decade. The production value of mushrooms and sweet potatoes is forecast to expand at 2.7 and 3 percent annually. Potatoes and pulses, however, reflecting weak or flat sales since 1994 or in recent years, are expected to grow by only 1 percent per year. Vegetables for processing start at \$1.4 billion in 2005 and reach \$1.6 billion 10 years later, an annual change of 1.2 percent in production value.

U.S. production of fresh and processing vegetables is projected to increase at a rate similar to U.S. population growth. This relatively slow annual increase reflects in part the impact of import competition, especially from suppliers in Mexico, Central, and South America. Including the weakness of the dollar, these factors influence also the future growth of U.S. vegetable exports and imports. Export forecasts for all vegetables average 3 percent growth from 2005 to 2014 while vegetable imports average 3.9 percent annual increases. The average growth pace over the past decade is also taken into account in generating the next decade's outlook for all traded major vegetables. The \$1.1 billion trade deficit for all

Figure 7  
**U.S. vegetables & melons: Long-run trade outlook**



Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

vegetables in fiscal year 2004 is anticipated to expand to \$1.65 billion in 2005 and to \$2.9 billion by 2014, reflecting the 4.1 and 3.8 percent average import growth of fresh and processed vegetables.

The projected gradual depreciation of most Latin American currencies, including the Mexican peso, against the dollar in the next decade will boost U.S. dependence on vegetable imports from the Western Hemisphere. Imports from Mexico already comprise more than half of total U.S. imported fresh and frozen vegetables. The gravity model of trade that minimizes transport costs applies to U.S. vegetable imports from Latin America, but hardly applies with respect to U.S. vegetable exports to these countries. Thus, the developing price advantage of domestic suppliers over Canadian suppliers due to the latter's currency appreciation will not materialize with respect to Latin American producers because of their currencies' continued weakness.

Table 15--Vegetables and melons outlook: U.S. production and value, fiscal years 2003 to 2014

Crops	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
-- Million dollars --												
<b>Production value:</b>												
Fresh 1/	9,593	9,881	10,178	10,483	10,797	11,121	11,455	11,799	12,153	12,517	12,893	13,279
Processed	1,367	1,383	1,400	1,416	1,433	1,451	1,468	1,486	1,504	1,522	1,540	1,558
Potatoes	2,686	2,611	2,637	2,663	2,690	2,717	2,744	2,771	2,799	2,827	2,855	2,884
Sweet potatoes	305	311	320	330	339	350	360	371	382	394	405	418
Pulses 2/	497	502	507	512	518	523	528	533	539	544	549	555
Mushrooms	890	920	945	971	997	1,024	1,052	1,080	1,109	1,139	1,170	1,201
Total	15,339	15,608	15,987	16,375	16,775	17,185	17,607	18,040	18,485	18,942	19,412	19,895
-- Million pounds --												
<b>Production, farm weight:</b>												
Fresh 1/	45,829	46,272	46,716	47,160	47,603	48,046	48,488	48,929	49,370	49,809	50,247	50,684
Processed	31,366	31,669	31,973	32,277	32,580	32,883	33,186	33,488	33,789	34,090	34,390	34,689
Potatoes	45,781	45,017	45,449	45,881	46,312	46,743	47,173	47,602	48,030	48,458	48,884	49,310
Sweet potatoes	1,589	1,653	1,668	1,684	1,700	1,716	1,732	1,748	1,763	1,779	1,795	1,810
Pulses 2/	3,101	3,388	3,421	3,453	3,485	3,518	3,550	3,583	3,615	3,647	3,679	3,711
Mushrooms	848	857	865	874	882	890	898	906	914	923	931	939
Total	128,514	128,856	130,092	131,328	132,563	133,796	135,026	136,255	137,482	138,705	139,926	141,143

1/ Includes melons and processing totals for dual-use crops.

2/ Includes dry edible beans and peas, lentils, Austrian winter peas, and wrinkled seed peas.

Sources: National Agricultural Statistics Service (2003) and Economic Research Service (2004-2014), USDA.

## Commodity Highlight: Squash

The United States produces 4 percent of the world's supply of squash and pumpkins (a combined category)—the fifth largest crop behind China (30 percent of world output), India (19 percent), the Ukraine (5 percent), and Egypt (4 percent). The United States harvests less than 3 percent of the 3.6 million acres devoted to pumpkins and squash in the world.

Like cucumbers, pumpkins, and melons, squash is part of the gourd (*cucurbitaceae*) family. Unlike most other members of this family, squash (and pumpkins) are native to the Americas. Also popular in home gardens, squash is a warm season crop not tolerant of temperatures near freezing. Squash is generally comprised of two main types—summer and winter—which offer widely different characteristics, with flesh colors ranging from white to orange. Despite the names, both types grow and are available year-round in the United States. Years ago, prior to the advent of extensive fresh vegetable imports, winter squash was one of several long-keeping vegetables (including potatoes, sweet potatoes, and turnips) widely grown to store in root cellars for use over the winter.

Summer squash (*cucurbita pepo*), which is harvested and consumed in its immature state, features soft, thin, edible rinds (shells) and tender flesh with soft edible seeds. The three main kinds of summer squash produced in the United States are zucchini (sometimes called Italian squash), yellow, and scallop-types, with zucchini likely being the most popular. Yellow squash is composed of straightneck and crookneck types and, like zucchini, can also be found year-round in supermarkets. Scallop types, also known as pattypan, bush, cymling, and scallopini are so named because of their unique round, shell (or pie crust)-like appearance.

Chayote (*sechium edule*) is another member of the gourd family which has gained in popularity over the past decade, due largely to use by immigrants. Also a North

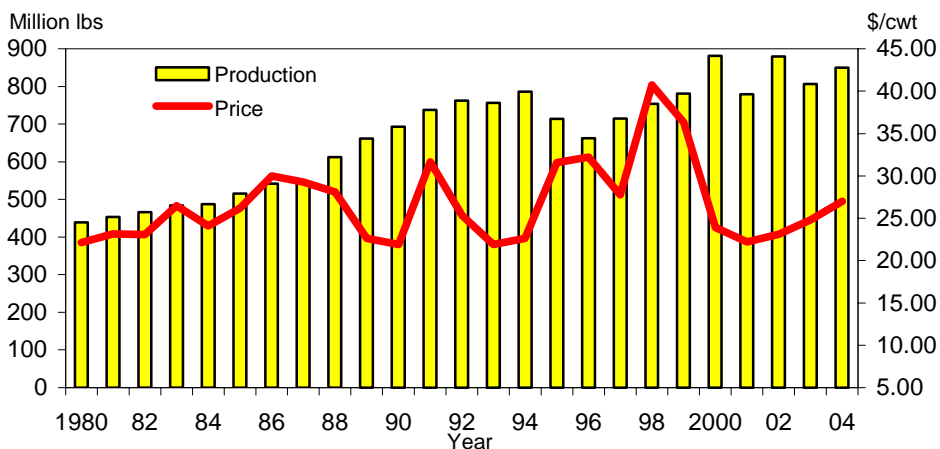
Table 16--U.S. squash: Farm numbers and area harvested in leading States

State	Number of farms in 2002	2002	1997	1992
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Acres</i>		
U.S.	11,035	71,236	71,290	69,029
California	830	10,302	9,805	8,374
Florida	406	9,692	11,446	13,292
Georgia	238	9,013	7,848	8,339
Michigan	802	7,341	6,166	4,277
New York	1,098	4,226	3,180	2,586
New Jersey	588	3,760	4,767	3,951
North Carolina	351	2,864	1,881	2,578
Oregon	264	2,313	3,613	2,286
Massachusetts	439	1,834	2,242	2,447
Texas	355	1,807	2,037	2,833
Others	5,664	18,084	18,305	18,066
		<i>Percent</i>		
<i>Share of U.S.:</i>				
Top state	10	14	16	19
Top three states	25	41	41	43
Top five states	34	57	56	55

Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS, USDA (1997 & 2002), U.S. Dept. of Commerce (1992)

Figure 8

**U.S. squash: Production & shipping-point price**



Source: Economic Research Service, USDA except for 2000-03 from the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

American native, chayote is increasingly being used like another kind of summer squash. The United States imported 55 million pounds of chayote (largely from Costa Rica) in 2003, up 84 percent since 1993.

Winter squash features hard, relatively thick rinds, dense yellow or orange flesh, and a hollow seed cavity with hard seeds. The thick, hard skin allows the vegetable to be stored in a cool, dry place for several months and may also pose a preparation challenge to some consumers. There are a variety of winter squash types (pumpkins are also part of this genus) ranging widely in size, color, texture, and appearance. The most popular kinds of winter squash grown in the United States include butternut, acorn (sometimes called table queen), spaghetti, buttercup, and hubbard. Like chayote, interest in calabaza (*cucurbita moschata*) squash appears to be on the rise in concert with Hispanic and Filipino immigration trends.

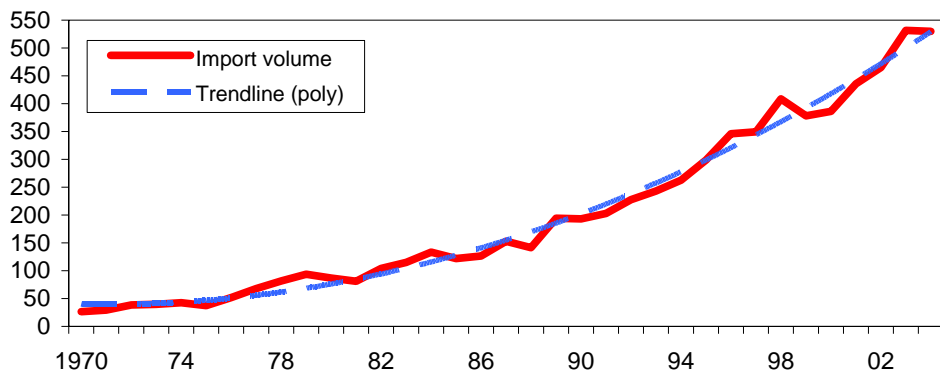
The number of farms producing squash and the acreage harvested have each increased over the past 30 years. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, 11,035 farms reported the production of squash—up 16 percent from 1997, 23 percent above 1992, and 42 percent higher than in 1987. During this same period, the number of farms producing vegetables has declined, indicating that the remaining growers have likely diversified to offer more complete product lines and to spread crop risk. Squash area harvested has increased from 38,527 acres in the 1974 Census to 71,236 acres in 2002.

The Census indicated that in 2002, 12 percent of the area devoted to squash was used for processing. Michigan (25 percent of processing area), Oregon (19 percent), and California (15 percent) were the top three States in the production of squash for processing. There are no current data for canned pack although canned pack of pumpkin and squash in the 1970s and 80s was around 300 million pounds annually. The reported pack of frozen squash peaked in 1986 at 76 million pounds annually and has steadily declined since then to 37 million pounds in 2003. Thus, most of the increase in squash supply in the past decade has likely been for the fresh market.

Figure 9

**U.S. squash import volume is trending higher**

Million lb



Source: Bureau of the Census, USDC.

According to the 2002 Census, about 3 percent of all farms producing squash accounted for 59 percent of the area harvested. These 337 farms harvested at least 50 acres of squash. On the other end of the spectrum, 84 percent of the farms reporting squash production harvested less than 5 acres of squash and accounted for 12 percent of the total area devoted to squash. The data suggest that most of the additional farms since 1997 produce less than 5 acres of squash.

USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service began national estimates for the first time for squash in 2000. According to these estimates, during 2001-03 period, the top five States produced 75 percent of the Nation’s squash crop. During this time, the leading squash-producing States were California (18 percent of U.S. output), Florida (17 percent), Michigan (16 percent), Georgia (15 percent), and New York (9 percent). Zucchini and yellow squash are the dominant types produced in Florida and Georgia.

The farm value of the U.S. squash crop during 2001-03 was estimated to be \$192 million, similar to the values of fresh-market cauliflower and cucumbers. Florida (24 percent), Georgia (17 percent), and California (15 percent) were the top three States in terms of crop value during 2001-03. Florida’s receipts stem from both large production and high average prices—Texas and Florida receive the highest average prices for squash (partly due to production during fall and winter when competition is reduced).

The United States is the world’s top squash import market, importing an average of \$170 million (477 million pounds) annually during 2001-03. Mexico, Costa Rica, and Canada are the top three foreign suppliers. About three-fourths of all squash imports enter during November to April, with the peak coming in January when 15 percent of all volume enters. The average unit value for imported squash was \$0.36 per pound during 2001-03—up 20 percent from 1991-93.

Imports have gained an expanding foothold in the U.S. squash market over the past few decades. During 2001-03, 37 percent of domestic squash demand was satisfied by imported product. This was up from 23 percent during 1991-93 and 18 percent during 1981-83. During 2001-03, 87 percent of all squash import volume came from Mexico, with these imports valued at \$160 million. U.S. export statistics are not available, although Canada imports more than 25 million pounds of marrows, squash, and pumpkins (an aggregate category) annually from the United States.



In the United States, squash is produced primarily for the fresh market and enjoys a wide variety of uses. The primary use of squash is as a main vegetable side dish at meals. Squash can be prepared any number of ways by baking, boiling, frying, sautéing, microwaving, or steaming. Squash can also be used in recipes for stews, soups, salads (fresh-cut cubes), vegetable dips and trays, purees, and as an ingredient in pies and cakes. Baby (small immature) squash can also be found in some specialty produce stores. A nutritious vegetable, squash provides a wide range of vitamins and nutrients, with the nutrient levels depending on the type of squash consumed.

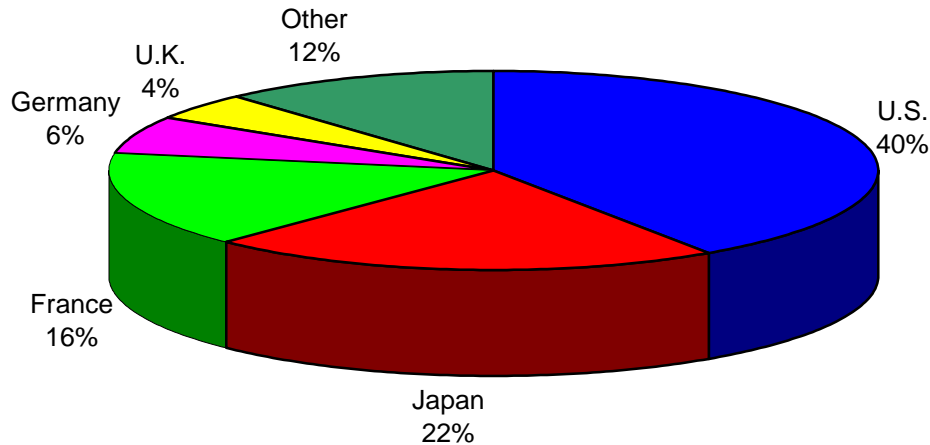
Given the gains experienced in both domestic production and import volumes, it is no surprise that domestic consumption of squash has been trending higher. According to ERS estimates, domestic disappearance of squash totaled 1.3 billion pounds in 2003, down slightly from the record high reached a year earlier. During 2001-03, per capita use (consumption) of squash averaged 4.5 pounds—19 percent greater than during 1991-93 and 83 percent greater than 1981-83.

Table 17--U.S. squash: Supply, disappearance, and price

Year	Supply			Utilization			Season-ave. price		
	Production 1/	Imports 2/ 3/	Total	Exports 3/	Domestic	Per capita use	Current dollars 1/ 4/	Constant dollars 5/	
	-- Million pounds --						Pounds	-- \$/cwt --	
1970	246.3	26.2	272.5	--	272.5	1.33	12.10	43.93	
1980	438.7	86.9	525.6	--	525.6	2.31	22.14	40.97	
1990	693.2	193.1	886.3	4.7	881.6	3.52	21.90	26.85	
2000	881.2	386.2	1,267.4	8.1	1,259.3	4.46	23.90	23.90	
2001	779.1	435.4	1,214.5	8.6	1,205.9	4.23	22.20	21.68	
2002	879.2	465.0	1,344.2	8.3	1,335.9	4.64	23.10	22.19	
2003	806.1	531.4	1,337.5	8.4	1,329.1	4.57	24.80	23.40	
2004 f	885.0	530.0	1,415.0	9.0	1,406.0	4.78	--	--	

-- = Not available. f = ERS forecast. 1/ Source: ERS estimates except 2000-03 by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. 2/ Includes chayote imports. 3/ Source is Bureau of the Census, USDC. 3/ Estimated by ERS as 5 percent of misc. export category HS 0709905000. 4/ Price largely reflects Florida's squash crop as reported by Florida Agric Statistics. 5/ Constant-dollar prices calculated using GDP deflator, 2000=100.

Figure 10  
World squash & pumpkins: Average import share, 2001-03



Source: FAOStat, Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations.

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Covers potatoes, sweet potatoes, long-run outlook

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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. *The Economics of Food Safety: The Case of Green Onions and Hepatitis A Outbreaks***

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/nov04/VGS30501/>

Explains the economics of food safety using the example of recent hepatitis A outbreaks in the United States associated with green onions from Mexico. The report reviews the incentives to adopt additional food safety practices and the economic impact of an outbreak on green onion growers in Mexico.

#### **2. *How Much Do Americans Pay For Fruits and Vegetables?***

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aib790/>

Using ACNielsen Homescan data on 1999 household food purchases from all types of retail outlets, estimates the annual retail price per pound and price per serving for 69 forms of fruits and 85 forms of vegetables. Consumers can meet the recommendation of three servings of fruits and four servings of vegetables daily for 64 cents. The [data used in the report](#) are also available in Excel (\*.xls) spreadsheets.

#### **3. *Traceability in the U.S. Food Supply: Economic Theory and Industry Studies***

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

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

#### **4. Organic Produce, Price Premiums, and EcoLabeling in U.S. Farmers' Markets** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/VGS/Apr04/vgs30101/>

Describes how the popularity of farmers' markets in the United States has grown concurrently with organic production and consumer interest in locally and organically produced foods. This research, based on interviews with 210 market managers, describes the significance of these markets as outlets for many organic farmers, and recent shifts in relationships between organic growers, market managers, and customers.

#### **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 use (consumption)**

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

##### **2. Fresh vegetables and melons**

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

##### **3. Processing vegetables**

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

##### **4. Potatoes**

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

##### **5. Sweet potatoes**

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

##### **6. Dry edible beans**

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

##### **7. Mushrooms**

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

##### **8. Vegetable and melon trade**

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

##### **9. Vegetable prices**

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

##### **10. Dry peas and lentils**

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

### 11. World vegetable production 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. Vegetables and Melons:** ERS' Vegetables and Melons Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/vegetables/>

**B. Potatoes:** ERS' Potato Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/potatoes/>

**C. Tomatoes:** ERS' Tomato Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/tomatoes/>

**D. Dry Beans:** ERS' Dry Bean Briefing Room contains special articles, data, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/drybeans/>

**E. USDA Market News:** Agricultural Marketing Service's web site containing fresh shipments, f.o.b. and terminal market prices, weekly truck rates, annual reports, and more.

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/mnacs/index.htm>

**F. NASS Vegetables:** USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service's annual & quarterly reports on vegetables & melons.

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/fruit/pvg-bb/>

**G. FAS, HTP:** USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service's Horticultural and Tropical Products web site.

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/htp/default.htm>

**H. Organic Farming and Marketing:** USDA, ERS briefing room contains articles, data, graphics, and links.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Organic/>

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

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
--1910-14=100--														
Commercial vegetables 2/	1995	803	772	989	1,161	1,037	808	653	680	781	651	658	678	806
	1996	631	742	986	818	691	774	661	775	679	727	747	643	740
	1997	740	700	789	754	710	751	747	817	794	971	817	911	792
	1998	816	775	837	1,042	859	736	806	764	760	886	756	779	818
	1999	702	749	806	870	786	732	696	709	700	650	654	776	736
	2000	655	572	718	906	873	785	795	862	957	834	963	769	807
	2001	810	979	923	916	964	806	838	968	893	689	732	1,143	888
	2002	1,054	1,279	1,806	806	772	734	774	809	797	705	737	696	914
	2003	754	760	824	882	936	1,048	812	937	979	960	1,060	1,136	924
2004	924	1,043	795	910	800	760	838	922	908	1,096	1,100			
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	531	544	573	589	592	560	532	497	466	435	479	488	524
2004	490	508	533	585	563	560	514	521	488	453	490			
--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	121	125	145	134	103	110	171	133
	2002	158	191	270	121	115	110	116	121	119	106	110	104	137
	2003	113	114	123	132	140	157	121	140	146	144	159	170	138
2004	138	156	119	136	120	114	125	138	136	164	165			
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	107	113	116	117	111	105	98	92	86	95	96	103
2004	97	100	105	116	111	111	101	103	96	89	97			

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

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Price table 2--Fresh vegetables: U.S. monthly and season-average f.o.b. shipping-point prices, 1998-2004 1/

Commodity	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average	Prct change	Prct change
															Nov-Nov	3rd quarter
															Percent	Percent
--Dollars per cwt--																
Asparagus	1998	179.00	158.00	144.00	130.00	105.00	115.00	126.00	211.00	199.00	152.00	148.00	--	124.00	--	--
	1999	141.00	119.00	178.00	124.00	112.00	119.00	141.00	--	--	--	--	--	131.00	--	-21.1
	2000	147.00	99.70	98.60	136.00	121.00	112.00	141.00	205.00	--	--	--	--	117.00	--	22.7
	2001	219.00	256.00	147.00	146.00	114.00	117.00	176.00	145.00	--	137.00	129.00	--	140.00	--	-7.2
	2002	218.00	162.00	119.00	99.60	112.00	107.00	146.00	--	--	--	--	--	110.00	--	-9.0
	2003	98.90	96.30	104.00	139.00	106.00	110.00	189.00	132.00	166.00	145.00	128.00	--	116.00	--	11.2
	2004	--	271.00	121.00	139.00	132.00	107.00	231.00	204.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	34.1
Broccoli	1998	34.90	27.10	31.70	40.50	27.10	29.60	23.30	27.60	29.20	32.80	25.80	31.20	30.20	--	--
	1999	27.70	20.10	23.20	20.20	18.60	23.10	18.70	27.40	29.30	23.00	21.60	39.20	24.10	-16.3	-5.9
	2000	22.60	20.10	27.40	23.20	44.30	30.00	31.50	25.20	27.70	34.10	56.00	34.10	31.20	159.3	11.9
	2001	22.70	32.30	24.70	26.90	25.50	27.00	23.60	27.10	22.90	24.20	21.40	56.10	26.50	-61.8	-12.8
	2002	56.60	44.40	33.70	24.00	20.80	28.40	27.00	29.60	40.60	24.00	31.80	25.60	31.40	48.6	32.1
	2003	25.80	29.10	28.10	27.10	29.70	24.60	27.00	29.80	49.10	38.90	48.00	40.00	32.90	50.9	9.0
	2004	33.60	28.50	21.60	23.90	27.20	28.70	24.20	29.70	57.00	43.90	46.80	--	--	-2.5	4.7
Cantaloups	1998	--	--	--	--	30.70	15.80	16.20	11.80	15.50	19.70	13.50	18.90	18.30	--	--
	1999	--	--	--	--	25.70	15.10	13.10	13.50	15.90	17.20	19.60	28.70	17.00	45.2	-2.3
	2000	--	--	--	--	16.60	17.90	15.90	12.30	19.00	26.10	25.00	35.10	17.10	27.6	11.1
	2001	--	--	--	--	27.10	14.60	18.80	22.00	13.50	15.60	19.40	23.70	19.00	-22.4	15.0
	2002	--	--	--	--	25.00	12.90	17.00	16.10	14.80	19.40	14.60	20.00	17.70	-24.7	-11.8
	2003	--	--	--	--	24.30	14.40	16.40	15.70	14.40	15.20	25.80	25.00	16.80	76.7	-2.9
	2004	--	--	--	--	15.80	13.20	14.30	16.80	16.00	14.80	19.00	--	--	-26.4	1.3
Carrots	1998	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.60	12.00	11.90	10.60	10.80	10.60	10.90	11.60	11.00	12.20	--	--
	1999	16.10	19.60	21.50	26.50	25.40	22.80	17.20	13.30	10.10	10.50	11.30	11.50	16.80	-2.6	26.9
	2000	9.49	11.60	11.80	12.30	13.40	14.80	15.70	14.50	14.00	14.20	14.30	15.50	13.10	26.5	8.9
	2001	15.90	16.70	17.30	17.30	17.60	19.80	21.70	19.90	15.50	17.40	18.40	19.30	17.10	28.7	29.2
	2002	19.30	19.70	21.10	21.20	21.30	21.60	20.60	20.10	18.10	17.90	18.70	19.50	19.10	1.6	3.0
	2003	19.30	19.10	18.80	19.40	19.90	20.00	19.90	20.50	19.80	19.10	21.60	24.30	19.20	15.5	2.4
	2004	24.50	24.90	24.60	24.20	24.90	22.50	20.20	17.90	16.80	16.70	17.10	--	--	-20.8	-8.8
Cauliflower	1998	39.10	43.20	49.10	44.70	35.50	26.40	23.20	26.10	32.30	25.90	33.20	37.50	34.50	--	--
	1999	29.40	31.10	42.80	46.40	23.40	25.50	19.60	25.40	21.70	22.30	35.10	55.50	29.70	5.7	-18.3
	2000	23.10	30.20	32.00	34.80	46.00	31.20	37.50	25.10	25.40	21.60	65.60	28.00	32.10	86.9	31.9
	2001	26.00	37.30	23.60	46.50	26.30	37.40	25.60	25.70	24.80	21.70	22.50	56.60	29.20	-65.7	-13.5
	2002	60.90	39.40	36.90	23.70	20.80	28.40	27.40	30.30	41.20	24.10	31.00	28.40	32.20	37.8	30.0
	2003	24.60	30.50	32.40	27.50	39.50	46.30	27.60	25.30	40.30	25.80	57.00	75.50	33.50	83.9	-5.8
	2004	27.30	42.20	24.20	23.60	28.80	46.20	27.50	26.00	31.00	37.30	54.20	--	--	-4.9	-9.3
Celery	1998	11.20	11.40	16.40	13.80	15.40	12.40	10.60	10.30	10.50	10.40	11.90	14.00	11.70	--	--
	1999	9.51	8.47	8.35	10.20	12.80	18.30	14.00	10.30	10.60	9.14	12.80	17.20	12.00	7.6	11.1
	2000	19.20	16.00	12.90	21.20	25.60	29.10	18.30	20.30	15.30	12.90	19.40	21.50	18.50	51.6	54.4
	2001	14.60	15.00	15.80	19.10	24.00	33.70	13.50	9.28	9.38	8.19	8.64	9.62	14.40	-55.5	-40.3
	2002	10.10	19.50	23.50	18.60	12.30	9.37	10.90	10.90	11.70	9.98	14.10	10.20	12.80	63.2	4.2
	2003	8.29	11.80	12.60	17.00	11.00	9.34	12.80	11.90	13.30	15.90	23.40	14.50	13.60	66.0	13.4
	2004	20.80	24.40	13.90	15.60	15.00	13.80	11.70	9.43	11.40	14.90	19.40	--	--	-17.1	-14.4
Corn, sweet	1998	18.70	31.60	24.20	20.10	17.10	14.00	16.40	16.40	18.10	25.30	24.80	14.30	17.20	--	--
	1999	19.60	23.30	21.80	18.90	18.50	15.00	17.30	16.60	17.30	16.50	28.40	40.70	16.90	14.5	0.6
	2000	31.50	25.10	19.30	18.70	14.40	18.00	22.00	20.70	20.10	24.00	16.80	33.00	18.50	-40.8	22.7
	2001	33.50	34.00	26.10	18.10	24.70	18.70	19.60	18.90	18.80	23.80	18.40	17.50	19.50	9.5	-8.8
	2002	23.80	22.90	25.20	17.70	17.20	18.60	24.50	20.90	21.80	22.10	21.30	23.20	19.20	15.8	17.3
	2003	27.70	24.00	18.90	14.90	16.60	23.20	21.30	20.10	19.70	23.70	30.70	22.60	19.30	44.1	-9.1
	2004	30.80	20.70	20.20	19.80	19.90	15.20	20.20	22.10	21.60	26.20	23.20	--	--	-24.4	4.6
Cucumbers	1998	--	--	--	30.70	16.10	19.40	20.30	20.40	22.90	18.30	18.00	20.40	20.00	--	--
	1999	--	--	--	20.40	16.10	13.20	19.00	22.70	21.30	23.00	14.40	15.60	18.20	-20.0	-0.9
	2000	28.60	40.00	28.50	22.70	17.00	15.00	26.80	19.70	22.60	21.70	12.10	24.60	19.90	-16.0	9.7
	2001	--	--	44.00	31.00	15.60	16.80	19.90	24.70	25.80	14.70	14.40	26.40	19.80	19.0	1.9
	2002	--	--	22.90	21.50	16.80	14.10	23.40	23.10	19.00	13.90	17.00	18.00	19.00	18.1	-7.0
	2003	--	--	22.20	21.50	20.20	17.30	22.80	20.40	24.90	14.60	12.20	--	19.80	-28.2	4.0
	2004	28.10	22.20	30.30	23.30	14.70	18.10	25.50	30.50	34.30	26.70	17.20	--	--	41.0	32.6
Head lettuce	1998	19.00	10.90	12.50	27.20	14.30	11.80	15.50	16.40	14.00	21.00	10.80	12.50	16.20	--	--
	1999	10.30	15.50	16.30	20.20	14.00	11.40	12.70	12.00	13.10	13.10	10.70	16.20	13.30	-0.9	-17.6
	2000	14.60	9.28	14.10	22.80	23.60	13.50	15.00	19.20	29.40	16.20	19.90	12.10	17.30	86.0	68.3
	2001	13.60	24.10	15.00	21.40	18.80	12.10	16.40	26.90	26.20	11.60	11.40	28.50	17.90	-42.7	9.3
	2002	25.90	44.20	87.40	14.20	10.20	10.60	11.30	14.60	14.30	13.50	10.70	10.00	21.10	-6.1	-42.2
	2003	11.00	11.80	10.40	12.50	21.20	32.20	11.90	21.50	23.90	26.30	31.70	21.30	18.00	196.3	42.5
	2004	15.40	19.80	10.40	14.70	10.50	13.30	21.00	17.10	15.20	24.10	16.30	--	--	-48.6	-7.0
Onions	1998	10.50	14.00	19.40	19.20	15.80	14.00	19.10	14.00	12.90	12.70	14.00	16.00	13.00	--	--
	1999	16.10	13.10	10.00	14.60	13.00	15.00	15.70	13.10	10.10	8.18	7.47	6.95	9.74	-46.6	-15.4
	2000	5.86	4.86	4.38	10.00	12.50	12.10	13.30	12.10	10.60	10.10	10.80	11.20	11.20	44.6	-7.5
	2001	10.70	9.69	9.96	12.70	17.90	16.70	16.40	13.70	10.20	9.61	8.85	8.93	10.70	-18.1	11.9
	2002	8.89	7.95	6.11	15.40	17.30	16.90	15.90	12.40	8.97	8.81	9.18	10.20	12.10	3.7	-7.5
	2003	9.97	13.30	16.00	35.00	32.00	22.10	16.70	13.80	12.20	12.60	13.90	12.70	14.60	51.4	

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

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Prctn Change
															Nov-Nov Percent
--1982=100--															
Fresh 2/	1996	133.9	119.4	202.5	155.6	108.2	96.6	108.8	97.2	91.3	106.0	131.5	99.3	120.9	--
	1997	105.2	126.2	150.4	109.6	103.2	112.2	115.7	125.2	121.8	143.1	124.7	118.5	121.3	-5.2
	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	5.2
	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	-23.1
	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	72.3
	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	-39.1
	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	20.3
	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	16.5
	2004	143.8	125.9	140.3	133.1	132.9	101.0	102.8	127.9	141.6	200.3	211.1			42.3
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	-1.3
	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	-0.2
	1999	120.6	120.6	120.9	120.9	121.0	121.0	120.8	120.9	120.7	120.7	121.3	121.3	120.9	1.1
	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	0.3
	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	5.2
	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	0.9
	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	1.5
	2004	131.5	131.7	131.9	131.9	131.7	132.8	133.0	133.4	133.1	134.7	135.6			3.4
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	-0.2
	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	0.0
	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	0.0
	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	0.5
	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	2.5
	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	2.1
	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	2.4
	2004	135.1	136.0	135.3	135.3	134.3	134.7	135.4	135.8	136.2	137.3	136.9			1.3
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	-4.0
	1998	142.0	141.1	140.8	140.5	143.2	143.2	142.2	144.9	143.6	142.9	142.0	146.2	142.7	1.6
	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	3.8
	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	-2.7
	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	0.8
	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	3.9
	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	-4.5
	2004	145.4	145.1	144.5	144.4	144.2	144.2	143.9	144.0	145.3	145.7	145.0			1.0

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

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



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

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
--1982-84=100--														
Fresh vegetables 2/	1999	224.5	209.8	209.2	206.2	207.7	203.1	206.0	204.8	208.0	208.9	209.1	214.0	209.3
	2000	223.0	211.0	212.1	213.6	219.1	217.7	216.7	217.3	218.9	218.6	224.6	240.2	219.4
	2001	235.9	240.6	238.2	232.6	226.2	226.4	226.3	224.9	228.2	229.1	228.6	230.4	230.6
	2002	251.6	258.1	265.3	255.9	238.6	239.3	241.8	238.9	236.1	233.5	240.6	245.2	245.4
	2003	253.7	250.9	250.7	244.3	246.3	250.5	248.3	245.4	247.2	251.2	253.5	263.8	250.5
2004	265.2	262.8	261.3	251.7	251.0	247.2	244.6	245.6	248.4	270.7				
Potatoes, fresh	1999	184.5	184.0	185.9	183.3	191.5	194.7	205.0	212.1	204.6	194.8	186.1	190.7	193.1
	2000	196.6	198.1	197.9	194.9	200.4	201.7	208.3	210.7	195.4	191.5	181.2	179.4	196.3
	2001	186.6	186.8	189.3	187.0	192.2	205.0	213.4	224.5	218.3	216.3	203.4	205.2	202.3
	2002	213.4	225.7	230.2	244.1	248.0	253.4	260.7	263.8	246.4	232.0	221.8	222.2	238.5
	2003	230.6	226.9	227.5	225.0	231.9	231.4	235.1	238.8	233.8	223.7	217.7	214.5	228.1
2004	228.2	226.0	230.5	224.3	229.0	237.4	240.7	238.9	228.5	232.0				
Lettuce, fresh	1999	207.9	200.6	217.0	213.4	207.7	198.5	196.0	202.0	208.5	218.5	216.6	212.7	208.3
	2000	229.3	203.9	210.0	209.4	234.0	211.1	207.8	213.1	262.7	235.5	238.5	281.6	228.1
	2001	233.3	249.6	245.7	227.3	243.5	215.1	211.7	226.5	254.1	238.5	228.6	231.6	233.8
	2002	272.0	301.9	398.0	299.6	219.7	213.1	215.1	213.4	221.9	222.5	229.0	218.5	252.1
	2003	223.8	219.7	222.9	227.4	253.1	266.0	243.1	226.1	260.9	250.2	259.4	301.8	246.2
2004	271.7	245.8	242.3	232.1	224.1	221.7	219.8	228.4	229.2	236.2				
Tomatoes, fresh	1999	299.8	239.9	224.6	215.7	214.3	213.8	218.6	198.9	208.2	208.4	213.8	233.4	224.1
	2000	237.0	214.0	224.4	239.6	226.8	221.4	216.6	217.5	224.8	234.3	273.7	285.9	234.7
	2001	272.7	260.3	259.5	273.8	234.0	247.8	235.5	225.0	222.6	238.1	266.3	264.2	250.0
	2002	279.1	256.9	255.7	262.4	244.5	242.2	238.9	230.1	224.6	232.3	256.5	288.5	251.0
	2003	299.5	275.3	285.2	272.0	244.2	252.9	262.6	271.5	262.7	261.2	281.0	284.2	271.0
2004	283.2	282.8	285.0	274.4	272.3	252.9	243.5	249.5	253.8	316.3				
Other, fresh	1999	223.6	215.1	214.2	212.8	214.2	206.2	206.7	206.3	211.0	214.6	217.2	219.8	213.5
	2000	230.1	218.9	216.6	216.1	222.9	226.7	224.2	222.9	218.5	223.0	225.9	243.4	224.1
	2001	247.4	256.7	252.1	241.9	235.7	233.4	234.3	226.7	230.1	231.4	229.4	232.2	237.6
	2002	256.0	264.8	253.5	251.8	242.1	243.9	246.8	243.4	244.2	241.8	249.6	250.1	249.0
	2003	258.7	264.1	259.2	250.7	255.6	257.9	254.2	248.1	248.0	263.9	260.9	271.0	257.7
2004	276.2	279.0	274.2	263.7	263.0	259.8	257.1	255.3	263.5	282.8				
Frozen vegetables	1999	154.1	153.2	151.8	152.0	154.2	151.9	153.7	155.2	155.2	155.6	153.9	154.3	153.8
	2000	156.8	155.7	154.7	155.0	157.6	157.4	157.6	159.9	160.2	161.1	157.3	159.1	157.7
	2001	162.0	164.5	162.5	164.4	166.2	166.9	169.0	166.6	168.3	169.8	168.3	168.8	166.4
	2002	172.7	172.8	168.8	169.9	169.9	171.5	173.8	171.4	172.1	171.7	169.4	168.6	171.1
	2003	169.0	171.0	170.6	169.0	172.7	174.4	174.2	176.0	175.0	171.9	173.0	173.2	172.5
2004	176.3	177.6	174.9	173.5	176.9	174.5	177.0	178.1	177.6	177.5				
--December 1997=100--														
Processed fruits and vegetables 3/	1999	104.1	103.8	103.6	103.5	104.9	104.5	105.6	105.7	104.6	105.5	104.4	103.4	104.5
	2000	105.4	105.2	105.0	104.3	105.7	105.9	106.2	106.7	105.9	106.6	104.5	105.3	105.6
	2001	108.1	107.8	107.1	106.9	108.2	109.1	109.9	110.2	110.0	110.5	109.7	110.1	109.0
	2002	112.6	113.0	111.5	112.6	113.4	112.5	114.0	114.3	114.1	113.6	111.7	113.3	113.1
	2003	113.0	113.7	113.6	112.0	115.3	115.5	115.6	116.1	114.4	114.6	113.0	112.4	114.1
2004	115.1	115.4	115.4	114.2	115.9	115.3	116.6	117.2	115.6	116.2				
Canned vegetables 3/	1999	106.7	105.5	104.7	104.7	106.5	106.1	107.6	107.2	105.8	107.3	105.4	103.6	105.9
	2000	107.0	106.9	105.2	105.6	107.6	108.6	107.5	107.3	107.0	108.4	104.5	105.7	106.8
	2001	110.9	108.8	107.6	107.9	108.5	111.2	111.3	113.3	112.6	112.9	111.3	113.7	110.8
	2002	115.7	115.6	114.0	117.0	117.2	114.5	117.1	117.7	116.7	115.2	112.5	116.1	115.8
	2003	114.2	115.0	115.9	114.8	118.2	116.7	117.9	118.6	115.8	115.3	114.9	112.2	115.8
2004	116.1	116.0	115.7	115.8	118.0	116.9	118.3	119.7	117.0	117.7				
Dried beans, peas, lentils 3/	1999	101.3	101.8	102.2	101.4	101.7	102.2	101.3	101.2	100.1	100.0	100.5	98.4	101.0
	2000	99.9	99.5	99.2	98.3	97.6	99.1	99.4	99.1	100.2	100.1	100.4	99.0	99.3
	2001	99.0	99.1	98.9	97.7	99.7	99.5	99.6	99.9	99.5	100.0	102.0	103.6	99.9
	2002	102.1	105.5	107.5	110.1	111.0	112.0	110.2	110.8	111.7	111.0	111.3	110.1	109.4
	2003	109.8	109.1	108.9	109.6	108.3	109.1	109.3	108.9	109.3	109.4	109.2	108.9	109.2
2004	108.6	109.9	110.6	110.0	109.4	110.2	110.1	110.7	108.3	111.2				

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

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

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

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change from yr
															earlier, Oct.
															Percent
															--Cents/lb--
Potatoes, white	1996	38.5	38.5	39.2	39.4	39.2	40.1	40.8	40.3	37.5	35.9	34.3	33.5	38.1	
	1997	33.5	33.1	33.0	33.5	33.8	34.5	36.7	38.8	38.8	37.4	36.6	37.0	35.6	4.2
	1998	36.2	36.2	36.8	36.9	38.1	39.0	39.2	38.2	37.6	37.9	37.0	37.5	37.6	1.3
	1999	38.1	38.2	38.4	38.0	38.8	39.1	41.1	42.9	41.3	39.3	38.4	39.5	39.4	3.7
	2000	39.2	40.1	39.3	38.8	37.9	37.6	39.0	40.0	37.4	36.7	35.1	34.7	38.0	-6.6
	2001	35.5	34.8	35.6	36.2	36.3	38.8	40.9	43.9	42.2	41.8	41.0	41.0	39.0	13.9
	2002	42.6	44.7	46.5	49.3	50.8	51.7	54.9	55.9	51.1	49.2	47.3	47.9	49.3	17.7
	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	-10.4
	2004	45.7	44.6	45.9	46.1	43.5	46.2	47.1	46.4	44.6	45.0				2.0
Broccoli	1996	103.7	92.6	99.9	94.1	87.4	95.5	97.1	78.8	84.3	80.1	92.4	86.2	91.0	
	1997	109.8	115.6	103.2	92.2	88.6	92.1	96.8	90.5	90.3	104.0	100.3	92.6	98.0	29.8
	1998	137.9	106.6	112.2	111.4	123.8	108.7	107.6	103.0	101.4	104.0	101.6	97.4	109.6	0.0
	1999	112.3	99.9	99.0	101.2	95.2	94.4	99.3	96.2	105.2	102.8	100.1	100.4	100.5	-1.2
	2000	118.2	98.9	106.9	101.3	117.4	123.6	113.9	112.0	105.2	108.0	108.5	151.8	113.8	5.1
	2001	98.7	97.8	108.3	95.4	99.9	100.5	98.1	97.8	96.9	101.1	89.7	97.3	98.5	-6.4
	2002	137.4	168.1	114.7	120.4	103.6	109.3	111.9	113.5	124.7	107.3	116.5	105.2	119.4	6.1
	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	26.6
	2004	131.9	121.6	112.5	102.2	110.7	106.0	106.9	106.7	120.8	139.9				3.0
Lettuce, iceberg	1996	76.9	58.7	64.7	64.6	61.3	67.2	62.7	61.5	59.5	63.4	74.6	62.2	64.8	
	1997	65.1	59.4	61.4	66.6	59.8	59.3	64.9	69.4	73.7	82.3	101.0	69.9	69.4	29.8
	1998	107.2	64.3	69.5	83.7	87.7	71.1	69.2	68.6	71.0	75.7	76.5	63.5	75.7	-8.0
	1999	64.9	65.8	77.4	75.3	69.1	65.2	62.7	65.2	62.3	66.9	67.7	66.8	67.4	-11.6
	2000	74.8	65.0	67.1	65.0	80.3	68.6	65.6	67.3	89.7	77.2	77.4	85.1	73.6	15.4
	2001	73.6	84.7	89.5	76.7	87.0	72.2	66.3	78.4	89.7	81.1	73.4	78.8	79.3	5.1
	2002	100.3	106.1	154.2	114.7	72.0	67.5	67.4	68.9	70.2	68.7	75.4	68.0	86.1	-15.3
	2003	73.4	68.2	65.5	72.3	79.5	83.2	80.8	70.9	89.8	85.8	92.7	125.5	82.3	24.9
	2004	87.6	80.5	81.3	80.1	71.0	75.1	73.7	80.8	77.1	83.0				-3.3
Tomatoes, field grown	1996	110.3	108.4	146.7	186.7	137.9	112.7	103.1	100.6	98.0	108.4	118.2	121.0	121.0	
	1997	121.3	131.4	165.4	134.8	117.5	130.0	114.1	113.0	109.1	116.2	137.0	161.7	129.3	7.2
	1998	145.2	135.6	151.5	139.8	147.2	139.3	151.5	131.2	124.1	157.3	168.9	179.8	147.6	35.4
	1999	190.4	147.6	139.5	129.8	128.4	130.4	128.7	123.2	127.2	127.9	130.0	140.5	137.0	-18.7
	2000	144.3	128.6	136.4	148.7	136.6	131.8	128.2	126.2	131.9	138.7	150.3	156.7	138.2	8.4
	2001	141.4	131.3	133.6	143.3	124.3	135.6	125.7	118.5	116.8	126.7	146.8	140.4	132.0	-8.7
	2002	145.1	129.8	129.2	131.9	133.2	129.9	124.3	118.1	115.8	123.6	143.0	165.5	132.5	-2.4
	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	16.2
	2004	147.2	151.0	152.9	151.9	151.0	133.1	125.3	131.2	132.1	171.5				19.4

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

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

Commodity	Shipping point 1/	Shipping container	2003												2004											
			Jan 2	Feb 3	Mar 3	Apr 1	May 1	June 1	July 1	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 3	Dec 1	Jan 2	Feb 2	Mar 2	Apr 1	May 3	June 2	July 1	Aug 1	Sep 1	Oct 1	Nov 1	Dec 1
Artichokes	CA	Carton, 24s	26.00	18.00	26.00	23.75	29.00	20.00	23.00	22.00	28.50	27.75	34.00	43.00	42.00	42.00	39.50	17.00	16.00	36.00	37.50	24.50	32.00	32.00	40.00	28.00
Beans, round green, hand-picked	FL, GA, MI	Bushel cartons	27.50	25.00	17.50	21.50	19.00	19.00	25.00	10.00	9.00	20.00	13.50	15.00	30.00	26.00	13.00	15.00	15.50	18.00	14.50	9.00	20.50	24.00	14.00	11.50
Beets, medium	TX, IL, CA	25 lb sacks/filmbags	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	13.50	13.00	10.50	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	6.50	6.50	6.50	10.50	10.50	9.50	9.50	7.50	7.00	6.50	6.25
Bok choy	CA, FL	30 lb cartons	12.00	10.50	10.50	13.00	14.50	13.50	10.50	14.00	18.00	14.50	14.50	11.50	12.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	11.00	11.50	12.00	11.50	14.00	18.00	12.50	
Brussels sprouts	CA, MX	25 lb cartons	22.00	22.50	16.00	16.00	23.00	17.00	--	21.00	16.00	24.50	21.00	22.50	26.00	12.00	13.50	7.25	31.00	31.00	41.00	31.00	15.00	17.50	19.00	
Cabbage, round-green, medium	NY, GA	50 lb cartons	12.00	15.50	12.50	13.00	13.50	15.00	9.25	7.00	6.00	5.50	8.50	8.50	9.25	7.50	7.50	9.50	8.25	7.25	7.75	7.75	7.50	7.25	7.75	9.00
Chinese cabbage (Napa)	CA	30 lb cartons	11.00	9.50	11.00	12.00	14.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	13.50	13.00	10.00	10.50	12.00	9.50	14.00	9.50	11.00	10.00	11.50	13.25	14.00	14.00	14.50	13.50
Carrots, baby peeled	CA	Carton, 24-1 lb filmbag	17.00	17.00	16.00	16.50	17.00	17.50	16.50	16.50	16.75	17.00	17.25	17.25	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	15.50	13.50	16.50	15.50	16.50	16.50	17.00
Eggplant, medium	FL, NJ, MX	1 1/9 bushel cartons	8.50	9.00	10.50	13.00	16.00	14.50	9.50	15.50	10.00	11.00	14.00	10.50	9.50	13.50	22.00	32.50	10.25	12.00	8.00	11.50	10.50	16.00	15.00	15.00
Garlic, white colossal	CA, MX	30 lb cartons	28.00	28.00	25.00	26.00	25.00	27.00	29.50	26.00	26.00	28.00	30.50	29.00	31.25	32.00	32.00	33.50	27.00	27.50	37.00	36.00	28.00	34.00	26.00	38.00
Greens, kale	CA	Carton, 24s	9.50	9.50	17.00	17.00	17.00	10.00	10.25	10.25	10.25	9.50	9.50	11.00	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.50	10.50	10.00	10.00	9.50	11.00	11.00
Greens, kohlrabi	CA, TX	Carton, 12s/24s	17.00	17.00	15.50	15.25	17.50	17.50	17.00	17.50	17.50	17.50	--	22.00	--	--	15.50	16.00	20.00	15.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	15.00	16.00	16.00
Greens, turnip tops	GA, IL	Carton, 24s	11.50	9.00	12.00	11.00	11.00	10.50	10.00	10.00	11.25	10.00	10.50	8.75	9.00	9.00	10.25	10.00	8.75	9.25	9.75	9.50	10.00	10.25	10.25	9.25
Greens, mustard	CA	Carton, 24s	11.50	9.00	11.25	8.75	11.00	10.50	10.00	10.00	11.25	10.00	10.50	8.75	9.00	9.00	10.25	10.50	8.75	9.25	9.75	9.50	10.00	10.25	10.25	9.25
Greens, collards	GA, CA	Carton, 24s	11.50	9.00	12.00	8.75	11.00	10.50	10.00	9.50	11.25	10.00	10.50	8.75	9.00	9.00	10.25	10.00	8.75	9.25	9.75	9.50	10.00	10.00	10.25	9.25
Leeks	CA, IL, MX	Carton, bunched 12s	18.00	14.00	11.50	12.00	11.50	13.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	14.00	17.50	22.50	25.00	20.50	13.50	9.00	16.00	16.00	19.00	16.50	15.50	14.50	16.50	17.00
Lettuce, Boston	CA	Carton, 24s	10.25	8.00	11.00	9.50	16.00	13.00	9.50	9.00	14.00	10.00	9.50	18.00	--	10.50	10.00	11.00	9.50	9.75	9.50	9.75	13.00	15.00	10.00	27.50
Lettuce, Romaine	CA	Carton, 24s	10.50	10.50	19.00	12.00	18.00	40.50	14.00	10.50	20.00	10.50	16.50	23.50	--	11.00	12.00	10.75	9.50	12.00	11.50	12.00	11.50	14.00	14.50	23.00
Mushrooms, button, large	PA	10 lb carton	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.50	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.50	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25
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	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	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	14.00	12.50	12.50	12.50	14.00	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	14.00	14.00
Mushrooms, portobellas, lrg	PA	5 lb carton	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Okra, small-medium	FL, MX	1/2 bushel carton	23.00	18.00	24.00	24.00	21.00	10.50	13.00	11.00	11.00	12.50	19.00	15.50	27.00	24.00	23.50	22.00	19.00	11.50	9.50	11.50	--	19.00	16.00	19.00
Onions, green	CA, MX	Carton, bunched 48s	11.00	8.50	12.00	10.75	9.50	12.50	19.50	13.50	13.50	13.00	11.50	13.00	17.00	10.25	9.50	8.50	9.50	9.25	11.00	11.00	11.50	14.50	14.50	16.00
Parsley, curly	CA	Cartons, bunched 60s	15.50	9.00	10.00	10.00	13.00	13.50	13.00	14.50	13.50	13.00	12.50	19.00	17.50	13.50	10.50	10.00	12.00	12.50	14.00	15.50	12.00	11.75	14.00	17.00
Peas, snow	CA, GU	10 lb carton	11.00	11.00	9.00	9.00	18.50	16.00	12.00	19.00	9.00	17.00	14.50	7.50	14.50	8.50	7.50	9.50	15.00	13.50	16.00	11.75	8.00	31.00	22.00	25.00
Peas, sugar snap	CA, GU	10 lb carton	13.00	10.50	11.50	12.50	19.50	16.00	16.00	15.00	9.00	21.50	29.00	18.00	22.00	11.00	11.00	11.50	17.00	15.50	13.50	23.00	24.00	25.00	32.00	23.00
Peppers, green bell, large	FL, CA	1 1/9 bushel carton	16.00	16.00	9.50	12.50	5.50	13.00	14.50	14.50	6.50	10.00	10.00	11.50	15.50	21.00	18.00	9.50	10.00	10.50	6.50	14.50	8.50	14.00	44.00	20.00
Peppers, jalapeno, medium	FL, GA, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.50	10.00	9.25	8.50	10.00	9.00	12.00	13.50	18.75	13.00	14.50	18.50	35.50	21.00	10.75	15.00	14.00	13.50	24.00	19.00
Radishes	FL, MI	Carton, 30-6oz filmbag	8.00	8.75	7.25	8.00	9.50	9.00	6.75	7.25	6.75	7.00	7.00	7.75	8.25	8.25	7.50	8.25	7.75	7.75	10.50	9.50	7.50	7.50	8.00	8.75
Spinach	CA	Cartons, bunched 24s	11.00	10.00	14.00	11.50	15.50	10.50	10.00	15.50	21.00	9.50	11.50	15.50	13.00	11.00	10.00	11.00	21.00	13.00	12.50	12.50	12.25	15.50	12.50	17.00
Squash, zucchini, medium	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	9.50	6.50	13.50	11.50	7.50	8.50	14.00	5.50	12.00	11.00	7.50	6.25	12.50	17.50	10.00	10.00	6.75	6.50	8.00	10.50	6.50	28.50	7.00	7.50
Squash, yellow straightneck, med.	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	13.00	23.00	9.50	15.00	10.00	8.50	18.00	8.00	14.00	11.00	9.00	7.50	--	19.00	11.50	11.00	6.50	8.00	12.50	11.00	8.00	29.00	8.25	7.50
Sweet potatoes, US #1, Beauregard	LA	40 lb carton	17.00	17.50	11.00	16.00	19.00	21.50	23.50	27.50	25.50	22.00	21.00	20.25	20.00	20.50	20.00	20.50	19.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	17.50	17.50	17.75	18.50
Tomatoes, mature green, lrg, 6x6	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	19.50	11.00	13.00	12.00	12.50	9.50	17.00	12.50	11.50	12.50	--	9.50	--	9.50	17.50	12.00	17.50	9.50	8.50	7.00	9.50	20.00	29.00	43.50
Tomatoes, vine ripe, large, 6x6	MX, CA, FL	25 lb carton	--	9.50	13.00	12.00	13.00	9.50	17.00	12.50	11.50	11.00	9.50	10.00	9.50	10.00	19.00	13.00	18.25	12.00	7.50	9.00	11.00	20.00	29.00	41.00
Tomatoes, greenhse, v. ripe, md/lrg	CD, NL	5 kg carton (on vine)	12.50	21.00	20.00	19.75	8.50	11.50	9.00	12.00	11.50	9.50	--	13.00	--	23.50	19.50	15.00	8.50	9.00	10.00	5.00	14.00	7.00	14.00	25.00
Tomatoes, cherry	FL, CA, MX	Flats, 12 1-pint buckets	12.50	8.50	10.50	11.50	11.00	14.00	12.50	13.00	12.50	16.00	16.00	8.50	10.50	10.50	10.00	9.50	8.00	9.50	8.50	11.00	21.00	35.50	21.00	
Tomatoes, plum-type, med/lrg	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	17.00	8.00	19.25	11.00	10.00	14.50	20.00	20.00	12.00	15.00	13.50	15.00	13.50	18.00	15.00	10.00	14.00	9.50	11.50	10.00	11.00	24.50	31.00	30.00
Turnips, purple top, medium-large	CA, IL	25 lb filmbags	9.50	10.50	10.50	10.00	10.50	14.00	10.50	10.50	9.50	9.25	7.50	8.50	8.50	10.00	10.00	7.50	10.50	10.50	10.00	9.50	9.50	8.50	9.00	9.00
Cantaloups	CA, CR, MX	1/2 carton 15s	14.50	7.50	11.50	17.50	10.00	10.75	11.50	8.50	15.50	9.25	11.00	14.50	12.50	11.50	20.50	9.50	19.50	8.00	9.75	10.25	9.50	13.50	13.00	17.25
Honeydews	CA, HD, CR	2/3 cartons 6s	10.50	8.50	14.50	9.50	8.50	15.50	9.50	9.00	8.50	9.75	6.75	9.50	10.50	10.50	19.00	8.00	10.50	9.00	10.00	10.50	10.00	10.50	11.50	10.50
Watermelon, various red	CA, TX, MX	Carton 3s or 4s, per lb	0.34	0.29	0.30	0.33	0.27	0.26	0.19	0.15	0.25	0.23	--	--	0.25	0.28	0.47	0.28	0.35	0.25	0.24	0.14	0.24	0.31	0.30	0.27
Watermelon, red seedless	CA, MX	Carton 4s or 5s, per lb	0.39	0.37	0.38	0.34	0.29	0.29	0.18	--	0.26	0.38	0.26	0.29	0.36	0.58	0.37	0.39	0.25	0.16	0.16	0.26	0			

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

Year & quarter	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Carrots 5/		Beets 6/		Tomato paste 7/	
	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	24/300	6/10	55-drum \$/lb	6/10 \$/case
-- \$/case --												
<b>1994 8/</b>												
I	9.67	19.75	7.04	13.67	9.25	15.42	7.88	11.67	8.46	13.75	0.42	16.42
II	9.58	19.75	6.80	14.42	9.08	15.58	7.88	11.58	8.50	13.75	0.42	17.46
III	8.67	16.17	6.80	12.92	8.50	14.17	7.71	11.25	7.92	13.75	0.40	17.25
IV	7.42	13.08	6.33	11.67	7.25	13.50	7.63	12.13	7.50	13.50	0.41	17.38
Average	8.84	17.19	6.74	13.17	8.52	14.67	7.78	11.66	8.10	13.69	0.41	17.13
<b>1995</b>												
I	7.13	10.63	6.42	10.63	7.46	14.13	7.25	9.50	8.50	13.00	0.39	18.38
II	6.88	10.42	6.55	10.50	7.80	14.42	7.25	9.46	7.38	13.00	0.39	18.38
III	7.00	10.25	6.79	10.25	7.96	14.84	7.25	9.38	8.00	12.50	0.39	18.38
IV	7.29	12.46	7.09	11.09	8.21	14.75	7.38	9.38	8.00	11.00	0.37	18.04
Average	7.07	10.94	6.71	10.62	7.86	14.53	7.28	9.43	7.97	12.38	0.38	18.30
<b>1996</b>												
I	7.17	13.83	7.38	10.83	8.21	16.25	7.84	9.63	8.00	12.00	0.36	17.50
II	7.83	12.92	7.63	11.17	8.75	16.50	7.96	9.82	8.00	12.00	0.34	15.75
III	8.46	13.00	7.92	11.46	9.38	16.50	8.25	10.00	7.96	12.00	0.31	16.67
IV	7.96	12.75	7.55	11.00	9.13	16.50	7.83	10.33	7.25	12.00	0.30	17.33
Average	7.86	13.13	7.62	11.12	8.87	16.44	7.97	9.94	7.80	12.00	0.33	16.81
<b>1997</b>												
I	7.38	11.75	7.08	9.67	9.05	14.46	7.79	10.46	7.63	11.50	0.30	17.17
II	7.00	10.83	6.67	8.75	8.88	13.75	7.75	10.46	7.83	11.50	0.30	15.13
III	7.05	11.08	6.75	8.75	8.58	13.63	7.67	10.50	8.00	11.08	0.30	15.42
IV	7.17	10.38	7.00	9.84	8.88	13.00	7.88	10.50	7.88	10.33	0.31	16.25
Average	7.15	11.01	6.88	9.25	8.85	13.71	7.77	10.48	7.84	11.10	0.30	15.99
<b>1998</b>												
I	7.21	10.63	7.05	8.63	8.13	11.25	7.84	11.00	7.92	10.58	0.33	16.42
II	7.38	10.88	7.13	9.75	8.50	10.88	7.88	11.13	7.88	10.75	0.33	16.92
III	7.25	10.75	7.21	9.96	8.21	12.58	7.25	10.58	7.25	10.92	0.38	19.00
IV	7.25	10.75	7.21	9.96	8.38	12.75	7.25	10.50	7.25	11.00	0.45	21.00
Average	7.27	10.75	7.15	9.58	8.31	11.87	7.56	10.80	7.58	10.81	0.37	18.34
<b>1999</b>												
I	7.25	10.75	7.50	10.38	8.80	13.30	7.33	10.67	7.42	11.00	0.45	21.00
II	7.33	10.63	7.50	10.38	8.71	13.21	7.79	11.29	8.09	11.83	0.46	21.00
III	7.50	10.63	7.50	10.38	8.75	13.58	7.88	11.38	8.09	12.00	0.46	21.00
IV	7.63	12.34	7.46	10.92	8.75	13.58	7.88	11.13	8.04	11.75	0.35	20.29
Average	7.43	11.09	7.49	10.52	8.75	13.42	7.72	11.12	7.91	11.65	0.43	20.82
<b>2000</b>												
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
<b>2001</b>												
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
<b>2002</b>												
I	9.00	15.75	9.00	14.59	9.00	15.25	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.32	17.63
II	8.33	15.08	8.33	12.05	8.75	15.08	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	17.80
III	8.00	14.75	8.00	10.88	8.63	15.00	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.50
IV	8.00	14.67	8.00	11.05	8.88	15.08	8.75	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	20.38
Average	8.33	15.06	8.33	12.14	8.82	15.10	8.94	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.58
<b>2003</b>												
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
<b>2004</b>												
I p	8.08	14.42	8.25	15.38	9.08	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	20.25
II p	8.42	15.38	8.33	15.59	9.08	15.67	8.75	11.58	8.75	14.00	0.30	20.25
III p	8.42	15.59	8.33	16.17	8.92	15.59	9.00	11.75	8.83	15.00	0.30	20.25
IV f	8.50	15.63	8.50	16.25	9.00	15.63	8.63	11.50	9.00	14.00	0.29	19.50
Average	8.36	15.26	8.35	15.85	9.02	15.72	8.75	11.58	8.90	13.75	0.30	20.06

p = preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

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

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

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

Year and quarter	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Carrots 5/		Broccoli 6/		Spinach 7/	
	12/16	12/2.5	12/16	12/2	12/16	12/2.5	12/16	12/2	24/10	12/2	24/10	12/3
--\$ per case--												
<b>1994</b>												
I	7.64	0.61	7.40	0.51	7.40	0.53	5.77	0.43	11.75	0.64	8.35	0.42
II	7.77	0.64	7.40	0.51	7.40	0.53	5.77	0.43	11.75	0.64	8.35	0.42
III	7.27	0.65	6.97	0.51	6.97	0.52	5.77	0.43	11.75	0.64	8.52	0.42
IV	6.94	0.57	6.75	0.51	6.75	0.52	5.77	0.43	11.08	0.64	8.60	0.42
Average	7.41	0.62	7.13	0.51	7.13	0.53	5.77	0.43	11.58	0.64	8.45	0.42
<b>1995</b>												
I	6.75	0.55	6.75	0.49	6.75	0.51	5.75	0.41	10.75	0.66	8.19	0.41
II	6.75	0.55	6.75	0.49	6.75	0.51	5.89	0.44	10.75	0.68	8.40	0.43
III	6.75	0.54	6.75	0.48	6.75	0.51	5.89	0.42	10.75	0.69	8.40	0.44
IV	6.75	0.52	6.75	0.45	6.75	0.49	5.89	0.42	10.75	0.69	8.63	0.41
Average	6.75	0.54	6.75	0.48	6.75	0.50	5.86	0.42	10.75	0.68	8.41	0.42
<b>1996</b>												
I	6.67	0.47	6.67	0.44	6.42	0.47	5.76	0.39	10.88	0.67	7.31	0.41
II	6.72	0.45	6.63	0.46	6.63	0.48	5.76	0.39	10.94	0.67	7.67	0.41
III	6.90	0.50	6.90	0.49	7.09	0.51	5.76	0.39	10.75	0.67	7.67	0.41
IV	6.90	0.50	6.90	0.49	7.10	0.51	5.76	0.39	10.38	0.67	7.67	0.41
Average	6.80	0.48	6.78	0.47	6.81	0.49	5.76	0.39	10.74	0.67	7.58	0.41
<b>1997</b>												
I	6.90	0.50	6.88	0.48	7.10	0.51	5.76	0.39	10.23	0.68	7.98	0.42
II	6.90	0.50	6.83	0.47	7.10	0.50	5.76	0.39	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
III	6.90	0.50	6.83	0.47	7.10	0.49	5.76	0.39	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.48	5.76	0.40	9.93	0.69	8.30	0.42
Average	6.88	0.49	6.84	0.47	7.05	0.50	5.76	0.39	10.01	0.69	8.22	0.42
<b>1998</b>												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.47	5.76	0.42	10.08	0.70	8.30	0.42
II	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.47	6.90	0.46	5.74	0.43	10.15	0.70	8.30	0.42
III	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.75	0.45	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.70	8.30	0.42
IV	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.87	0.45	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.33	0.42
Average	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.86	0.46	5.73	0.41	10.13	0.71	8.31	0.42
<b>1999</b>												
I	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.88	0.46	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
II	6.83	0.44	6.83	0.45	6.88	0.46	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
III	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.91	0.51	5.74	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.74	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.45	6.83	0.46	6.90	0.49	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
<b>2000</b>												
I	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.71	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
<b>2001</b>												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.53	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.46	6.84	0.47	6.88	0.53	5.73	0.40	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.47	6.88	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
IV	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.49	6.88	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
Average	6.86	0.47	6.84	0.48	6.89	0.54	5.73	0.41	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
<b>2002</b>												
I	6.95	0.49	6.93	0.49	6.88	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.50	7.05	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.51	7.07	0.55	5.73	0.43	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.51	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.73	0.42	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.06	0.50	7.06	0.51	7.02	0.55	5.73	0.42	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
<b>2003</b>												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	5.83	0.45	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
<b>2004</b>												
I p	6.93	0.52	6.90	0.50	6.88	0.55	5.83	0.46	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
II p	7.00	0.54	6.97	0.54	6.95	0.57	5.85	0.47	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.47
III p	7.00	0.54	7.00	0.57	6.95	0.57	5.85	0.47	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.47
IV f	7.00	0.52	7.10	0.58	7.10	0.58	5.83	0.46	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	6.98	0.53	6.99	0.55	6.97	0.56	5.84	0.47	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.47

p = preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

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

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

Price table 9--Potatoes and pulses: Prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1996-2004 1/

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season
														average
--\$/cwt--														
Potatoes, all uses	1996	6.65	6.92	7.51	7.82	8.09	8.16	7.79	5.58	4.92	4.75	4.44	4.28	4.91
	1997	4.22	4.56	4.64	4.67	5.31	5.67	5.66	6.31	5.08	4.93	5.12	5.36	5.64
	1998	5.40	5.94	6.41	6.27	6.45	6.16	5.81	5.46	4.97	4.47	4.86	5.30	5.56
	1999	5.50	5.75	6.12	6.50	6.13	6.54	7.35	6.02	5.09	4.86	5.52	5.44	5.77
	2000	5.67	5.91	6.26	6.54	6.30	6.17	6.95	5.53	4.65	4.32	4.31	4.59	5.08
	2001	4.73	5.28	5.12	5.47	5.22	5.71	6.37	7.61	6.04	5.15	5.96	6.66	6.99
	2002	7.34	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	5.46	5.77	5.89
2004	5.75	5.93	6.09	6.84	6.54	6.49	5.91	5.94	5.27	4.73	4.98			
Potatoes, table stock	1996	7.99	8.52	8.85	9.01	9.78	10.50	9.74	7.06	5.82	5.31	4.02	3.73	5.05
	1997	3.21	3.82	3.46	3.92	4.60	5.34	7.02	9.04	7.02	6.65	6.07	6.05	6.65
	1998	5.76	6.81	7.54	6.84	7.29	7.24	6.99	6.74	6.31	5.44	5.46	5.62	6.94
	1999	6.07	6.93	7.50	8.39	7.89	9.09	9.85	9.88	6.94	6.00	6.57	6.22	6.94
	2000	6.32	6.71	6.77	7.17	7.18	7.45	9.36	8.49	4.92	4.04	3.80	4.00	5.27
	2001	4.38	5.41	4.50	5.50	7.23	8.36	8.94	13.50	10.20	8.13	8.28	9.22	10.79
	2002	10.49	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	6.84	6.56	7.49
2004	6.20	6.47	6.95	8.42	7.89	9.03	7.92	8.40	7.04	5.39				
Potatoes, processing	1996	5.42	5.44	5.71	5.87	6.59	6.47	5.92	4.91	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.77	4.82
	1997	4.98	4.90	5.11	5.02	6.04	5.04	4.33	4.81	4.61	4.60	4.71	4.96	5.00
	1998	5.06	5.25	5.24	5.49	5.97	5.58	5.04	4.93	4.49	4.28	4.52	5.07	4.86
	1999	5.11	4.94	5.07	5.29	5.37	5.30	5.28	4.58	4.61	4.64	4.97	4.86	4.99
	2000	5.24	5.31	5.26	5.42	5.39	5.32	4.92	4.58	4.40	4.30	4.67	4.85	4.70
	2001	4.95	5.15	5.10	5.19	5.09	4.96	5.24	4.73	4.58	4.42	4.77	5.04	5.05
	2002	5.37	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	5.09
2004	5.36	5.49	5.34	5.59	5.61	5.35	5.07	4.80	4.54	4.50				
Dry edible beans	1996	19.60	19.90	19.90	22.70	24.80	25.80	26.80	26.90	24.40	24.00	25.10	24.10	23.50
	1997	23.20	23.60	23.30	23.00	22.20	21.20	21.90	20.40	16.20	16.90	18.60	20.30	19.30
	1998	21.10	21.20	20.20	20.80	20.80	20.90	21.30	19.60	19.00	19.40	20.30	19.90	19.00
	1999	19.70	18.30	17.00	16.60	19.90	18.90	18.50	18.00	18.00	17.10	17.20	16.10	16.40
	2000	15.80	15.60	14.50	15.70	16.20	14.70	14.20	13.80	15.50	15.70	15.50	14.40	15.50
	2001	15.10	15.30	14.90	15.60	16.90	16.40	16.80	17.40	18.40	19.20	22.70	21.70	22.10
	2002	21.50	26.10	27.10	27.50	27.80	27.40	24.50	23.20	17.90	16.60	15.90	16.10	17.10
	2003	16.40	19.20	15.90	18.70	19.10	16.60	17.20	18.00	17.70	17.80	19.20	17.20	17.80
2004	17.00	17.50	21.10	19.60	19.90	20.10	19.30	20.90	22.90	24.50	27.20			
Green peas, whole-dry 2/	1996	8.30	8.75	9.50	9.95	10.15	10.85	11.65	12.50	12.30	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.60
	1997	11.50	12.60	14.25	13.80	13.00	11.90	9.00	7.70	7.65	7.90	8.00	8.00	7.82
	1998	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.95	7.75	7.75	7.70	6.85	6.15	6.00	6.19	6.31	6.48
	1999	6.46	6.50	6.53	6.56	6.75	6.88	6.91	6.53	6.22	6.03	6.03	5.83	5.76
	2000	5.79	5.78	5.78	5.69	5.68	5.59	5.41	5.25	5.13	5.20	5.38	5.50	5.95
	2001	5.84	6.28	6.44	6.53	6.43	6.28	6.25	6.19	6.21	6.35	6.56	6.88	6.96
	2002	7.04	7.06	7.13	7.40	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.13	7.38	7.68	7.91	8.33	9.08
	2003	9.08	9.81	10.88	10.60	10.44	9.92	9.30	7.56	7.63	8.09	8.84	9.08	9.25
2004	9.56	9.94	10.50	10.56	10.88	8.43	7.38	6.69	6.22	7.09	7.30	7.13		
Yellow peas, whole-dry 2/	1996	8.75	9.50	8.80	9.05	9.30	10.40	11.00	12.00	12.25	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.08
	1997	11.40	12.50	13.60	12.80	11.75	10.40	8.50	7.60	7.55	7.60	7.75	7.60	7.46
	1998	7.50	7.50	7.60	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.05	6.50	5.65	5.69	5.78	5.94	6.13
	1999	6.00	6.06	6.35	6.19	6.38	6.30	6.50	6.75	6.34	6.25	6.33	6.29	6.05
	2000	6.38	6.13	6.03	6.00	5.88	5.91	5.72	5.30	5.16	5.15	5.31	5.38	5.92
	2001	5.81	6.31	6.44	6.38	6.40	6.25	6.25	6.19	6.17	6.25	6.56	6.79	7.02
	2002	7.04	7.25	7.31	7.68	7.66	7.59	7.38	6.50	6.72	7.10	7.34	7.58	7.78
	2003	7.50	7.94	8.03	8.50	8.75	8.83	8.44	6.63	6.43	6.75	7.53	7.75	7.90
2004	7.91	8.72	9.03	9.25	9.44	7.75	7.13	6.13	5.98	6.25	7.08	6.38		
Lentils, regular (Brewer) 2/	1996	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.70	17.25	19.00	19.75	20.60	19.75	18.50	18.15	17.25	17.10
	1997	17.00	17.40	17.50	17.00	16.50	16.25	16.00	14.75	13.80	12.90	12.10	11.50	13.00
	1998	11.40	12.00	11.60	11.10	10.75	11.00	12.00	11.30	10.15	10.70	10.81	10.94	11.21
	1999	10.92	11.25	11.55	11.38	11.69	11.90	11.94	12.15	12.13	12.28	13.05	13.17	12.54
	2000	12.88	12.45	12.13	12.31	12.73	12.81	12.81	11.75	11.19	11.03	10.97	10.88	10.44
	2001	10.84	10.50	10.22	10.25	9.90	9.91	9.78	9.84	9.81	9.75	9.80	9.70	9.56
	2002	9.44	9.06	9.03	9.75	9.59	9.44	9.40	9.50	10.75	12.85	13.81	14.25	14.30
	2003	15.42	17.63	18.63	18.70	18.63	18.56	15.20	14.50	14.85	16.50	16.88	16.50	16.40
2004	17.13	19.00	20.90	21.50	20.50	15.80	14.19	13.25	14.15	15.56	15.85	15.50		

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

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

**Price table 10--U.S. fresh-market herbs: Selected monthly wholesale prices in San Francisco, CA, 2003-2004**

Herb	Unit	2003			2004			2003-04 Change		
		Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.
		-- \$/cwt --						--- Percent ---		
Anise	24-ct crtn	13.25	15.50	14.50	11.00	9.75	9.75	- 17.0	- 37.1	- 32.8
Arrugula	12-ct ctns	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.50	7.50	7.50	- 3.2	- 3.2	- 3.2
Basil	30-ct ctns	7.50	7.50	7.12	7.00	7.25	7.25	- 6.7	- 3.3	1.8
Celeriac	12-ct ctns	10.50	10.50	10.50	13.00	13.00	13.00	23.8	23.8	23.8
Chervil	12-ct flmbag	7.25	7.44	7.50	7.00	7.00	7.00	- 3.4	- 5.9	- 6.7
Chives	12-ct flmbag	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	- 10.0	- 10.0	- 10.0
Cilantro	60-ct ctns	14.12	11.33	10.50	16.00	18.00	14.00	13.3	58.9	33.3
Dill	12-ct ctns	7.29	7.39	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	- 4.0	- 5.3	.0
Horseradish	50-lb sack	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	.0	.0	.0
Oregano	12-ct flmbag	6.25	6.00	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 12.0	- 8.3	- 8.3
Rosemary	12-ct flmbag	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	- 16.7	- 16.7	- 16.7
Mint	12-ct ctns	7.38	7.56	7.31	6.25	7.75	7.75	- 15.3	2.5	6.0
Salsify	5-1kg flmbg	17.50	17.50	17.50	18.25	18.25	18.25	4.3	4.3	4.3
Thyme	12-ct flmbag	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 8.3	- 8.3	- 8.3
Sage	12-ct flmbag	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.50	- 8.3	- 8.3	- 8.3
Watercress	12-ct ctns	7.50	7.50	7.50	8.00	8.00	8.00	6.7	6.7	6.7

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

**Price table 11--Farm-retail price spreads, 2001-04**

	Annual		2003			2004				
	2001	2002	2003	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
<b>Market basket 1/</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	177.2	180.3	185.3	184.8	191.3	192.0	192.0	195.2	196.4	196.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	106.2	104.3	110.4	108.0	121.5	125.5	128.4	131.1	128.7	124.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	215.4	221.2	225.6	226.3	228.9	227.9	226.3	229.7	232.9	235.7
Farm value-retail cost (%)	21.0	20.3	20.9	20.5	22.2	22.9	23.4	23.5	22.9	22.1
<b>Fresh fruit</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	291.7	298.0	309.0	312.0	305.1	309.3	316.4	327.9	337.7	334.7
Farm value (1982-84=100)	145.7	154.4	163.2	164.0	189.6	192.9	196.7	198.1	193.5	192.2
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	359.1	364.2	376.3	380.3	358.4	363.1	371.7	387.8	404.3	400.5
Farm value-retail cost (%)	15.8	16.4	16.7	16.6	19.6	19.7	19.6	19.1	18.1	18.1
<b>Fresh vegetables</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	230.6	245.4	250.5	248.3	262.8	261.3	251.7	251.0	247.2	244.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	129.9	145.8	149.9	136.7	155.1	155.4	151.3	137.8	124.6	118.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	282.4	296.6	302.2	305.7	318.2	315.7	303.3	309.2	310.2	309.3
Farm value-retail cost (%)	19.1	20.2	20.3	18.7	20.0	20.2	20.4	18.6	17.1	16.5
<b>Processed fruits and vegetables</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	159.3	166.2	171.9	174.0	178.2	182.5	183.6	184.5	183.6	185.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	107.9	110.5	108.4	109.1	122.0	121.9	121.9	122.3	121.8	122.0
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	175.3	183.6	191.8	194.3	195.7	201.4	202.8	203.9	202.9	205.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	16.1	15.8	15.0	14.9	16.3	15.9	15.8	15.8	15.8	15.6
<b>Fats and oils</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	155.7	155.4	157.4	156.3	162.3	166.2	166.2	169.4	171.3	171.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	76.9	91.7	113.4	102.7	145.6	150.5	147.2	137.4	136.9	135.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	184.7	178.9	173.5	176.0	168.4	172.0	173.2	181.2	184.0	185.4
Farm value-retail cost (%)	13.3	15.9	19.4	17.7	24.1	24.4	23.8	21.8	21.5	21.1
<b>Meat products</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	159.3	160.3	169.0	168.0	180.2	179.0	179.0	182.1	184.2	185.8
Farm value (1982-84=100)	97.4	102.6	108.4	108.7	113.0	113.4	114.5	116.4	117.4	117.6
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	222.8	219.5	231.1	228.8	249.1	246.3	245.2	249.5	252.7	255.7
Farm value-retail cost (%)	31.0	32.4	32.5	32.8	31.8	32.1	32.4	32.4	32.3	32.1
<b>Dairy products</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	167.1	168.1	167.9	164.7	172.1	171.9	174.0	185.9	188.8	187.7
Farm value (1982-84=100)	118.5	97.6	99.1	94.7	107.6	115.6	139.0	156.5	145.1	128.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	211.8	233.1	231.3	229.2	231.6	223.8	206.3	213.0	229.1	242.0
Farm value-retail cost (%)	34.0	27.8	28.3	27.6	30.0	32.3	38.3	40.4	36.9	32.9
<b>Poultry</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	164.9	167.0	169.1	168.9	174.1	177.8	178.1	181.6	182.6	184.9
Farm value (1982-84=100)	126.2	102.0	113.0	113.6	144.3	145.1	148.9	155.1	161.3	162.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	209.3	242.0	233.7	232.6	208.4	215.4	211.8	212.1	207.1	211.2
Farm value-retail cost (%)	41.0	32.7	35.8	36.0	44.4	43.7	44.7	45.7	47.3	46.9
<b>Eggs</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	136.4	138.2	157.3	149.6	194.1	198.9	187.0	170.1	163.7	159.0
Farm value (1982-84=100)	74.3	72.1	102.0	90.1	128.0	171.9	105.5	80.4	85.2	68.6
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	248.0	256.9	256.5	256.6	312.8	247.5	333.4	331.2	304.6	321.5
Farm value-retail cost (%)	35.0	33.5	41.7	38.7	42.4	55.5	36.3	30.4	33.5	27.7
<b>Cereal and bakery products</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	193.8	198.0	202.8	204.5	204.4	204.8	205.5	206.0	206.8	207.2
Farm value (1982-84=100)	78.8	86.4	93.5	86.1	108.2	109.9	113.0	109.1	108.2	102.8
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	209.9	213.6	218.0	221.0	217.8	218.0	218.4	219.5	220.6	221.8
Farm value-retail cost (%)	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.2	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.1

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

Source: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/agoutlook/aotables/aug2004/aotab08.xls>