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# Vegetables and Melons Outlook

Gary Lucier and Rachael Dettmann

## Winter Area Down, Prices Lower

This winter (largely January-March), fresh-market vegetable and melon area for harvest (excluding onions) is expected to decline 3 percent from that of a year earlier. Despite lower acreage and variable yields, the volume of shipments for the leading fresh-market crops rose from the freeze-affected year-earlier levels during January. With soft demand and steadily rising imports, winter season shipping-point prices for fresh market vegetables are expected to average well below the freeze-affected highs of a year ago.

An early crop intentions report indicated that California tomato processors intend to contract for 2 percent fewer processing tomatoes than last year's near record-high. Processors will likely offer higher contract prices this year to entice growers to battle a projected water shortage and higher production costs and to simply forego planting high-priced alternative grain crops.

Total U.S. potato production for the 2007 crop year (September-August) is reported at 449 million hundredweight (cwt), a 2 percent increase from a year earlier. Despite somewhat larger supplies this winter, prices remain steady, with the January preliminary average price received for all potatoes at \$7.11 per cwt, about the same as a year earlier.

Despite the availability of large supplies for a second year in a row, prices for sweet potatoes remain strong. Preliminary marketing year average price estimates for 2007/08 sweet potatoes stand at \$20 per cwt, up 12 percent from 2006/07.

Uncertainty reigns in the acreage outlook for dry edible beans with early acreage expectations remaining fluid. Although current indications point to a modest decline in total dry bean area, very strong prices for several dry bean classes indicate they could experience moderate increases in seeded area. The U.S. aggregate dry bean grower price averaged \$26.40 during 2007/08 and is expected to rise again in 2008/09.

With strong world demand and prices double those of a year earlier, total area planted to dry edible peas and lentils is currently expected to remain near a year earlier in 2008/09. Depending on area changes, a return to average yields (which would be down from a year ago) may leave output down in 2008. U.S. export volume of all dry peas and lentils is up 17 percent during the first 6 months (July-December) of the 2007/08 crop year.

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The next release is  
April 17, 2008  
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World Agricultural  
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## Industry Overview

**Fresh vegetables:** The value of production for fresh-market vegetables totaled a record-high \$10.9 billion in 2007, up 2 percent from a year earlier. Head lettuce replaced tomatoes (due to lower tomato prices) as the top fresh vegetable at \$1.4 billion—up 31 percent from a year ago. Increases for garlic (up 43 percent), squash (up 2 percent), and snap beans (up 22 percent) outweighed declines for tomatoes (down 21 percent), onions (down 21 percent), and leaf lettuce (down 17 percent). Fresh-market revenue increased 5 percent to \$5.9 billion in California, which accounted for 54 percent of the national value of fresh-market vegetables, compared with 52 percent a year earlier. Production of fresh vegetables generated \$1.3 billion in crop value in Florida—up 4 percent from 2006 as aggregate production rose.

**Melons:** The value of melon production totaled \$871 million in 2007—down 1 percent from 2006. Watermelon production squeezed past the 1996 record high while good demand pulled average prices up, leaving crop value up 9 percent to \$476 million. Meanwhile, the value of both the honeydew melon (down 7 percent) and cantaloup (down 11 percent) crops declined due mostly to weaker prices.

**Processing vegetables:** Largely because of stronger contract prices for most crops and a near-record large tomato crop, the value of production for processing vegetables (excluding dual use crops) jumped 20 percent to \$1.6 billion. The value of the processing-tomato crop surged 28 percent to \$902 million as both production and average plant-door price increased.

**Potatoes:** According to preliminary estimates, the value of U.S. potato production fell 1 percent to \$3.2 billion in 2007/08. With the season-average farm price declining 3 percent to 7.12 cents per pound, revenue fell in most states, with the most notable exceptions being Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. With both production and price higher, production value surged 23 percent in Oregon and 9 percent in Washington—two states heavily dependant on processing.

**Sweet potatoes:** The estimated farm value of the 2007 U.S. sweet potato crop jumped 27 percent to \$374 million—well above both a year earlier and the 2003 record-high crop value. Although production was up 14 percent, marketing year prices were expected to rise 12 percent. Although the crop was slightly higher than a year earlier, stronger prices boosted the value of the North Carolina crop 30 percent to \$148 million—the highest on record.

**Dry edible beans:** Higher prices and a small gain in output pushed the farm value of the 2007 U.S. dry bean crop up 22 percent from a year earlier to \$677 million—the highest since 1981 but well below the 1980 record (\$737 million). The farm value of North Dakota's large crop was estimated to be \$241 million—36 percent of U.S. crop value and 55 percent greater than the previous high set a year earlier.

**Dry peas and lentils:** Based on preliminary estimates of marketing year average prices, the value of all U.S. dry pea and lentil production (including small chickpeas and wrinkled seed peas) in 2007/08 totaled \$254 million—up 82 percent from a year earlier. Within this total, lentils were valued at \$74 million (up 83 percent), with higher prices and crop value across all States. With strong demand, average lentil prices soared 75 percent to \$21.70 per cwt—the highest since 1990.

**Mushrooms:** The value of the 2006/07 mushroom crop was estimated to be up 7 percent to \$956 million, reflecting a 10 percent increase in average prices to \$1.16 per pound. Reflecting higher production costs and reduced volume, prices for both agaricus mushrooms (up 10 percent to \$1.12 per pound) and specialty mushrooms (up 5 percent to \$3.16 per pound) increased in 2006/07.

Table 1--U.S. vegetable industry at a glance, 2005-08

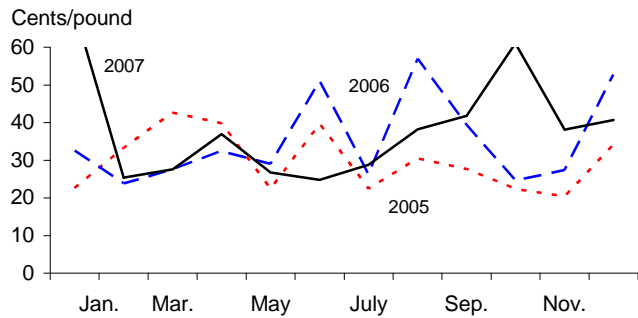
Item	Unit	2005	2006	2007 1/	2008 1/
<i>Area harvested</i>	1,000 ac.	7,128	7,264	7,020	6,836
<i>Vegetables:</i>					
Fresh & melons	1,000 ac.	1,916	1,944	1,943	1,945
Processing	1,000 ac.	1,270	1,257	1,251	1,235
Potatoes	1,000 ac.	1,087	1,122	1,129	1,125
Dry beans	1,000 ac.	1,534	1,538	1,479	1,330
Other 2/	1,000 ac.	1,321	1,404	1,218	1,201
<i>Production</i>	Mil. cw t	1,281	1,308	1,370	1,316
<i>Vegetables:</i>					
Fresh & melons	Mil. cw t	472	483	494	473
Processing	Mil. cw t	314	318	355	335
Potatoes	Mil. cw t	424	441	449	442
Dry beans	Mil. cw t	27	24	25	22
Other 2/	Mil. cw t	44	41	46	44
<i>Crop value</i>	\$ mil.	15,906	17,162	17,962	18,475
<i>Vegetables:</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	9,829	10,726	10,910	11,350
Processing	\$ mil.	1,255	1,341	1,605	1,575
Potatoes	\$ mil.	2,991	3,226	3,198	3,300
Dry beans	\$ mil.	516	556	677	690
Mushrooms	\$ mil.	909	889	956	970
Other 2/	\$ mil.	406	424	616	590
<i>Unit value 3/</i>	\$/cw t	12.42	13.12	13.11	14.04
<i>Vegetables:</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$/cw t	20.82	22.23	22.10	24.02
Processing	\$/cw t	3.99	4.21	4.52	4.70
Potatoes	\$/cw t	7.06	7.33	7.12	7.47
Dry beans	\$/cw t	18.50	22.10	26.40	30.93
Other 2/	\$/cw t	9.29	10.23	13.29	13.37
<i>Trade</i>					
<i>Imports</i>	\$ mil.	6,607	7,284	7,927	8,395
<i>Vegetables:</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	3,668	4,091	4,431	4,700
Processing 4/	\$ mil.	1,587	1,746	1,921	2,000
Potatoes & products	\$ mil.	787	856	908	950
Dry beans	\$ mil.	82	84	107	130
Other 5/	\$ mil.	483	507	560	615
<i>Exports</i>	\$ mil.	3,899	4,234	4,556	4,785
<i>Vegetables:</i>					
Fresh & melons	\$ mil.	1,515	1,625	1,737	1,825
Processing 4/	\$ mil.	828	861	943	965
Potatoes & products	\$ mil.	841	950	1,045	1,110
Dry beans	\$ mil.	160	211	203	195
Other 5/	\$ mil.	555	588	627	690
<i>Per capita use</i>	Pounds	440	428	438	445
<i>Vegetables:</i>					
Fresh & melons	Pounds	173	172	173	180
Processing	Pounds	126	117	123	123
Potatoes & products	Pounds	126	123	126	126
Dry beans	Pounds	6	6	6	6
Other 2/	Pounds	9	10	9	9

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

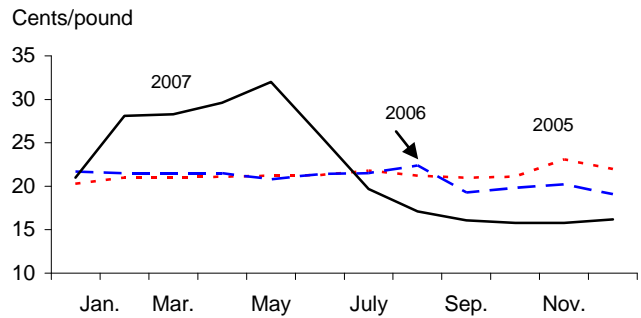
Sources: Derived by ERS from data of USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production, Acreage, Agricultural Prices, Crop Values, Mushrooms, and Potatoes*; and from U.S. trade data of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Figure 1  
**Point-of-first-sale (farm) price for fresh-market vegetables**

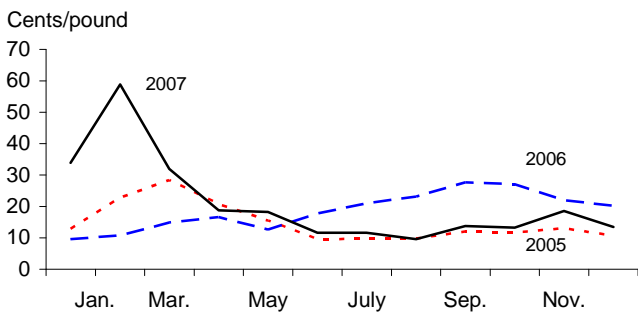
**Broccoli**



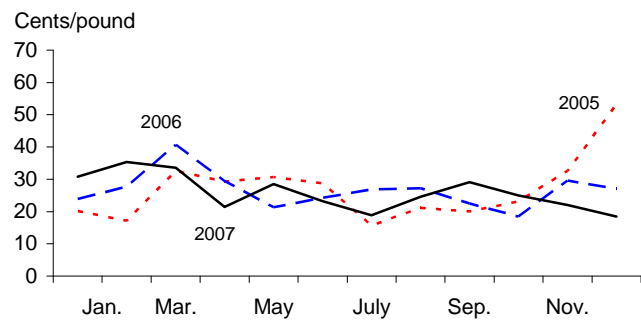
**Carrots**



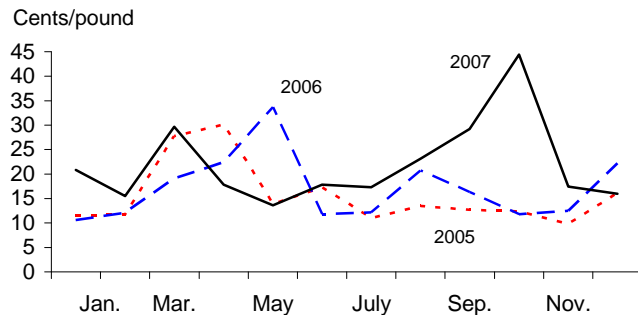
**Celery**



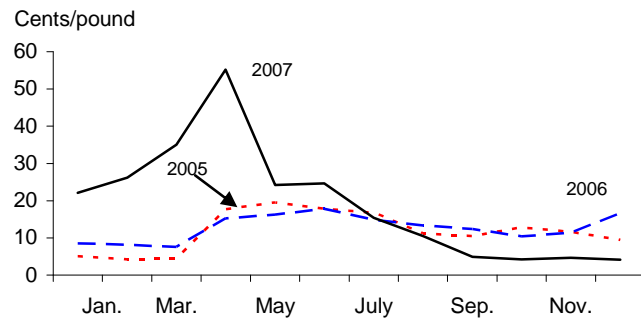
**Cucumbers**



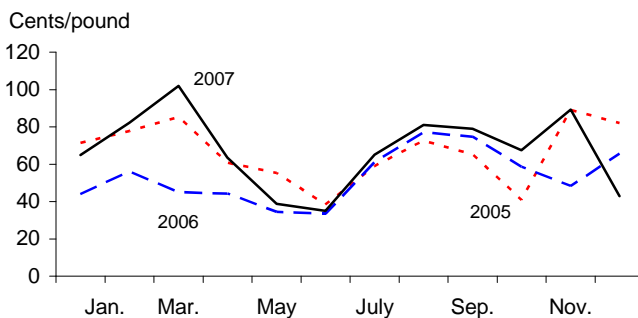
**Head lettuce**



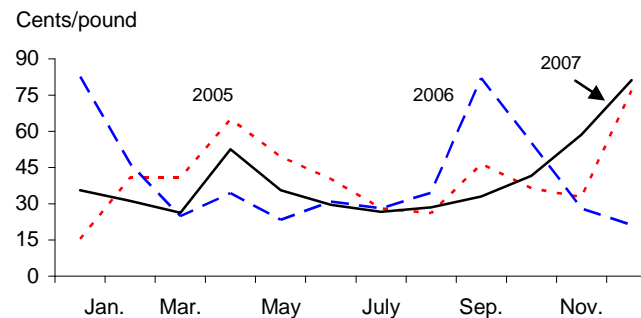
**Onions**



**Snap beans**



**Tomatoes**



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

# Fresh-market Vegetables

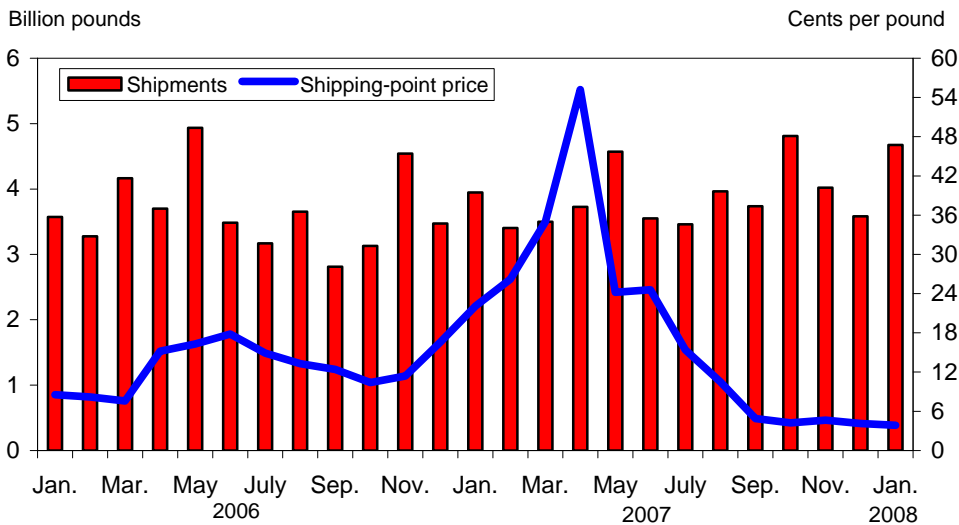
## Storage Onion Prices Hit Bottom

In a turnabout from the strong prices of a year ago, shipping-point prices for fresh dry bulb storage onions remain among the lowest in decades. In January, onion prices measured at the point of first sale (similar to the shipping-point price) averaged 3.85 cents per pound, down 83 percent from the lofty highs reached a year earlier. The major differences in the 2007/08 market from a year ago are the larger U.S. crop this past fall and a return to normal U.S. export volume to Mexico this season. A year ago, heavy export demand from Mexico pushed prices (unadjusted for inflation) to record-high levels with the peak of 55.2 cents per pound reached at the end of the storage season in April. In 2006/07, U.S. onion export volume shipped to Mexico surged to three times normal during the September-April period. This year, volume is running at more normal levels and good crops in other onion-growing countries have limited U.S. export opportunities elsewhere this season. Availability of the bountiful 2007/08 storage crop may extend into the spring onion season, weighing down starting prices for the spring crop in April and May. The domestic spring onion crop will account for about 4 pounds of the estimated 20 pounds of onions that the average American is expected to consume in 2008.

Forecasts of 2008 area planted to spring-season onions indicate a 5-percent decline from a year earlier to 32,000 acres. Most of the decline was in Texas this season as some growers decided to take advantage of higher prices for most grain crops. Texas area is down 16 percent from a year ago and 41 percent less than the highs experienced in 2006. Spring onion growers in Georgia, Texas, California, and Arizona may experience lower opening prices than a year earlier when spring onion prices started and stayed strong, eventually averaging 83 percent above the lows of 2006. With dry conditions into December, Georgia growers were delayed in transplanting spring onions and are expected to plant fewer acres. Both California and Arizona reportedly increased plantings. Given the expected decline in Texas onion area, Georgia growers will have the most planted area this year. The crop is in generally good condition in all growing areas, with few weather or disease problems noted. This also applies to the Mexican white onion crop that will be exported to the United States this spring.

Figure 2

### U.S. fresh dry bulb onions: Shipments & shipping-point price, 2006-



Sources: USDA, AMS, *Market News* and USDA, NASS, *Agricultural Prices*.

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

Item	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Change 2007-08
<i>-- Acres for harvest --</i>						<i>Percent</i>
Snap beans	12,000	12,500	13,200	13,900	14,000	1
Broccoli	26,500	27,000	28,500	30,000	28,500	-5
Cabbage	12,500	12,600	10,600	9,500	12,900	36
Carrots	21,100	19,500	21,200	19,100	18,900	-1
Cauliflower	7,500	8,500	8,500	8,200	8,000	-2
Celery	7,700	7,500	7,600	7,600	7,300	-4
Sweet corn	8,400	7,800	3,600	7,000	6,400	-9
Head lettuce	61,500	67,600	67,600	67,400	62,000	-8
Bell pepper	6,100	6,300	6,100	6,100	5,800	-5
Spinach	2,000	2,100	2,200	800	800	0
Tomatoes	13,000	12,500	10,000	10,000	9,100	-9
Total	178,300	183,900	179,100	179,600	173,700	-3

1/ Selected crops for harvest largely during January-March.

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

### ***Tomato Market Lower But Still Unsettled***

The winter fresh-tomato market picked up where the fall season left off, with prices running above average. Weather and acreage reductions continue to cause havoc in the tomato market. A combination of lower acreage in both the United States and Mexico, the January frost in southwestern Florida, and cool, wet weather in Mexico has kept shipping-point prices for fresh-market tomatoes elevated. In Florida, winds and freezing temperatures reached down into the Gulf coast vegetable areas around Immokalee on January 3. Tomato fields further south in Dade County were not affected. Reported damage ranged from total loss of plants to loss of blooms and fruit scarring. Given the 9-percent reduction in field tomato acreage this winter, crop losses from the frost and sluggish import volume further strengthened an already elevated market. Although easing in early February, shipping-point prices for field-grown tomatoes have largely remained above average since October when cool, wet weather and reduced acreage led to chronic supply inconsistencies.

Despite improvement in supplies in late January and early February, mature-green tomato prices were still averaging around \$12 per 25-pound box—about 20 percent above the relatively strong levels of a year ago. However, the loss of tomato plant blooms to the January frost could manifest itself temporarily in lower shipments and continued strong grower prices through late February since blooms were lost that would have been maturing into marketable fruit for this market window.

### ***Winter Acreage Lower***

This winter (largely January-March), fresh-market vegetable and melon area for harvest (excluding onions) is expected to decline 3 percent from that of a year earlier. Yields in Florida were likely trimmed by bouts with cold, wet, windy weather, while crops in the California and Arizona desert area experienced several frosty mornings but nothing close to the severe freeze of last winter. Despite lower acreage and variable yields, the volume of shipments for the leading fresh-market crops rose 5 percent from freeze-affected year-earlier levels during January. With demand potentially softening due to the slowdown in the economy, shipping-point prices this winter are expected to average below the freeze-affected highs of a year ago.

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

Item	Annual 2007	December 2007	January		Change previous: 2/	
			2007	2008	Month	Year
	--1,000 cwt--				Percent	
Asparagus	3,245	140	225	294	110	31
Snap beans	3,352	369	392	311	-16	-21
Broccoli	9,380	740	1,093	1,051	42	-4
Cabbage	11,917	1,164	1,413	1,426	23	1
Cantaloup	24,896	728	1,089	846	16	-22
Carrots	7,907	713	751	955	34	27
Cauliflower	3,684	297	379	368	24	-3
Celery	16,266	1,465	1,472	1,635	12	11
Sweet corn	10,987	333	594	594	78	0
Cucumbers	14,410	1,331	1,596	1,586	19	-1
Greens	2,325	312	281	242	-22	-14
Head lettuce	34,583	2,508	3,203	2,827	13	-12
Romaine	15,432	1,269	1,422	1,405	11	-1
Leaf lettuce	3,897	362	391	421	16	8
Onions, dry bulb	45,507	3,581	4,155	4,672	30	12
Onions, green	3,015	251	375	358	43	-5
Peppers, bell	15,827	1,501	1,649	1,839	23	12
Peppers, chile	6,058	413	456	608	47	33
Squash	6,707	647	955	865	34	-9
Tomato, round	28,234	2,023	2,421	2,827	40	17
Tomato, roma	11,809	931	1,302	1,515	63	16
Tomato, ghouse 3/	12,313	733	832	995	36	20
Tomato, cherry 4/	4,564	448	423	554	24	31
Watermelon	39,858	668	845	946	42	12
Selected total	336,173	22,927	27,714	29,140	27	5

1/ Data for 2008 are preliminary. Includes domestic and imported product. 2/ Change in January 2008. 3/ Includes all types of tomatoes produced under cover. 4/ Includes grape tomatoes.

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

Acreage for harvest of the 11 selected vegetables fell to 173,700 acres this winter season (largely January to March) with area down in 3 of the 4 producing States. California, which accounts for 47 percent of winter vegetable acreage, reduced area 5 percent, with acreage lower for each of the major crops. Arizona, which harvests 24 percent of winter area (concentrated mostly in lettuce), expects to harvest 7 percent less area this winter. Growers in Florida, who have 23 percent of winter area concentrated largely in warm season crops such as tomatoes, peppers, and snap beans, expect to harvest 4 percent fewer acres. Acreage increased in Texas this winter, with growers planting more cabbage but keeping spinach and carrot area constant. Winter-season area for harvest accounts for about 9 percent of the annual fresh vegetable and melon harvested area (1.94 million acres in 2007), with imports contributing a larger share of shipments than during any other season.

### ***Spring Fresh-Market Outlook***

The early outlook for spring-season fresh-market vegetable and melon area for harvest indicates a small decline from a year earlier. Although prices were up 5 percent last spring, offsetting factors include the soft economy, an expected reduction in Central Valley irrigation water deliveries in California, and an early Easter (Easter falls in the first quarter this year). Reduced water deliveries could affect the April transitional (from the desert to coastal California) acreage of leafy crops based in the Huron area. Any market impact would likely be brief (a month or less) as the harvest focus shifts to the Salinas area (which uses wells for irrigation) in late April. Irrigation water deliveries in the Central Valley are still likely to be reduced despite the favorable Sierra snowpack this winter. According to the

Table 4—U.S. quarterly grower (point-of-first-sale) prices, 2007-08

Commodity	2007				2008 *			Change 1st Q 1/ Percent
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	First	Second	Third	
	<i>Cents/pound</i>							
Asparagus	107.00	95.20	--	--	125.00	92.00	--	16.8
Broccoli	40.93	29.47	36.27	46.60	36.00	36.00	35.00	-12.0
Cantaloup	--	20.40	12.80	34.50	--	19.50	14.00	--
Carrots	25.80	29.17	17.63	15.93	22.00	23.75	19.75	-14.7
Cauliflower	42.17	35.50	25.80	41.73	45.00	39.00	29.00	6.7
Celery	41.57	16.23	11.68	15.13	20.00	17.00	13.75	-51.9
Sweet corn	27.07	21.43	22.73	25.37	27.00	20.00	21.00	-0.3
Cucumbers	33.23	24.37	24.20	21.83	35.00	23.25	22.75	5.3
Lettuce, head	22.00	16.40	23.20	25.93	19.00	22.50	17.00	-13.6
Onions, dry bulb	27.77	34.67	10.27	4.34	6.00	20.00	12.00	-78.4
Snap beans	83.07	45.80	75.03	66.57	68.00	44.00	65.00	-18.1
Tomatoes, field	31.03	39.27	29.47	60.50	45.00	37.50	36.00	45.0
All vegetables 2/	1,192	1,020	951	1,110	950	1,015	925	-20.3

-- = not available. \* = ERS forecast. 1/ Change in 1st-quarter 2008 over 1st-quarter 2007.

2/ Price index with base period of 1910-14 (the period when the index equaled 100).

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

California Department of Water Resources, the long-term, dry hydrologic conditions prevail. The official estimate of spring fresh vegetable area will be released by USDA on April 3.

### ***Fresh-market Production Up 3 Percent in 2007***

According to USDA's Vegetables Annual report, 2007 fresh-market vegetable production increased 2 percent from a year earlier to 494 million cwt. This was also 5 percent above the output of 2005. Production rose on the strength of improved yields since area harvested changed little at 1.94 million acres. Fresh-market output increased in 21 of the 37 surveyed states, with 3 of the top 4 producing states California (up 3 percent), Florida (up 6 percent), and Georgia (up 15 percent) each producing more fresh vegetables despite weather setbacks in the winter and fall. With larger volume, the farm value of production rose 2 percent to \$10.9 billion. California accounted for 54 percent of U.S. fresh-market vegetable crop value in 2007, with Florida a distant second at 12 percent.

### ***Value of Fresh Imports and Exports Rise in 2007***

In 2007, the value of fresh vegetable (excluding melons and potatoes) imports rose 10 percent to \$4.0 billion, with the majority of the increase reflecting rising import volume for crops such as fresh dry-bulb onions (up 40 percent), greenhouse tomatoes (up 15 percent), and garlic and chile peppers (each up 11 percent). Mexico and Canada remain the top two foreign suppliers of fresh-market vegetables to the U.S. market. In 2007, Mexico accounted for 70 percent of U.S. fresh-market vegetable import value, while Canada garnered 16 percent of the import market. Rounding out the top five import sources in 2007 were Peru (5 percent), China (2 percent), and Costa Rica (1 percent).

On the outgoing side of trade, with higher prices outweighing reduced export volume in 2007, the value of fresh vegetable (excluding melons and potatoes) exports rose 7 percent from a year earlier to \$1.6 billion. Canada remained the leading foreign destination for U.S. fresh-market vegetable and melon exports, with 80 percent of total value, followed distantly by Mexico (7 percent), and Japan (4



percent). At \$276 million, leaf/romaine lettuce was the leading fresh export vegetable by value in 2007, followed by tomatoes (\$160 million), onions (\$136 million), head lettuce (\$134 million), and broccoli (\$131 million).

Table 5--Annual U.S. production of selected fresh-market vegetables

Year	Average 2002-04	2005	2006	2007	Change 2006-07 2/
		-- Million pounds --			Percent
Artichokes 1/	92.5	86.9	106.7	90.2	-15
Asparagus 1/	132.8	153.4	115.3	111.6	-3
Snap beans	581.0	554.1	636.5	646.5	2
Broccoli 1/	1,784.6	1,994.0	2,020.0	2,036.3	1
Cabbage	2,394.6	2,427.5	2,482.3	2,582.4	4
Carrots	2,653.6	2,692.4	2,619.9	2,716.2	4
Cauliflower 1/	605.2	728.5	701.3	699.0	0
Celery 1/	1,915.7	1,868.6	1,923.0	2,027.2	5
Sweet corn	2,762.3	2,702.3	2,669.0	2,823.4	6
Cucumbers	1,015.5	969.1	970.9	935.2	-4
Garlic 1/	570.5	477.1	481.4	489.0	2
Lettuce, head	6,753.7	6,574.9	6,299.2	6,311.8	0
Lettuce, leaf	1,389.7	1,588.5	2,242.2	2,191.0	-2
Lettuce, romaine	1,987.4	1,993.2	2,650.0	2,754.0	4
Onions, dry bulb 1/	7,542.4	7,350.4	7,317.7	7,941.3	9
Peppers, bell 1/	1,606.2	1,603.6	1,524.3	1,467.7	-4
Pumpkins 1/	896.0	1,075.6	1,034.0	1,116.4	8
Spinach	548.7	758.1	620.7	635.4	2
Squash 1/	807.8	833.4	922.4	788.8	-14
Tomatoes	3,774.4	3,826.8	3,680.9	3,703.2	1

1/ Includes some processing.

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

Table 6--Selected U.S. fresh-market vegetable trade volume, 2004-07 1/

Item	January - December				Change
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006-07
	--1,000 cwt--				Percent
<b>Exports, fresh:</b>					
Onions, dry bulb	6,245	6,678	6,588	5,509	-16
Lettuce, head	4,764	4,501	3,639	3,523	-3
Lettuce, other	4,898	4,863	4,610	4,522	-2
Tomatoes	3,693	3,265	3,177	3,545	12
Broccoli	3,153	3,147	3,053	3,107	2
Carrots	2,839	2,847	2,531	2,572	2
Celery	2,661	2,692	2,553	2,588	1
Other	14,333	14,004	13,700	13,279	-3
Total	39,925	39,306	37,298	36,055	-3
<b>Imports, fresh:</b>					
Tomatoes, all	20,542	20,981	21,879	23,607	8
Cucumbers	9,334	9,551	9,743	10,125	4
Onions, dry bulb	6,893	6,592	6,432	9,025	40
Peppers, sweet	5,690	6,526	7,161	7,264	1
Squash 2/	4,948	5,244	5,304	5,657	7
Peppers, chile	4,143	4,254	5,086	5,634	11
Asparagus, all	2,037	2,388	2,653	2,692	1
Other	18,804	20,633	21,658	23,549	9
Total	72,391	76,169	79,916	87,553	10

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

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

# Processing Vegetables

## Prospective Tomato Area Down

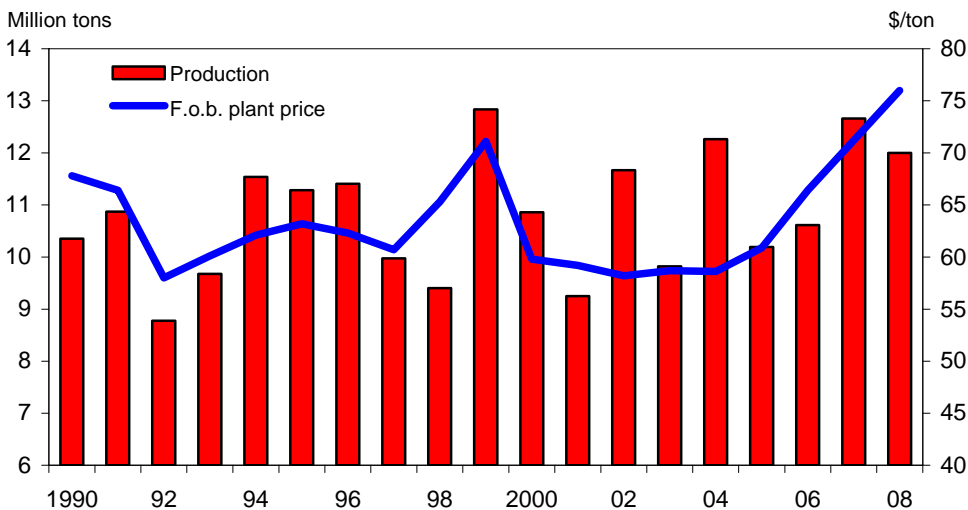
An early (Jan. 14) crop intentions report indicated that California tomato processors would likely contract for fewer tomatoes in 2008. A year ago, U.S. production was second only to the 1999 record high. California is the source for about 95 percent of the tomatoes grown nationally for processed products such as sauces, paste, soup, juice, and ketchup. California's tomato processors intend to contract for 2 percent fewer processing tomatoes than a year earlier—a total of 11.8 million short tons if they were to carry through with these early intentions. A yield of nearly 41 tons per acre was assumed—up from last year's 40.47 tons and second only to the 2004 record high of 40.8 tons. An additional 0.6 million tons would likely be processed from open market purchases and other States. In 2007, 99 percent of the 12.5 million tons of tomatoes processed in the United States were grown under contract.

According to the California Tomato Growers Association, reduced irrigation water deliveries in the San Joaquin Valley could discourage some growers from planting tomatoes. As a result, processors have reportedly enhanced contract pricing. In 2007, the base price (price at the first delivery point, excluding premiums) averaged a record-high (unadjusted for inflation) \$63 per short ton, up from \$58 the previous season. The base price this year will likely rise to around \$70 per ton in order to entice growers to battle a projected water shortage (to purchase water from other growers, install drip tape, etc), cover higher costs, and reduce the lure of high-priced alternative grain crops.

Although tomato stocks on Dec 1, 2007 were up 22 percent, average monthly disappearance was up 9 percent over the previous 6 months despite higher prices for most tomato products. Tomato juice was one of the few products for which wholesale prices apparently fell in 2007 (down about 8 percent according to the Food Institute). On a fresh-equivalent basis, estimated disappearance has been running just under 1 million tons per month. In 2007, preliminary estimates suggest that per capita use of processing tomatoes has recovered from the 2006 lows (64.5 pounds), improving to about 68.6 pounds per person. Assuming the domestic economy regains its footing (supporting away-from-home meals) later this year, use of processed tomato products is expected to remain relatively strong in 2008.

Figure 3

### U.S. processing tomatoes: Production & delivered plant price



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, except 2008 forecast by ERS.

Table 7--Processing vegetables: Consumer and producer price indexes

Item	2006	2007		Change previous:	
	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Month	Year
	-- Index --			-- Percent --	
<b>Consumer Price Indexes (12/97=100)</b>					
All food (1982-84=100)	197.0	206.3	206.7	0.2	4.9
Processed fruits and vegetables	123.5	126.7	128.5	1.4	4.0
Canned vegetables	125.9	128.4	131.8	2.7	4.7
Frozen vegetables (1982-84=100)	178.7	180.2	179.7	-0.3	0.6
Dry beans, peas, lentils	123.6	136.9	139.0	1.5	12.5
Olives, pickles, relishes	112.6	123.1	117.2	-4.7	4.1
<b>Producer Price Indexes (1982=100)</b>					
Canned vegetables and juices	142.2	143.3	143.9	0.4	1.2
Pickles and products	193.1	199.9	199.9	0.0	3.5
Tomato catsup and sauces 1/	135.4	137.2	137.1	-0.1	1.3
Canned dry beans	136.3	134.9	131.9	-2.2	-3.2
Vegetable juices 1/	117.6	117.3	117.3	0.0	-0.3
Frozen vegetables	142.6	152.4	153.2	0.5	7.4
Frozen vegetable combinations 2/	107.3	109.9	109.9	0.0	2.4
Dried/dehyd. fruit & vegetables	171.9	179.7	186.0	3.5	8.2

1/ Index base year is 1987. 2/ Index base is Dec 1990.

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

Reduced supplies and higher prices outweighed more favorable exchange rates and forced the volume (expressed on a fresh-weight basis) of tomato product exports down 6 percent to 2.9 billion pounds—the most significant decline since 1999 (fell 11 percent). Most of the decline was centered in paste and sauces, the 2 leading export products. Although paste export volume was 7 percent lower and the smallest since 2002, volume increased for whole tomatoes (up 8 percent) and ketchup (up 3 percent). Among the top 3 markets (Mexico, Canada, and Japan), a smaller volume of product was shipped to each. While volume was lower, higher prices boosted the value of 2007 tomato product exports 4 percent to \$319 million. The value of exports to Japan (now the third largest foreign market) fell 8 percent to \$19 million, remaining well below the 1995 peak of \$36 million.

With low stocks and higher wholesale prices prevailing during the first three quarters, 2007 import volume (on a fresh-equivalent basis) increased 3 percent to a record 1.7 billion pounds. The value of imports increased 16 percent to \$194 million, led by Canada (up 17 percent), Italy (24 percent), and Mexico (44 percent). Driven largely by sales of sauces, Italy now accounts for 30 percent of U.S. tomato product import value. U.S. imports of tomato sauce from Italy rose 26 percent in 2007 and accounted for almost all tomato product imports from that nation.

### ***Processing Production and Value Up In 2007***

Production of the major vegetables used for processing increased 12 percent to 17.8 million short tons in 2007. Five of the 11 crops registered increased output with tomatoes again the major change agent. Other than tomatoes, much of the gain in output came from crops used for freezing including snap beans, green peas, broccoli, and spinach. Production of sweet corn used for canned products fell as both area and yields declined, especially in the upper Midwest.

Improved yields offset reduced area to leave pickling cucumber output up less than 1 percent in 2007. Yield was very strong in Florida (10.3 tons/acre) which helped continue the growth in the State's processing sector. Florida, with 14 percent of the

Table 8--Annual U.S. production of selected processing vegetables

Year	Average 2002-04	2005	2006	2007	Change 2006-07 2/ Percent
<i>1,000 short tons</i>					
<b>Canning:</b>					
Tomatoes	11,252.3	10,193.1	10,611.8	12,659.9	19
Sweet corn	1,480.9	1,599.7	1,439.0	1,275.5	-11
Snap beans	537.4	580.3	540.1	497.8	-8
Cucumbers	619.7	540.1	505.2	507.6	0
Green peas	161.8	150.1	158.8	158.5	0
Asparagus	25.4	16.1	8.0	5.9	-26
Lima beans	6.2	5.3	5.5	4.1	-24
Spinach	11.0	8.9	4.2	14.7	250
Subtotal	14,094.6	13,093.6	13,272.7	15,123.9	14
<b>Freezing:</b>					
Sweet corn	1,619.8	1,575.1	1,646.5	1,622.0	-1
Green peas	243.3	233.0	251.0	277.5	11
Snap beans	248.4	238.9	245.8	270.0	10
Spinach	107.8	89.4	65.4	83.1	27
Lima beans	50.8	37.1	50.9	49.0	-4
Asparagus	4.4	3.4	4.1	4.0	-2
Subtotal	2,274.5	2,177.0	2,263.7	2,305.5	2
Selected total	16,369.0	15,270.6	15,536.4	17,429.4	12

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

crop, has surpassed North Carolina as the second-leading pickling cucumber state, still a distant second to Michigan (31 percent of the crop). Despite the small gain in output, December 1 pickle stocks were 15 percent below a year earlier, which may signal increased processor contracting this spring. The average price paid at the plant door for cucumbers has increased 29 percent since 2005 (and will likely go up again in 2008) as transportation costs have risen and processors have had to compete with alternative crops for acreage (which has declined for the past 3 years). The farm value of the pickling cucumber crop was \$168 million in 2007, with Michigan and Florida accounting for 41 percent. In 2007, estimated per capita net domestic disappearance recovered from the low levels of the previous year to 3.5 pounds, with 8 percent now satisfied by imports—up from 3 percent during the 1990s.

The value of production for processing vegetables rose 20 percent to \$1.65 billion. As with production, the top two crops in terms of farm value were tomatoes (\$902 million) and sweet corn (\$236 million). California (\$896 million), Wisconsin (\$116 million), Minnesota (\$113 million), and Washington (\$100 million) remained the top four in terms of farm value.

### ***Imports and Exports Rise in 2007***

In terms of value, the United States easily remained a net importer of processed (canned, frozen, dried) vegetables (excluding potatoes) in 2007. The value of processed (canned, frozen, dried) vegetable and melon imports rose nearly 10 percent from a year earlier during January to December 2007. By value, Mexico (24 percent of the total), Canada (13 percent), and China (13 percent) remain the top three suppliers of processed vegetables. Although volume was down for canned vegetables and flat for dehydrated, import value for the canned, frozen, and dehydrated categories were each above a year earlier (table 9).

The United States is a net importer of canned vegetable products (both volume and value). Despite favorable exchange rates, little change is expected in this negative trend over the next few years as canners face increasing costs from rising energy-based inputs, higher raw product acquisition costs due to indirect biofuel-based competitive price pressures, and strong international competition for export markets. In 2007, import volume for canned vegetables was down 3 percent from a year earlier, with decreases for tomato paste, tomato sauces, and pickles outweighing gains for canned pimentos, carrots, and snap beans.

Import volume from three of the top five foreign suppliers (Mexico, China, and Peru) of canned vegetables increased. For Peru, the fifth-leading foreign supplier of canned vegetables to the United States in 2007, volume was up 13 percent. Canned import volume from Canada, the second-leading supplier, fell nearly 11 percent. Canada accounted for 16 percent of canned vegetable import volume in 2007, with tomato ketchup accounting for more than half of the volume.

The value of processed vegetable and melon exports rose 10 percent from a year earlier during calendar year 2007. Export volume and values for the canned, frozen, and dehydrated categories were each above a year earlier. Export volume for frozen vegetables rose 10 percent from a year earlier, while canned export volume was up just 1 percent. Export volume was stronger for frozen sweet corn, canned whole tomatoes, and dehydrated onions, but lower for tomato paste, tomato sauce, and frozen peas. Among the top three U.S. markets for canned vegetables, the value of U.S. products shipped to Canada rose 10 percent, while the value of shipments to Japan (down 2 percent) and Mexico (down 17 percent) were each lower.

Table 9--Value of U.S. processed vegetable trade 1/

Item	January - December				Change
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006-07
	--Million dollars--				Percent
<b>Imports:</b>					
Canned	740	812	883	899	2
Tomato products	129	138	168	194	16
Frozen	455	493	526	630	20
Broccoli	169	176	171	209	22
Dehydrated 2/	268	299	353	392	11
Garlic	18	24	49	52	5
<b>Exports:</b>					
Canned	532	539	555	593	7
Tomato products	271	288	307	319	4
Frozen	147	160	175	212	21
Sweet corn	59	60	63	64	2
Dehydrated 2/	117	128	129	139	7
Onion products	57	64	66	79	19

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

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

## Potatoes

### *Prices Remain Stable with Excess Stocks*

Total U.S. potato production for the 2007 crop year (September-August) is reported at 449 million hundred weight (cwt), a 2 percent increase from 441 million cwt posted in 2006. Within the top 13 potato producing states, January 1 potato stocks are estimated by the USDA at 238 million cwt, 5-percent greater than last year's 226 million cwt.

Total January potato shipments of 12 million cwt were 8 percent lower than 2006 and the lowest recorded shipments in over four years. Cold temperatures and inclement weather were likely key factors in this slow movement. Idaho and Colorado reported decreases of 1 and 5 percent in fresh shipments, while movement of all chipping potatoes experienced a 20-percent decline to 2.9 million cwt. Year-to-date table stock shipments (September-January) of 44.2 million cwt reflect a 1 percent gain from 2006. This slight increase may be explained by robust tablestock shipment volume from the Red River Valley and Klamath Basin. Red River Valley shippers reported a 26-percent increase in January tablestock shipments of 713 thousand cwt compared with a year earlier. The Klamath Basin reported a 1 percent increase in fresh shipments compared with January 2007. Shipping-point prices are expected to increase reflecting increased demand for potatoes from these regions and smaller fall production in the Red River Valley.

Despite good supplies, prices remain stable, with the average preliminary price received for all potatoes sold in January standing at \$7.11 per cwt. This is 5-cent increase from January 2007's price of \$7.06 per cwt. Year-to-date crop year averages for processing potatoes are up from \$8.21 per cwt in 2006 to \$8.86 per cwt in 2007, while year-to-date averages for fresh tablestock potatoes dropped to \$8.21 per cwt from \$8.86 per cwt in 2006.

### *Strong Finish Reported in 2007 Trade Numbers*

Valued at \$1.1 billion, U.S. exports of potatoes rose sharply in 2007 (January-December) to 23.1 million cwt, an 8-percent increase from 21.3 million cwt in

Table 10--U.S. potatoes: Monthly shipments by type, 2005-2007 2/

Crop year 1/	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Year-to-date
1,000 cwt						
<b>Tablestock</b>						
2005	8,469	8,742	9,317	9,158	8,952	44,638
2006	8,277	8,169	9,398	8,984	9,161	43,988
2007	8,015	8,815	9,445	9,031	8,959	44,265
<b>Idaho 3/</b>						
2005	2,197	2,564	2,798	2,624	2,513	12,696
2006	2,335	2,669	2,749	2,575	2,728	13,057
2007	2,345	2,793	2,849	2,502	2,703	13,192
<b>Chipper</b>						
2005	3,673	4,472	3,442	4,786	3,605	19,978
2006	4,111	3,572	3,608	5,093	3,669	20,053
2007	4,692	3,699	3,454	4,738	2,924	19,509

1/ Crop year is September-August of following year. 2/ Shipments include exports but exclude imports; transported by truck, rail, and piggyback from surveyed States.

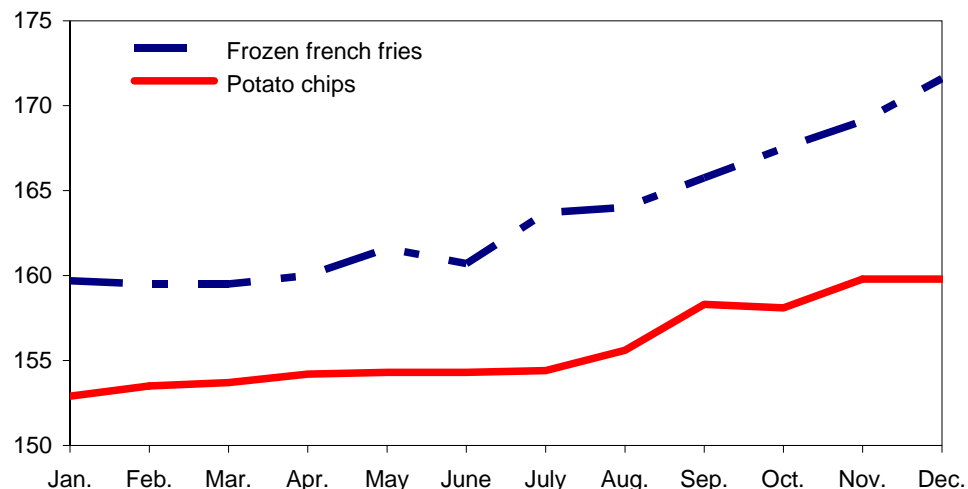
3/ Excludes chipper and seed potatoes.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Shipments*.

Figure 4

**U.S. french fries and chips: Producer price index, 2007**

Percent of 1982



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

2006. U.S. potato exports again greatly outpaced potato imports of \$833 million in 2007. Frozen french fries registered the largest 2007 export increase with a 12 percent increase to 13.1 million cwt—up from 11.7 million cwt. Japan consumed the largest amount of U.S. frozen french fries, importing \$199 million, up from \$183 million in 2006. French fry exports to China experienced the greatest increase in 2007, with a 33-percent increase from a year earlier to \$33 million. The value of U.S. french fry exports to Canada also recorded a jump of 21 percent from a year earlier to \$70.6 million.

Fresh tablestock exports posted a 3-percent increase to 5.6 million cwt in 2007—up from 5.4 million cwt in 2006. The volume of potato chip exports declined 6 percent from a year earlier to 1.1 million cwt (fresh-weight equivalent). Exports of potato chips to Japan and Mexico declined substantially in 2007, while Canada reported a 25-percent increase in U.S. potato chip purchases to \$46.9 million. Mexico purchased \$31.7 million in U.S. potato chips in 2007—down 25 percent from a year earlier. Chip exports to Japan also decreased 22 percent in 2007, dropping from \$34.2 million a year earlier to \$26.7 million.

Not surprisingly, U.S. imports of potatoes posted a 3 percent decline in 2007 with potato imports decreasing to \$837 million from \$856 million in 2006. Seed, tablestock and most processing categories saw moderate to significant declines in imports. Seed potato imports posted a 10-percent decline to \$20.2 million in 2007. Some of this decline may be attributable to the fall 2007 import ban of seed potatoes from Alberta, Canada due to suspicions of nematode contamination. Imports of fresh tablestock potatoes decreased slightly from \$93.7 million to \$93.4 million in 2007. Processed potato imports decreased 3 percent to \$720 million, with moderate to significant import declines in frozen french fries (\$516 million), other frozen potatoes (\$45.4 million), and potato chips (\$78 million).

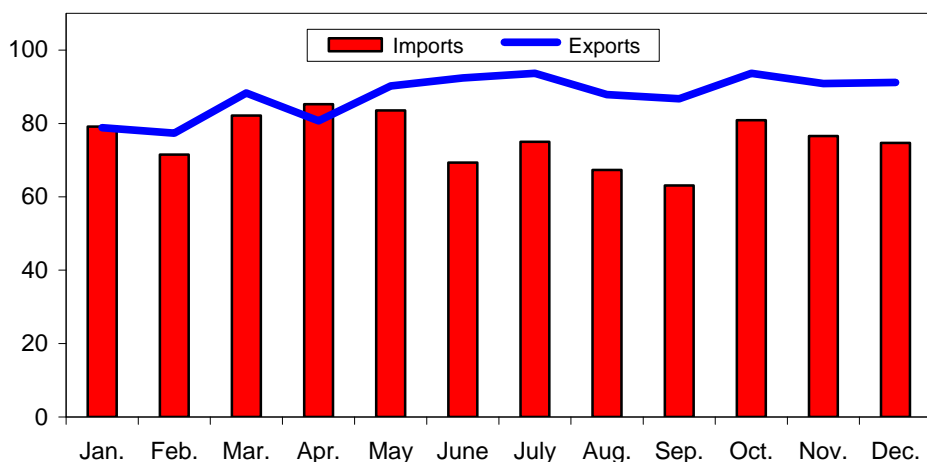
***Preliminary 2008 Outlook***

The outlook for the chipping industry remains uncertain for 2008. Both growers and chipping firms are experiencing escalating costs and tight potato chip sales. Rising fuel and labor costs are affecting both sides of the industry with industry sources

Figure 5

**U.S. potatoes: Total value of imports and exports, 2007**

Million \$



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

reporting rising production costs for cooking oils, packaging, and potatoes. With the price of potato chips being relatively inelastic, the industry has reportedly been moving toward decreasing package sizes, while maintaining prices, resulting in fewer potatoes demanded for chipping. Normally, chipping contracts are settled by this time of year; however processors have had a challenging time securing contracts at desired prices. Given industry constraints from field to grocery store, it will be interesting to see if acreage devoted to chipping potatoes decreases in 2008 to meet softer demand. There is a possibility growers may attempt to hedge the market by planting excess chipping potatoes without secured contracts in hopes demand in 2008 exceeds supply. However chippers have been historically lean in manufacturing and relatively efficient in estimating the consumer demand. Plus, growers may be less likely to take risks this year with so many profitable cropping alternatives at their disposal.

Prices of alternative crops, such as wheat and corn, have the potential to impact the potato industry as a whole. With record high wheat prices, producers may be tempted to decrease acreage planted to potatoes and increase acreage planted to wheat in order to maximize profit and endure less risk in production. However, 2007 offers a unique situation where potato prices remain high compared with historic averages, but low compared with the price of wheat. Some farmers may view these obstacles as opportunities to maximize profit by increasing potato acreage; however historical perspective should be taken into account when considering these possibilities. A similar environment to the current market outlook occurred in 1976, with high potato and wheat prices. Growers attempted to hedge markets, and increased acreage planted to potatoes by 8 percent. As a result, potato output rose 11 percent and prices dropped 20 percent.

The market outlook for 2008/09 is a bit uncertain at this point. On the demand side, contracts in the chipping industry and all around processing shipments appear to be soft in early 2008. During planting season, the industry should be mindful that yields have maintained a consistent upward trend with steady gains since 2001. Coupled with legitimate price-revenue challenges from alternative field crops, and rising costs of fuel, fertilizer, and other inputs, area planted to potatoes may not need to change much to match market demand in the coming year.



## Sweet Potatoes

### *Upward Production Trend Continues in 2007*

Timely rainfall led to favorable sweet potato yields in top producing States such as Louisiana and Mississippi, while drought conditions caused slight decreases in production in eastern States. The United States experienced a strong year for sweet potato production (the highest since 1959), with a 14-percent increase to 18.5 million hundredweight, fueled by increased area and strong yields. U.S. sweet potato area harvested increased 12 percent to 97,500 acres while per acre yields rose 1 percent to a record-high 189 cwt. This was the second consecutive year that sweet potatoes have posted above average output and record yields.

Hurricane Humberto dropped three inches of rain on Mississippi in mid-September, in time to relieve drought conditions and increase yields to 175 cwt per acre, up 9 percent from 160 cwt per acre in 2006. Mississippi also experienced strong production levels at 3.5 million cwt, a 41-percent increase from 2006. Louisiana posted record yields at 195 cwt per acre, an 18-percent increase from last year and easily surpassing the 2003 record of 175 cwt per acre. Sweet potato production in Louisiana increased 31 percent from 2006 to 2.9 million cwt. California, the second largest sweet-potato-producing State in 2007, experienced a 9-percent increase in area harvested (to a record 13,000 acres) and a 5-percent increase in yield to a record 320 cwt per acre. The Golden State also reached a record high in production, with a crop of 4.3 million cwt.

Drought conditions in eastern States such as North Carolina and New Jersey caused significant decreases in yields and production. Although growers in North Carolina increased planted acreage 10 percent to 44,000 acres, the State realized an 8-percent decrease in yield, down to 165 cwt per acre. With rising acreage nearly offset by lower yields, production rose just 1 percent to 7.1 million cwt. However, North Carolina's 2007 production levels continued to exceed the five year average of 6.1 million cwt. Growers in New Jersey saw yields decline 26 percent to just 100 cwt per acre. Production fell back to 2000 levels of 120,000 cwt, a 26 percent reduction from 2006.

Table 11--Sweet potatoes: Domestic shipments from surveyed States

Mkt. year 1/	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Year-to-date
-- 1,000 cwt --								
<b>Louisiana</b>								
2005	47	43	70	131	285	145	69	790
2006	59	73	133	93	289	159	77	882
2007 p	18	17	67	80	294	158	71	706
<b>North Carolina</b>								
2005	161	139	171	255	473	257	229	1,685
2006	197	194	241	261	574	324	261	2,053
2007 p	247	253	246	272	620	322	254	2,214
<b>Mississippi</b>								
2006	85	88	112	92	176	119	86	758
2007 p	60	73	86	97	198	99	80	692

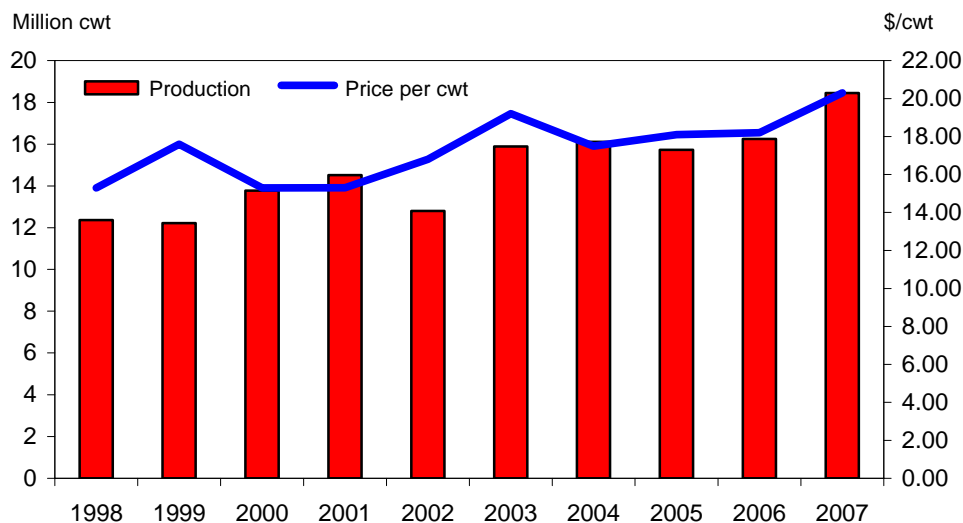
p = preliminary.

1/ Sweet potato marketing year: July-June.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Shipments*.

Figure 6

**U.S. sweet potatoes: Production and price, 1998-2007**



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production & Crop Values*.

***Robust Demand Reflected in Strong Prices, Despite Big Crop***

Despite the availability of large supplies for a second year in a row, prices for sweet potatoes remain strong. Preliminary estimates for domestic 2007 sweet potato prices are \$20 per cwt. This would be a 12-percent increase from 2006 and the highest price recorded (unadjusted for inflation), leading to a 15-percent increase in total value of production (\$330 million). Alabama boasted the highest price at \$32 per cwt. North Carolina saw a 30-percent increase in prices to \$21 per cwt and posted a record \$148 million value of production (a 52 percent increase from 2006). Prices decreased in both California and Mississippi to \$19 per cwt, however California’s increase in yield made up for the drop in price, with production valued at \$71 million (a 6 percent increase from 2006). Conversely, Mississippi’s production value declined 22 percent to \$48 million.

Shipping point prices for 40-pound cartons during January averaged between \$10.60 and \$11.90, an increase from a year earlier when prices averaged \$9.90-\$10.94 per 40-pound carton. Increases in production, coupled with strong prices were likely a result of increased year-round demand. Rather than being a seasonal crop consumed traditionally around November and December, industry sources cite increased year round demand from processors, retailers, food service outlets and export markets. Reasons for such increases include an enhanced awareness of the nutritional benefits of sweet potatoes along with increases in innovative value-added marketing.

***Export Market Continues Upward March***

U.S. sweet potato exports increased 2 percent during the 2007 crop year (July through June) to \$31.3 million. At the same time, sweet potato imports remained subdued at \$5.3 million. Canada consumed the largest amount of U.S. sweet potato exports, purchasing \$18.4 million. The United Kingdom was the second-largest

export market with \$9.6 million. Given a strong crop in 2007, the industry will be relying on continued gains in exports to maintain orderly market flow through next summer and retain the price strength that has characterized the sweet potato market during the past several years.

Table 12--Sweet potatoes: Monthly export value and volume

Month	Export value			Export volume		
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
	1,000 \$			1,000 lbs		
July	1,293	2,169	2,647	3,527	4,986	6,017
Aug.	1,264	1,518	2,343	3,388	3,604	5,345
Sep.	2,262	2,612	3,094	6,351	3,083	7,103
Oct.	1,986	2,304	2,746	5,938	6,880	6,709
Nov.	1,842	2,301	3,112	5,127	6,547	7,602
Dec.	2,964	2,459	3,735	8,843	7,494	9,097
Jan.	1,705	2,056		4,802	5,649	
Feb.	2,369	3,025		6,747	7,997	
Mar.	3,862	3,709		10,048	9,825	
Apr.	4,931	3,359		12,343	8,042	
May	3,665	2,990		9,042	7,432	
June	2,578	2,793		6,374	6,635	
Year 1/	30,721	31,295	41,399	82,530	78,173	100,429

1/ Sum of monthly trade data from July to June, corresponding to the sweet potato marketing year. 2/ Annual data for 2007/08 projected by ERS.

Source: Derived by ERS based on data of U.S. Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

## Dry Beans

### Outlook for 2008

In a winter scene likely to be replayed over the next several years, uncertainty reigns in the acreage outlook for dry edible beans. Early acreage expectations remain fluid, with growers presented with even more profitable choices than in 2007. Instead of the focus being just on field corn this year, projected net returns indicate that soybeans, wheat, barley, sorghum, and many classes of dry beans could each be very attractive cropping alternatives. Price strength remains broad for virtually all competing field crops but production costs for fuel, fertilizer, and seed are also ratcheting upward. The average marketing year price for field corn is projected to be about \$3.65 in 2007/08—up from \$3.04 a year earlier and \$2.00 two years ago. In 2008/09, corn is projected to continue rising as soybean plantings cuts into corn acreage. As a result, although dry bean prices have also risen, they have gained little on corn and lost ground to soybeans.

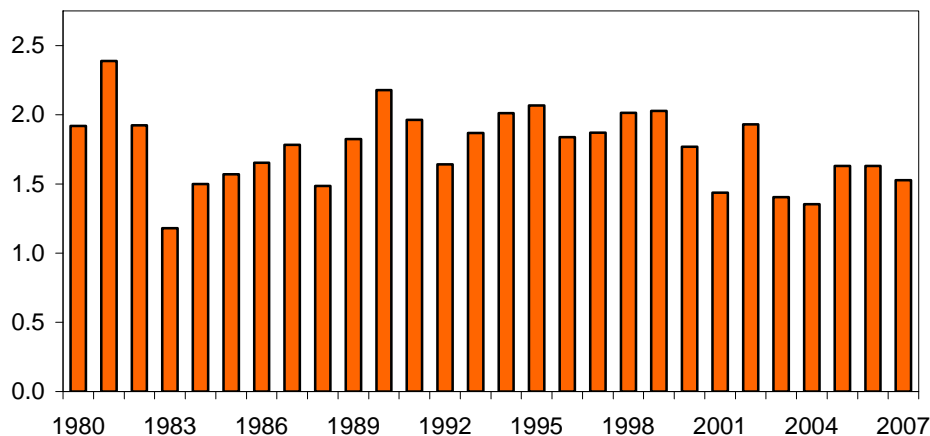
The dry bean/corn price ratio was 7.3 in 2006/07 and is expected to be about the same in 2007/08 and 2008/09. Although dry bean prices have kept pace with corn, both soybean and wheat prices have also hit record highs this year, placing even more pressure on potential dry bean area. The lack of substantive changes in the relative dry bean/corn price relationship is one indicator pointing toward small changes in total dry bean acreage this year and next. However, the aggregate dry bean price masks more substantial changes among bean classes. Marketing year average prices for cranberry, light and dark red kidney, Great Northern, small red, and navy beans are expected to be on the high end of the 2007/08 dry bean price range. As a result, a few of these classes could experience increases in seeded area of 10 percent or more.

Assuming lower acreage for such classes as pinto, black, blackeye, and garbanzo beans, U.S. dry bean seeded area is expected to drop 5 to 9 percent from a year earlier. With average yields (which would be lower than last year's trend-reaching performance) and average acreage losses, the 2008 dry bean crop would be at least 10 percent lower than the 25.4 million cwt of 2007. Although not necessarily a requirement, a smaller crop this fall would also make higher average dry bean prices (perhaps exceeding the 1988 record) during the 2008/09 marketing season

Figure 7

#### U.S. dry beans: Acres planted, 1980-2008

Million acres



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production* except 2008 by ERS.

Table 13--U.S. navy (pea) beans: Acreage, yield, production, and value, 1990-2007

Crop year	Acreage 1/		Yield 1/ Cwt/acre	Produc- tion 1/ 1,000 cwt	Farm value	
	Planted 1,000 acres	Harvested			Per unit 2/ \$/cwt	Crop 3/ Mil. dols.
1990	511.1	492.6	13.38	6,593	16.12	106,279
1991	490.4	482.2	17.15	8,268	13.99	115,669
1992	418.7	385.9	13.00	5,018	17.98	90,224
1993	442.9	389.2	13.55	5,275	19.43	102,493
1994	428.4	380.1	13.91	5,289	28.44	150,419
1995	487.1	450.1	16.25	7,314	19.22	140,575
1996	418.2	404.3	14.80	5,984	18.37	109,926
1997	385.9	365.6	15.11	5,524	13.92	76,894
1998	255.5	243.3	15.98	3,887	19.22	74,708
1999	440.3	403.3	18.09	7,294	12.70	92,634
2000	346.2	307.1	15.54	4,771	11.16	53,244
2001	213.3	163.8	14.11	2,311	20.73	47,907
2002	345.3	307.7	17.51	5,389	12.23	65,907
2003	158.2	150.9	16.66	2,514	18.53	46,584
2004	185.1	162.5	13.18	2,142	24.90	53,336
2005	236.4	223.4	17.88	3,995	19.07	76,185
2006	280.7	263.9	16.49	4,353	20.66	89,933
2007 p	221.9	211.2	18.06	3,815	30.00	114,450

p = ERS forecast for 2007/08 open market value.

1/ Source: USDA, NASS, *Crop Production*. 2/ Source: USDA, AMS, *Bean Market News*.

3/ Source: Calculated by USDA, ERS.

a much safer bet. The first survey-based examination of 2008 row crop area (including dry beans) will be available on March 30 when USDA releases the *Prospective Plantings* report.

For 2008/09, grower revenue will undoubtedly benefit from the strong grower bids across most dry bean classes. This was certainly the case in 2007/08 as the marketing year average price for all dry beans rose 19 percent to \$26.40 per cwt. With production also up slightly, the farm value of the 2007 dry bean crop jumped 22 percent to \$677 million—the highest crop value since 1981 but well below the export-enhanced 1980 record high (\$737 million). North Dakota’s crop value soared 56 percent to a record \$241 million in an unusual twist that saw a near record large crop being met by rising prices. Over the past 20 years, average North Dakota dry bean prices have risen one other time (1996) during a season which also featured an increase in production from a year earlier.

### ***Grower Prices Advancing***

Reflecting reduced supplies, tight holding of unsold stocks, and competitive pressure from higher-priced field crops, dealer and grower bids have remained strong since harvest and have crept higher across most dry bean classes. The U.S. aggregate grower price for all dry beans averaged 25 percent above a year earlier during the initial 5 months of the marketing year (September 2007 through January 2008). With the exception of blackeye and lima beans, grower bids for every major dry bean class averaged above a year earlier during September to January.

At the wholesale level, early February dealer prices for several of the major classes changed as follows:

- Pintos (CO), \$36.00—up 18 percent from a year earlier;

- Navy (MI), \$39.25—up 43 percent;
- Great Northern (NE), \$44.50—up 44 percent;
- Black (MI), \$39.50—up 27 percent;
- Light red kidney (MI), \$57.00—up 61 percent;
- Dark red kidney (MI), \$57.50—up 74 percent;
- Baby lima (CA), \$43.25—down 9 percent;
- Garbanzo beans (ID/WA), \$39.50—up 7 percent.

Market interrelationships force dry bean prices to reflect more than just the supply and demand factors within dry bean markets. Because of limited land and production resources, prices are now influenced by characteristics of markets that have little in common with dry beans, perhaps more so than at any time in the recent past. As a result, dealer prices may be forced to remain above long-term averages until either field crop prices ease or domestic dry bean supplies are bolstered. Barring unusually strong yields, imports may be the conduit through which these additional supplies enter the market. Imports are becoming a larger share of a few dry bean classes and foreign products may continue to grab an increasing share of the U.S. market. One question that arises is whether over the long run, some classes of U.S. beans will be priced out of the domestic market by being forced to maintain parity with elevated field crop prices.

### ***Exports Down, Imports Up***

During the first 4 months of the 2007/08 marketing year (September-December), dry bean export volume declined 10 percent from the strong levels of a year earlier but remained even with 2 years earlier. Higher prices likely weighed down U.S. dry bean exports with average export unit values up 17 percent from the previous year to 31.3 cents per pound. Export performance was mixed by class with increases for dark red kidney, pink, large lima, cranberry, and Great Northern being outweighed by reductions for most other classes. Volume was down 43 percent for black beans and 10 percent for pintos due partly to higher prices and reduced demand from Mexico.

The leading destinations were Mexico (17 percent of total volume), Canada (13 percent), Zimbabwe (13 percent) and the United Kingdom (10 percent). Exports to Mexico (down 45 percent) and Canada (down 27 percent) each declined because of

Table 14--U.S. dry beans: Monthly grower prices for selected classes, 2007-2008 1/

Commodity	2007		2008		Chg. prev. year:	
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb. 2/	Jan.	Feb.
	--- Cents/pound ---				--- Percent ---	
All dry beans	22.70	25.40	28.40	--	25.1	--
Pinto (ND/MN)	21.25	21.75	25.25	27.00	18.8	24.1
Navy (pea bean) (MI)	19.50	20.50	30.50	31.50	56.4	53.7
Great Northern (NE/WY)	21.75	22.50	32.00	32.00	47.1	42.2
Black (MI)	22.13	23.00	30.50	31.00	37.8	34.8
Light red kidney (MI)	25.00	25.50	40.38	40.50	61.5	58.8
Dark red kidney (MN/WI)	25.50	25.50	37.00	--	45.1	--
Baby lima (CA)	44.50	44.50	40.00	40.00	-10.1	-10.1
Large lima (CA)	62.50	63.25	60.00	60.00	-4.0	-5.1
Blackeye (CA)	48.00	48.00	38.50	38.50	-19.8	-19.8
Small red (WA/ID)	22.00	22.50	35.00	36.00	59.1	60.0
Pink (WA/ID)	21.13	21.50	26.50	28.50	25.4	32.6
Garbanzo (WA/ID)	28.83	29.50	29.63	31.00	2.8	5.1

-- = not available. 1/ Prices are U.S. No. 1, cleaned basis. 2/ Partial month estimate.

Sources: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Bean Market News*, except "all dry beans" from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

improved domestic supplies in those nations and sharply higher U.S. prices. Meanwhile, despite reduced chickpea volume, shipments to Spain rose 6 percent due to offsetting interest in U.S. Great Northern, dark red kidney, and cranberry beans. Exports to the United Kingdom (down 2 percent) and Japan (down 10 percent) also declined during the first 4 months of the marketing year.

Sharply higher prices for dry beans are drawing increasing attention to the U.S. market from other bean-producing nations. Import volume from September to December rose 8 percent from a year earlier. Canada (40 percent of total volume), China (19 percent), Mexico (19 percent), and Thailand (4 percent) were the top import sources. Imports rose for pinto, black, and navy beans, but were lower for light red kidney, lima, and mung beans. Dry bean imports from Thailand consist mainly of mung beans but small amounts of several other classes were also imported. Dry bean import volume from Canada rose 54 percent while volume from China increased 37 percent from a year earlier. Despite a larger U.S. crop last fall, black beans were the single largest import class, with more than 12 million pounds entering over the first 4 months of the marketing year. China accounted for 55 percent of these black bean imports.

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

Item	Crop year 2006/07	September - December			Change 2006-07 Percent
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	
		<i>1,000 cwt</i>			
Pinto	2,045	788	943	850	-10
Navy	1,217	552	660	470	-29
Black	1,188	235	341	194	-43
Garbanzo	456	178	209	190	-9
Great Northern	366	194	156	160	3
Baby lima	251	92	117	90	-23
Light red kidney	181	55	72	54	-24
Dark red kidney	158	72	55	130	135
Cranberry	132	39	45	41	-10
Large lima	103	64	36	49	36
Small red	99	45	33	27	-20
Mung & urd	27	2	9	8	-15
Blackeye	19	16	8	12	45
Pink	15	19	7	28	322
Other	719	288	240	332	38
Total	6,975	2,640	2,931	2,635	-10

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

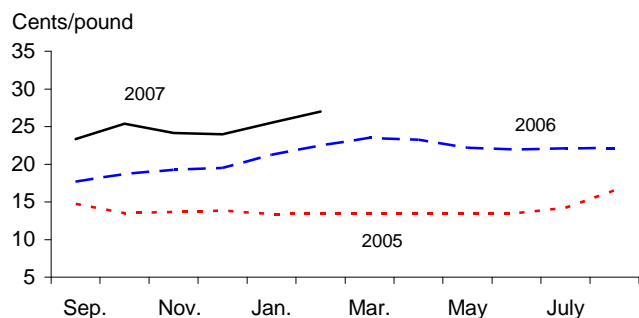
Table 16--U.S. dry beans: Crop year import volume to date

Item	Crop year 2006/07	September - December			Change 2006-07 Percent
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	
		<i>1,000 cwt</i>			
Pinto	91	15	16	82	398
Navy	165	51	42	55	32
Black	499	65	105	125	19
Light red kidney	124	34	43	41	-4
Garbanzo, all	295	67	90	110	22
Mung & urd	352	93	126	90	-29
Other	1,247	395	427	412	-4
Total	2,773	721	850	916	8

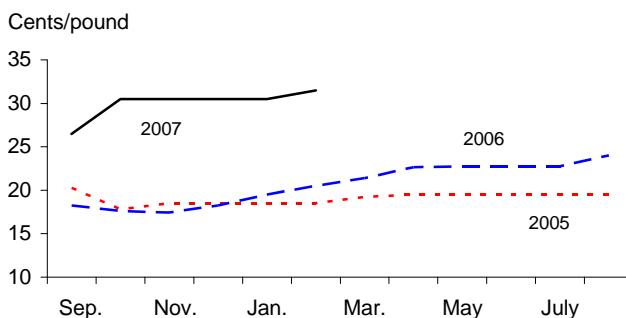
Source: Compiled by ERS from data of the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Figure 8  
**Grower bids for U.S. dry edible beans, 2005/06-07/08**

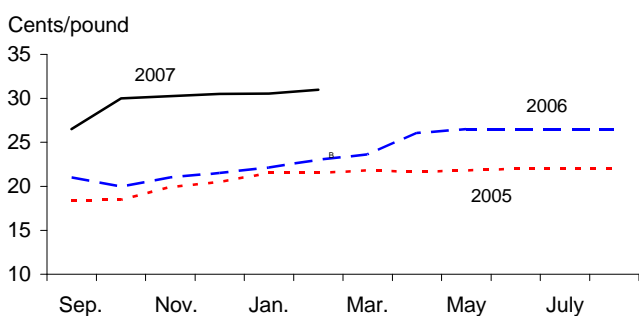
**Pinto (ND/MN)**



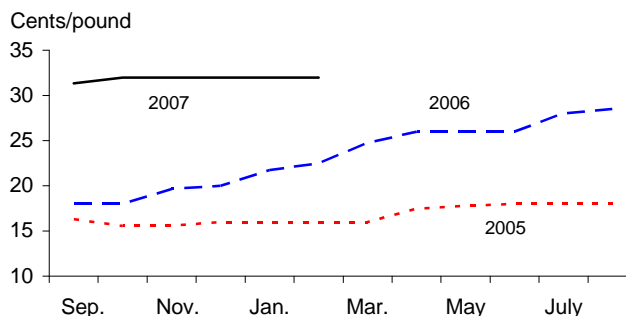
**Navy/pea (MI)**



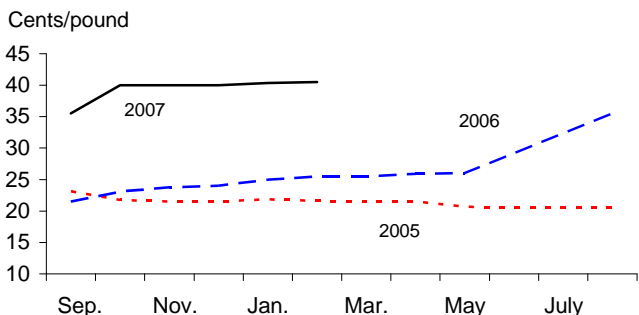
**Black (MI)**



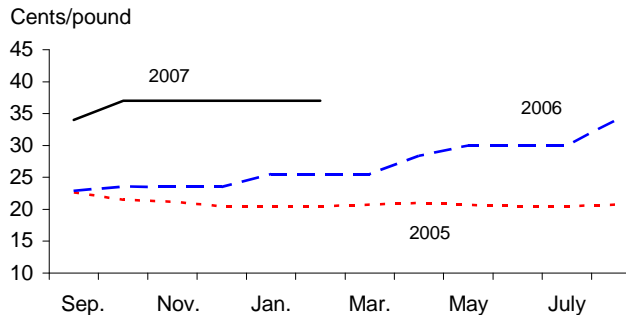
**Great Northern (NE)**



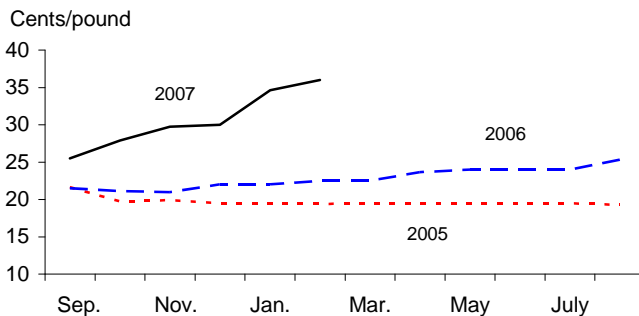
**Light red kidney (MI)**



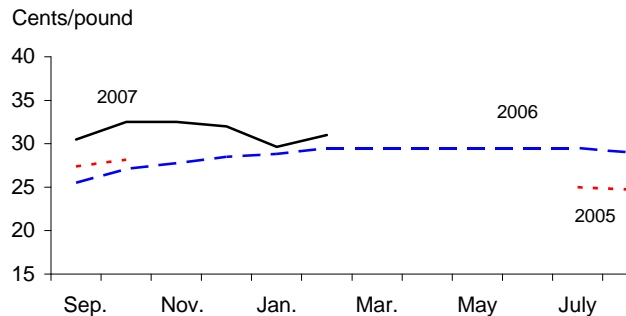
**Dark red kidney (MN/WI)**



**Small red (ID/WA)**



**Garbanzo (ID/WA)**



Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Bean Market News*.



## Dry Peas and Lentils

### *Acreage May Change Little But Production Could Decline*

Over the past 2 months, most U.S. field crop markets have been strongly signaling for more acreage this coming spring. Dry peas and lentils have also joined in with current price and revenue possibilities remaining fairly competitive. Pulse prices also reflect expectations of continued strong world demand and a drawdown in world stocks. Given the fundamentals in pulse markets alone, planted area would be projected to skyrocket in any other year. But past relationships may not hold this year, with so many crops chasing a limited number of acres. As of this writing, it appears that given average weather conditions and current crop price relationships, total area devoted to dry peas and lentils will likely remain about steady or decline modestly from year-earlier levels.

With no change (or a drop) in planted area, output of all dry peas and lentils is expected to decline in 2008 under the assumption of average yields. The 3-year average for dry pea and lentil yields would be below the relatively favorable 2007 performance. As a result, present projections point to smaller dry pea and lentil crops. In early February, grower bids for dry peas (both green and yellow) were

Table 16--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Production by class

Item	Average 2001-03	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change 2006-07
		--1,000 cwt--				Percent
Drypeas	4,564	11,419	14,003	13,203	15,903	20.4
Austrian winter peas	153	291	307	259	127	-51.0
Chickpeas, all	963	593	1,061	1,539	1,511	-1.8
Small	--	76	149	149	128	-14.1
Large	--	517	912	1,390	1,383	-0.5
Lentils	2,637	4,182	5,163	3,244	3,408	5.1
Total	8,317	16,485	20,534	18,245	20,949	14.8
Wrinkled seed peas	637	899	665	590	541	-8.3

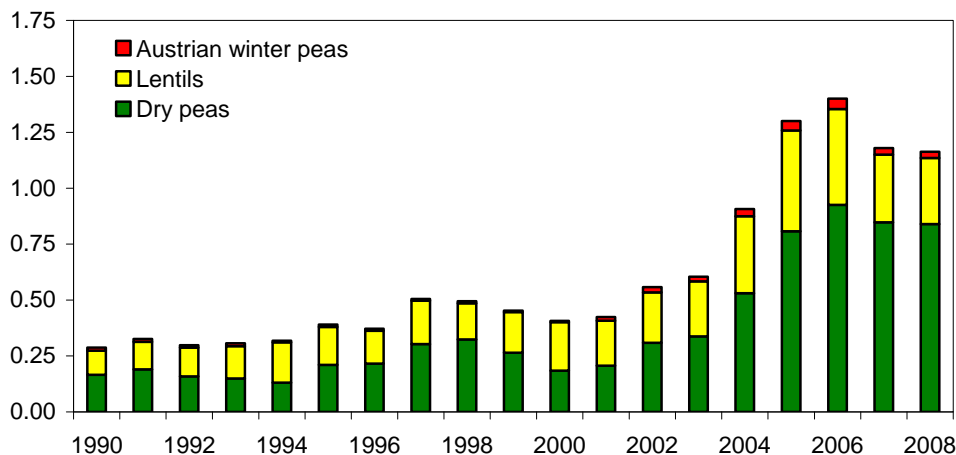
-- = not available.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production Summary*.

Figure 9

### **U.S. dry peas and lentils: Acres planted, 1990-2008**

Million acres



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production*.

Table 17--U.S. dry peas and lentils: Monthly grower prices by class, 2006/07-07/08

Crop year & month	Dry peas	Chickpeas			Austrian winter peas	All Lentils
		All	Large	Small		
--- Cents/pound ---						
<b>2006/07</b>						
July	5.03	22.80	--	--	--	7.82
August	4.52	24.60	26.30	--	6.91	9.30
September	5.75	25.40	25.50	--	6.84	12.10
October	6.02	22.10	25.60	15.90	6.41	12.00
November	6.55	24.80	24.90	--	6.89	13.30
December	7.02	25.10	25.20	--	7.04	11.60
January	7.23	27.80	28.00	--	6.95	14.10
February	7.62	26.80	27.70	12.90	7.95	13.50
March 1/	8.33	27.40	29.60	17.30	8.22	12.10
April	9.52	20.80	20.80	--	6.91	13.20
May	10.10	29.50	30.00	19.50	9.75	13.20
June	10.10	28.40	29.90	--	9.42	12.70
<b>2007/08</b>						
July	9.30	27.20	28.70	--	--	13.90
August	8.91	29.50	29.60	--	9.85	15.50
September	9.71	30.90	31.70	--	11.30	19.10
October	12.20	25.20	27.00	14.50	13.20	21.70
November	12.00	26.90	26.90	--	14.40	24.30
December	14.30	29.50	30.90	19.60	15.10	26.60
January	15.50	29.00	29.00	--	15.50	28.50
Percent change Jan. 07 to 08	114.4	4.3	3.6	--	123.0	102.1

-- = not available. 1/ Prices for January 2008 are mid-month averages.

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

about double those of a year earlier, with the market continuing to push higher. If pea and lentil prices continue to strengthen relative to other crops and fertilizer prices continue to soar, this could favor pea and lentil area this spring. The first USDA estimate of 2008 acreage for dry peas and lentils will be released in the *Prospective Plantings* report on March 31.

### ***Crop Value Surges in 2007/08***

Based on preliminary estimates of season average prices, the value of all U.S. dry pea and lentil production totaled \$254 million in 2007/08—up 82 percent from a year earlier. All dry pea (dry peas, Austrian winter peas, wrinkled seed peas, and small chickpeas) crop value rose 81 percent to \$180 million as the larger crop was met by a strong market and sharply higher prices. The value of lentil output jumped 83 percent to \$74 million as a slightly larger crop was also graced by a 75 percent gain in the estimated marketing-year average price. Strong demand, low beginning stocks, and competition with grain crops pushed average lentil prices to \$21.70 per cwt—the highest since 1990.

### ***July-December Export Volume Up 17 Percent***

With a weak dollar and strong world demand helping to offset soaring domestic prices, U.S. export volume (including food aid) of all dry peas and lentils (excluding seed) jumped 17 percent during the first 6 months (July-December) of the 2007/08 crop year to 7.6 million cwt. Although lentil exports slipped 3 percent

and Austrian winter peas fell heavily, split peas and dry whole green and yellow pea volume continued to surge higher during the first half of the crop year. A surge in shipments to India (where weather has disrupted production) over the past two years has been key to export growth for U.S. dry peas. As is the case this season, the majority of pulse exports to India over the past few years consisted of green and yellow peas. U.S. exports of dry yellow peas to the world, which are again coming off a record-high a year earlier, remain on pace to set a new standard during the 2007/08 July-June export year. Despite higher prices, chickpea export volume rose 10 percent as larger U.S. stocks and strong world demand aided exporters.

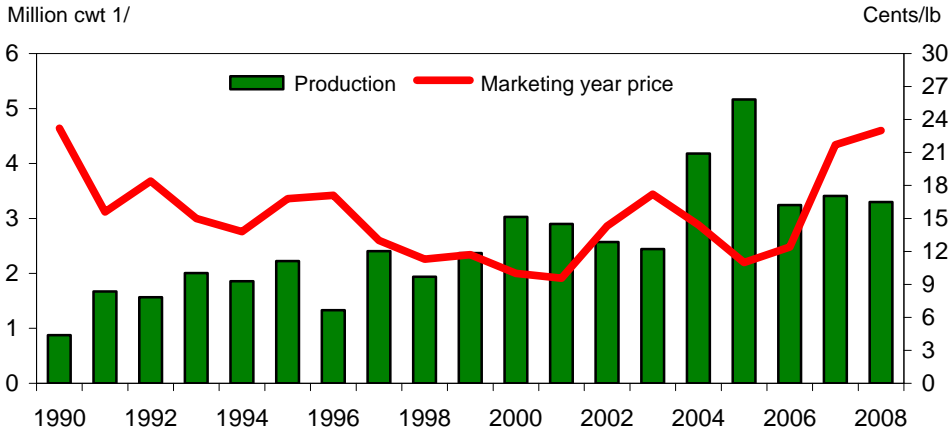
Table 18--U.S. dry peas & lentils: Foreign trade volume by class 1/

Item	Crop year 2006/07	July-December			Change 2006-07 Percent
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	
--1,000 cwt--					
<b>Exports:</b>					
Green peas	3,708.6	1,405.5	2,049.7	2,502.4	22
Yellow peas	3,547.2	1,060.5	2,108.7	2,263.1	7
Split peas	380.7	91.5	97.0	275.1	184
Austrian winter pea	49.8	13.5	23.7	17.2	-28
Misc. dry peas	1,126.1	2,053.7	739.6	1,102.2	49
Chickpeas, all	414.0	210.8	231.2	255.0	10
Lentils, all	2,332.8	2,179.0	1,239.9	1,197.2	-3
Total	11,559.3	7,014.4	6,489.8	7,612.1	17
<b>Imports:</b>					
Green peas	214.2	108.4	107.0	105.4	-2
Yellow peas	87.3	47.2	26.1	46.9	80
Split peas	344.1	136.2	200.2	163.4	-18
Austrian winter	5.0	1.4	1.7	1.4	-16
Misc. dry peas	170.5	67.2	92.7	58.3	-37
Chickpeas, all	292.7	101.6	143.0	165.0	15
Lentils, all	294.7	124.6	178.2	96.5	-46
Total	1,408.5	586.5	748.9	636.9	-15

1/ Excludes planting seed.

Source: Compiled by ERS using data from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Figure 10  
**U.S. lentils: Production and marketing year average price**



1/ Cwt = hundredweight, a unit of measure equal to 100 pounds.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Production & Crop Values*.

## Contacts and Links

### Contact Information

#### Gary Lucier

Tel: (202) 694-5253 Fax: (202) 694-5820 Email: [Glucier@ers.usda.gov](mailto:Glucier@ers.usda.gov)

#### Rachael Dettmann

Tel: (202) 694-5266 Fax: (202) 694-5286 Email: [RDettmann@ers.usda.gov](mailto:RDettmann@ers.usda.gov)

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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. Are Lower Income Households Willing and Able To Budget for Fruits and Vegetables?**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/err54/>

Analyzes the relationship between income and fruit and vegetable consumption by low-income households. Could small adjustments to the buying power of low-income households increase their purchases of fruits and vegetables?

#### **2. Increased U.S. Imports of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/fts/2007/08Aug/fts32801/>

Imports have allowed U.S. consumers to eat more fruit and vegetables and enjoy year-round access to various fresh items. Primary suppliers are the North American Free Trade Agreement region for fresh vegetables, the Southern Hemisphere countries for off-season fresh fruit, and equatorial countries for bananas.

#### **3. Outbreak Linked to Spinach Forces Reassessment of Food Safety Practices**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/June07/Features/Spinach.htm>

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

#### **4. Fruit and Vegetable Backgrounder**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/vgs/apr06/VGS31301/>

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

## **5. Factors Affecting Carrot Consumption in the United States**

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/2007/03Mar/VGS31901/>

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

## **Data Tables**

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

### **1. Per capita availability (a.k.a. use or consumption)**

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

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

### **2. Vegetable prices**

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

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

### **3. Fresh vegetables and melons**

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

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

### **4. Processing vegetables**

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

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

### **5. Potatoes**

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

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

### **6. Sweet potatoes**

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

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

### **7. Dry edible beans**

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

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

### **8. Mushrooms**

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

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

### **9. Vegetable and melon trade**

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

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

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

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

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

### **11. World vegetable production and harvested area**

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

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

## 12. Mexican and Canadian vegetable production

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

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

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

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

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

## Web Sites

**A. U.S. Trade Data—FASonline:** This relatively simple, yet powerful online application allows the user to freely access and download detailed U.S. export and import data.

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade/>

**B. Vegetables and Melons:** ERS' Vegetables and Melons Briefing Room contains special articles, data sets, and links.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1177>

**H. FAS, HTP:** USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service's horticultural web site, with links.

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

**I. Organic Farming and Marketing:** USDA, ERS Briefing Room contains articles, data, graphics, and links.

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

**J. Truck Rate Report:** USDA, AMS weekly report on cost of shipping by trailer truck.

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/wa\\_fv190.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/wa_fv190.txt)

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**Price table 1—Commercial vegetables and potatoes: Indexes of prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 1997-2008 1/**

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
<i>1910-14=100</i>														
Commercial vegetables 2/	1997	740	700	789	754	710	751	747	817	794	971	817	911	792
	1998	816	775	837	1,042	859	736	806	764	760	886	756	779	818
	1999	702	749	806	870	786	732	696	709	700	650	654	776	736
	2000	656	572	719	907	874	785	795	862	958	835	964	769	808
	2001	810	980	923	916	964	805	837	968	894	688	731	1,144	888
	2002	1,054	1,283	1,816	803	770	731	771	807	795	704	735	694	914
	2003	752	755	824	865	924	1,015	797	920	964	959	1,201	1,059	920
	2004	852	936	741	848	722	712	666	852	864	1,037	1,055	792	839
	2005	620	785	1,100	1,212	900	923	749	789	849	756	758	1,017	871
	2006	855	768	890	1,007	1,040	877	794	1,018	1,066	825	793	1,001	911
	2007	1,186	1,103	1,286	1,210	963	887	839	978	1,035	1,310	930	922	1,054
2008	982													
Potatoes 3/	1997	426	431	433	433	477	431	499	544	440	433	457	477	457
	1998	491	524	554	546	559	539	517	481	449	415	450	475	500
	1999	489	497	520	546	532	557	610	517	451	429	474	463	507
	2000	475	496	519	545	529	511	559	464	406	384	383	395	472
	2001	409	450	437	466	453	486	532	632	516	461	538	578	497
	2002	620	645	715	699	748	806	884	651	520	466	524	547	652
	2003	533	554	567	592	590	559	570	483	458	443	479	493	527
	2004	488	504	530	568	558	558	552	495	485	444	477	506	514
	2005	534	535	578	566	576	573	622	574	491	472	539	578	553
	2006	596	571	706	700	661	702	808	652	526	503	574	588	632
	2007	612	635	720	731	711	710	740	607	544	535	597	633	648
2008	643													
<i>1990-92=100</i>														
Commercial vegetables 2/	1997	111	105	118	113	106	112	112	122	119	145	122	136	118
	1998	122	116	125	156	129	110	121	114	114	133	113	117	123
	1999	105	112	121	130	118	110	104	106	105	97	98	116	110
	2000	98	86	107	136	131	117	119	129	143	125	144	115	121
	2001	121	147	138	137	144	120	125	145	134	103	109	171	133
	2002	158	192	272	120	115	109	115	121	119	105	110	104	137
	2003	112	113	123	129	138	152	119	138	144	143	180	159	138
	2004	127	140	111	127	108	107	100	127	129	155	158	119	126
	2005	93	117	165	181	135	138	112	118	127	113	113	152	130
	2006	128	115	133	151	156	131	119	152	160	123	119	150	136
	2007	177	165	192	181	144	133	126	146	155	196	139	138	158
2008	147													
Potatoes 3/	1997	84	85	86	85	94	85	99	107	87	85	90	94	90
	1998	97	104	109	108	111	106	102	95	89	82	89	94	99
	1999	97	98	103	108	105	110	121	102	89	85	94	91	100
	2000	94	98	103	108	105	101	110	92	80	76	76	78	93
	2001	81	89	86	92	90	96	105	125	102	91	106	114	98
	2002	123	127	141	138	148	159	175	129	103	92	104	108	129
	2003	105	110	112	117	117	110	113	96	90	87	95	97	104
	2004	96	100	105	112	110	110	109	98	96	88	94	100	102
	2005	106	106	114	112	114	113	123	113	97	93	106	114	109
	2006	118	113	139	138	131	139	160	129	104	99	113	116	125
	2007	121	125	142	144	140	140	146	120	107	106	118	125	128
2008	127													

1/ Prices for 2007 are preliminary. 2/ Includes fresh and processing vegetables. 3/ Includes fresh potatoes and dry edible beans.

For longer historical price series, see the *Vegetables and Melons Situation and Outlook Yearbook* at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1212>

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

**Price table 2--Fresh vegetables: U.S. monthly and season-average f.o.b. shipping-point prices, 2004-08 1/**

Commodity	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average	Prnt change	Prnt change
															Jan.-Jan.	4th quarter
<i>--Dollars per cwt--</i>															<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<b>Asparagus</b>	2004	--	171.00	76.50	81.70	74.30	64.60	146.00	138.00	129.00	127.00	--	--	81.30	--	--
	2005	--	--	88.60	103.00	68.70	73.50	143.00	150.00	162.00	162.00	--	--	87.40	--	--
	2006	--	122.00	133.00	110.00	72.70	94.10	105.00	162.00	122.00	127.00	--	--	88.90	--	--
	2007	--	--	107.00	106.00	91.90	87.70	--	--	--	--	--	--	99.10	--	--
	2008	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Broccoli</b>	2004	33.60	28.50	21.60	24.00	27.20	28.70	24.20	29.70	57.00	43.90	43.70	38.50	33.20	30.2	-6.0
	2005	22.60	33.30	42.60	39.80	22.40	39.70	22.40	30.50	27.70	22.40	20.40	34.10	28.50	-32.7	-39.0
	2006	32.50	23.80	27.60	32.40	29.00	51.10	26.20	56.90	39.40	24.60	27.40	52.80	33.70	43.8	36.3
	2007	69.80	25.40	27.60	36.90	26.70	24.80	28.80	38.20	41.80	61.00	38.10	40.70	36.70	114.8	33.4
	2008	51.40	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Cantaloups</b>	2004	--	--	--	--	15.30	12.10	11.00	14.30	15.50	14.80	18.30	33.80	14.70	--	5.2
	2005	--	--	--	--	22.60	18.10	13.80	10.70	14.90	14.40	15.60	--	15.90	--	-32.7
	2006	--	--	--	--	29.20	18.40	16.00	20.70	10.40	16.10	28.20	--	17.20	--	47.7
	2007	--	--	--	--	28.20	12.60	12.00	13.30	13.10	30.50	38.50	--	14.80	--	55.8
	2008	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Carrots</b>	2004	24.50	24.90	24.60	24.20	24.90	22.50	20.20	18.00	16.70	16.20	17.30	17.00	20.20	26.9	-21.6
	2005	20.30	21.00	21.00	21.10	21.20	21.30	21.80	21.20	21.00	21.10	23.10	22.00	20.90	-17.1	31.1
	2006	21.70	21.50	21.50	21.50	20.80	21.40	21.50	22.40	19.30	19.80	20.20	19.10	20.60	6.9	-10.7
	2007	21.00	28.10	28.30	29.60	32.00	25.90	19.70	17.10	16.10	15.80	15.80	16.20	22.60	-3.2	-19.1
	2008	16.20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-22.9	--
<b>Cauliflower</b>	2004	27.20	42.20	24.20	23.50	28.80	46.20	27.50	26.00	31.00	32.20	27.10	40.90	30.80	11.0	-38.5
	2005	27.60	38.00	50.60	36.70	29.70	38.10	25.60	31.50	28.50	19.70	23.60	44.30	30.30	1.5	-12.6
	2006	33.10	24.90	35.60	44.40	27.10	27.90	24.00	28.40	47.10	20.90	34.50	41.70	32.30	19.9	10.8
	2007	45.70	29.40	51.40	51.60	24.90	30.00	22.30	27.90	27.20	46.20	26.60	52.40	34.30	38.1	28.9
	2008	66.90	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	46.4	--
<b>Celery</b>	2004	20.80	24.40	13.90	15.60	15.00	13.80	11.60	9.25	11.20	14.60	18.10	13.40	14.80	150.9	-11.0
	2005	12.90	22.90	28.40	20.80	15.50	9.62	9.69	9.82	12.00	11.70	13.10	10.70	13.90	-38.0	-23.0
	2006	9.64	10.80	14.90	16.60	12.70	17.80	21.00	23.20	27.70	27.00	22.00	20.20	18.20	-25.3	94.9
	2007	33.90	58.90	31.90	18.80	18.30	11.60	11.60	9.64	13.80	13.30	18.60	13.50	20.40	251.7	-34.4
	2008	18.30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-46.0	--
<b>Corn, sweet</b>	2004	30.30	20.90	20.30	17.20	15.60	12.50	16.60	20.90	21.30	27.50	29.30	18.10	19.30	9.4	-10.7
	2005	21.30	28.60	26.10	21.50	18.00	22.50	22.30	20.40	24.70	25.50	25.70	22.40	22.10	-29.7	-1.7
	2006	35.00	35.00	34.00	27.10	15.40	21.50	21.00	21.70	25.10	21.10	20.70	20.80	22.90	64.3	-14.9
	2007	27.40	23.70	30.20	25.60	21.40	17.30	22.20	22.80	23.20	21.40	20.60	34.10	22.20	-21.7	21.6
	2008	30.80	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12.4	--
<b>Cucumbers</b>	2004	28.10	22.20	30.30	23.30	13.60	15.50	18.20	23.60	25.00	23.70	18.70	--	20.20	--	35.0
	2005	20.20	17.20	32.60	29.30	30.70	28.70	15.70	21.10	20.10	23.10	32.60	53.10	23.00	-28.1	71.1
	2006	23.90	27.70	40.70	29.40	21.30	24.30	26.80	27.20	22.50	18.50	29.60	27.00	25.30	18.3	-31.0
	2007	30.80	35.30	33.60	21.40	28.50	23.20	18.90	24.60	29.10	25.00	22.00	18.50	24.40	28.9	-12.8
	2008	38.40	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	24.7	--
<b>Head lettuce</b>	2004	16.00	19.70	10.50	14.80	10.50	13.30	10.70	17.10	15.20	24.10	14.10	13.60	16.90	45.5	-46.1
	2005	11.50	11.70	27.80	30.10	13.90	17.30	11.00	13.50	12.70	12.40	9.81	16.10	15.50	-28.1	-26.0
	2006	10.60	12.10	19.10	22.40	33.70	11.80	12.20	20.70	16.30	11.80	12.50	22.20	16.90	-7.8	21.4
	2007	20.80	15.50	29.70	17.80	13.60	17.80	17.30	23.10	29.20	44.40	17.40	16.00	22.00	96.2	67.3
	2008	19.30	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-7.2	--
<b>Onions, dry bulb</b>	2004	13.10	12.20	11.60	19.40	17.60	16.10	13.00	9.92	8.44	6.27	6.28	5.76	9.06	41.3	-49.3
	2005	5.10	4.23	4.44	17.70	19.50	17.80	16.80	11.20	10.50	12.80	11.60	9.45	12.40	-61.1	84.9
	2006	8.53	8.19	7.60	15.20	16.30	17.80	14.90	13.30	12.40	10.40	11.40	16.60	15.70	67.3	13.4
	2007	22.10	26.20	35.00	55.20	24.20	24.60	15.40	10.50	4.90	4.22	4.66	4.13	11.50	159.1	-66.1
	2008	3.85	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-82.6	--
<b>Snap beans</b>	2004	76.20	43.50	42.50	48.60	22.50	27.90	50.70	67.60	68.30	82.90	53.90	47.50	45.20	1.2	32.4
	2005	71.40	77.80	85.30	60.70	55.20	38.40	58.90	72.70	65.30	40.80	89.10	82.00	54.20	-6.3	15.0
	2006	44.00	56.00	44.90	44.30	34.50	33.40	61.10	77.00	74.60	58.60	48.30	65.50	50.50	-38.4	-18.6
	2007	64.90	82.30	102.00	63.50	38.80	35.10	65.10	81.10	78.90	67.40	89.30	43.00	60.50	47.5	15.8
	2008	68.80	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6.0	--
<b>Tomatoes</b>	2004	24.70	32.30	41.00	44.20	32.20	21.10	22.50	35.80	37.30	70.80	119.00	--	37.60	-51.5	200.0
	2005	15.40	40.90	40.70	65.10	49.40	40.20	28.20	26.20	46.40	36.40	32.80	76.80	41.80	-37.7	-48.7
	2006	82.70	46.50	24.80	34.40	23.30	30.90	28.20	34.70	82.10	55.30	28.00	21.20	44.00	437.0	-28.4
	2007	35.60	31.20	26.30	52.60	35.60	29.60	26.70	28.60	33.10	41.60	58.70	81.20	34.50	-57.0	73.7
	2008	58.20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	63.5	--

-- = Not available. 1/ 2008 prices are preliminary. One hundredweight (cwt) is equal to 100 pounds. The prices in this table can also be read as cents per pound. Prices beginning in 2006 are measured at the point of first sale. They are f.o.b. shipping point prices in prior years.

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



**Price table 3—Vegetables: Producer Price Indexes, by month, 1999-2008 1/**

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change
															Jan.- Jan.
															Percent
															--1982=100--
Fresh 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	-0.9
	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	-15.6
	2001	147.0	168.6	178.7	145.6	144.9	129.4	109.7	127.2	132.3	112.3	105.9	121.0	135.2	32.1
	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	-0.6
	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	1.2
	2004	143.8	125.9	140.3	133.1	132.9	101.0	102.8	128.3	141.9	200.0	211.1	143.7	142.1	-2.7
	2005	122.0	152.8	168.5	174.7	144.2	160.0	126.8	132.3	153.3	144.0	163.1	200.8	153.5	-15.2
	2006	207.6	138.8	137.6	174.4	147.9	128.7	134.1	179.5	193.1	167.7	138.3	178.4	160.5	70.2
	2007	175.3	190.3	222.4	222.5	142.1	145.4	146.0	137.7	162.7	218.4	177.4	204.5	178.7	-15.6
2008															-100.0
Melons	1999	--	--	--	--	86.6	62.8	42.4	62.1	--	63.4	59.1	--	62.7	--
	2000	--	--	--	--	68.0	64.3	56.4	43.8	48.7	93.6	124.2	--	71.3	--
	2001	--	--	--	--	118.6	53.4	53.3	76.1	57.1	60.0	114.9	--	76.2	-7.5
	2002	--	--	--	--	--	74.7	80.5	58.7	60.1	66.2	55.3	--	65.9	-51.9
	2003	--	--	--	--	120.5	60.6	60.1	35.8	49.0	64.9	106.8	--	71.1	--
	2004	106.8	141.3	157.3	90.2	95.4	75.1	56.1	66.6	76.6	108.8	114.4	150.6	103.3	--
	2005	156.1	75.4	96.5	162.2	114.8	99.9	83.8	62.3	80.7	67.3	--	--	99.9	46.2
	2006	--	--	99.8	99.8	95.6	93.8	70.3	80.2	75.0	76.2	105.1	154.7	95.1	--
	2007	126.2	102.9	96.9	127.6	153.5	74.6	60.0	71.0	87.4	122.9	175.2	165.6	113.7	--
2008															-100.0
Canned 3/	1999	120.6	120.6	120.9	120.9	121.0	121.0	120.8	120.9	120.7	120.7	121.3	121.3	120.9	-0.5
	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	0.6
	2001	121.4	121.4	121.3	121.3	121.4	121.9	124.1	124.9	125.3	126.5	128.0	128.1	123.8	0.1
	2002	128.3	128.2	128.0	128.2	128.3	128.0	127.7	129.4	128.7	129.5	129.1	129.1	128.5	5.7
	2003	128.8	129.0	128.9	129.3	129.4	129.3	129.4	129.1	130.0	130.7	131.1	131.3	129.7	0.4
	2004	131.5	131.7	131.9	131.9	131.7	132.8	133.0	133.3	133.4	134.6	135.4	135.5	133.1	2.1
	2005	135.7	135.9	136.1	136.3	137.6	137.6	137.7	137.7	137.5	137.7	137.6	138.0	137.1	3.2
	2006	138.0	136.8	137.1	137.3	138.8	140.2	140.0	140.5	141.4	141.5	142.2	142.2	139.7	1.7
	2007	142.8	142.9	143.1	143.3	143.5	143.6	143.1	143.1	143.2	143.4	143.3	143.9	143.3	3.5
2008															-100.0
Frozen	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	0.5
	2000	125.4	126.2	125.7	126.3	126.3	124.9	125.9	126.4	126.2	126.9	126.1	126.2	126.0	-0.3
	2001	127.6	128.5	127.7	128.7	128.4	127.7	128.9	128.8	128.8	130.0	129.2	129.1	128.6	1.8
	2002	130.0	131.1	130.1	131.2	130.7	129.7	131.4	131.3	131.5	132.2	131.9	132.6	131.1	1.9
	2003	133.4	134.1	133.3	134.0	134.1	133.9	134.9	134.2	134.2	135.2	135.1	135.0	134.3	2.6
	2004	135.1	136.0	135.3	135.3	134.3	134.7	135.4	135.8	136.8	138.1	137.2	137.0	135.9	1.3
	2005	137.3	137.3	137.4	137.5	137.5	137.4	137.2	136.8	136.6	136.7	136.1	136.4	137.0	1.6
	2006	137.3	137.7	138.7	138.6	138.8	139.5	139.4	139.3	139.9	142.0	142.7	142.6	139.7	0.0
	2007	144.0	144.0	144.0	145.2	145.9	146.7	148.2	149.3	150.6	151.6	152.4	153.2	147.9	4.9
2008															-100.0
Dehydrated 4/	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	4.2
	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	0.6
	2001	139.1	135.6	136.2	136.9	139.9	140.6	140.4	140.9	142.4	142.7	144.6	145.9	140.4	-6.6
	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	6.5
	2003	150.6	150.2	149.8	147.8	147.5	147.3	146.5	145.2	144.2	143.3	143.5	146.1	146.8	1.6
	2004	145.4	145.1	144.5	144.4	144.2	144.2	144.3	144.1	145.7	144.8	143.9	144.5	144.6	-3.5
	2005	145.6	145.9	145.2	145.7	146.8	146.0	145.3	145.9	150.4	150.6	152.3	154.3	147.8	0.1
	2006	154.7	156.4	158.1	159.3	163.0	165.0	165.1	165.5	168.1	168.5	169.8	171.9	163.8	6.3
	2007	175.7	176.2	175.0	176.4	180.2	179.3	179.8	179.5	179.6	179.8	179.7	186.0	178.9	13.6
2008															-100.0

-- = not available. 1/ Indexes for 2008 are preliminary. 2/ Excludes potatoes. 3/ Includes vegetable juices. 4/ Includes both fruits and vegetables.

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

**Price table 4—Vegetables: Consumer Price Indexes, by month, 2003-08 1/**

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
<i>1982-84=100</i>														
<b>Fresh vegetables 2/</b>	2003	253.7	250.9	250.7	244.3	246.3	250.5	248.3	245.4	247.2	251.2	253.5	263.8	250.5
	2004	265.2	262.8	261.3	251.7	251.0	247.2	244.6	245.6	248.4	270.7	291.0	295.1	261.2
	2005	271.0	263.2	267.0	280.1	280.6	266.9	268.5	261.0	265.6	274.1	274.6	288.3	271.7
	2006	300.6	289.7	279.7	276.8	275.6	272.9	271.5	274.4	294.2	301.8	288.6	286.1	284.3
	2007	298.3	308.6	302.4	299.3	293.3	283.5	280.1	274.4	282.3	292.7	300.4	306.1	293.5
	2008	317.5												
<b>Potatoes, fresh</b>	2003	230.6	226.9	227.5	225.0	231.9	231.4	235.1	238.8	233.8	223.7	217.7	214.5	228.1
	2004	228.2	226.0	230.5	224.3	229.0	237.4	240.7	238.9	228.5	232.0	226.9	230.5	231.1
	2005	237.5	235.8	228.3	235.0	239.1	246.7	256.7	263.8	258.6	265.8	253.5	251.7	247.7
	2006	261.1	264.7	264.6	261.5	270.4	276.0	282.5	293.6	290.4	278.2	267.8	266.8	273.1
	2007	272.4	269.9	276.0	277.6	284.7	291.6	294.5	283.4	283.0	278.8	278.7	274.7	280.4
	2008	282.9												
<b>Lettuce, fresh</b>	2003	223.8	219.7	222.9	227.4	253.1	266.0	243.1	226.1	260.9	250.2	259.4	301.8	246.2
	2004	271.7	245.8	242.3	232.1	224.1	221.7	219.8	228.4	229.2	236.2	249.0	276.9	239.8
	2005	258.3	237.9	253.5	287.5	271.6	257.6	247.7	247.4	249.4	258.4	258.7	260.0	257.3
	2006	260.8	258.0	254.2	267.2	285.5	264.0	246.9	265.8	274.2	269.7	265.1	281.9	266.1
	2007	292.2	294.7	287.6	283.3	265.6	261.6	254.7	260.6	273.3	298.2	295.7	295.3	280.2
	2008	292.9												
<b>Tomatoes, fresh</b>	2003	299.5	275.3	285.2	272.0	244.2	252.9	262.6	271.5	262.7	261.2	281.0	284.2	271.0
	2004	283.2	282.8	285.0	274.4	272.3	252.9	243.5	249.5	253.8	316.3	422.7	425.0	296.8
	2005	309.6	274.8	297.1	310.6	333.6	293.0	287.3	267.6	273.5	297.2	299.0	342.3	298.8
	2006	393.1	354.7	311.5	297.9	293.9	276.1	271.8	271.8	336.5	405.5	347.8	318.5	323.3
	2007	307.2	317.2	291.9	309.8	309.7	283.5	278.7	273.8	280.8	304.7	341.3	378.7	306.5
	2008	385.2												
<b>Other, fresh</b>	2003	258.7	264.1	259.2	250.7	255.6	257.9	254.2	248.1	248.0	263.9	260.9	271.0	257.7
	2004	276.2	279.0	274.2	263.7	263.0	259.8	257.1	255.3	263.5	282.8	283.5	282.5	270.1
	2005	277.9	280.8	279.4	289.9	284.8	272.2	276.0	265.2	274.0	277.4	282.7	295.2	279.6
	2006	298.2	289.6	285.8	282.4	273.5	278.2	279.1	276.1	291.5	288.1	286.8	288.0	284.8
	2007	311.5	328.6	324.9	313.0	303.4	291.9	287.7	280.4	290.3	297.3	300.6	300.4	302.5
	2008	318.2												
<b>Frozen vegetables</b>	2003	169.0	171.0	170.6	169.0	172.7	174.4	174.2	176.0	175.0	171.9	173.0	173.2	172.5
	2004	176.3	177.6	174.9	173.5	176.9	174.5	177.0	178.1	177.6	177.5	173.8	171.4	175.8
	2005	177.0	176.3	174.7	177.2	178.6	176.5	180.2	177.7	181.5	179.1	176.8	177.5	177.8
	2006	179.4	182.9	179.7	179.7	178.1	175.7	178.8	181.3	179.6	177.7	178.1	178.7	179.1
	2007	179.0	182.1	180.4	178.2	181.2	178.6	182.6	182.5	183.4	181.1	180.2	179.8	180.8
	2008	184.1												
<i>December 1997=100</i>														
<b>Processed fruits and vegetables</b>	2003	113.0	113.7	113.6	112.0	115.3	115.5	115.6	116.1	114.4	114.6	113.0	112.4	114.1
	2004	115.1	115.4	115.4	114.2	115.9	115.3	116.6	117.2	115.6	116.2	115.0	114.2	115.5
	2005	117.9	117.1	116.3	118.8	119.3	119.7	121.3	120.6	121.2	120.6	118.8	120.3	119.3
	2006	121.8	122.5	122.4	121.3	122.6	122.8	123.8	124.1	123.3	122.8	122.7	123.5	122.8
	2007	124.9	125.5	125.4	124.9	126.2	127.7	129.0	129.2	129.6	129.3	126.7	128.5	127.2
	2008	130.8												
<b>Canned vegetables</b>	2003	114.2	115.0	115.9	114.8	118.2	116.7	117.9	118.6	115.8	115.3	114.9	112.2	115.8
	2004	116.1	116.0	115.7	115.8	118.0	116.9	118.3	119.7	117.0	117.7	115.9	116.5	117.0
	2005	119.3	117.5	117.9	120.5	121.0	121.0	125.6	125.5	124.8	126.0	121.9	124.4	122.1
	2006	124.8	125.0	126.6	124.1	126.0	126.5	128.1	127.9	125.3	124.7	125.5	125.9	125.9
	2007	127.1	127.0	127.6	126.2	126.7	130.5	131.2	131.7	133.2	132.8	128.4	131.9	129.5
	2008	133.1												
<b>Dried beans, peas, lentils</b>	2003	109.8	109.1	108.9	109.6	108.3	109.1	109.3	108.9	109.3	109.4	109.2	108.9	109.2
	2004	108.6	109.9	110.6	110.0	109.4	110.2	110.1	110.7	108.3	111.2	111.9	113.8	110.4
	2005	115.2	116.0	116.4	118.4	117.5	118.3	118.3	118.1	118.3	118.7	118.9	116.6	117.6
	2006	117.2	117.3	117.1	119.4	118.7	119.3	120.7	121.3	120.8	120.5	121.0	123.6	119.7
	2007	126.1	124.5	126.8	129.3	131.6	133.0	134.6	135.3	136.3	136.3	136.9	139.0	132.5
	2008	141.3												

1/ Not seasonally adjusted. 2/ Includes potatoes.

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

Price table 5—Fresh-market vegetables: U.S. average retail prices, by month, 2000-08

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Change Jan.- Jan.
--Cents/pound--															Percent
<b>Potatoes, white</b>	2000	39.2	40.1	39.3	38.8	37.9	37.6	39.0	40.0	37.4	36.7	35.1	34.7	38.0	2.9
	2001	35.5	34.8	35.6	36.2	36.3	38.8	40.9	43.9	42.2	41.8	41.0	41.0	39.0	-9.4
	2002	42.6	44.7	46.5	49.3	50.8	51.7	54.9	55.9	51.1	49.2	47.3	47.9	49.3	20.0
	2003	48.3	47.2	46.3	46.6	46.6	46.2	46.4	46.4	44.4	44.1	43.8	43.9	45.9	13.4
	2004	45.7	44.6	45.9	46.1	43.5	46.2	47.1	46.4	44.6	45.0	44.3	44.9	45.4	-5.4
	2005	45.8	44.8	44.0	45.0	45.2	45.5	47.7	49.1	48.2	50.5	49.9	49.8	47.1	0.2
	2006	50.4	51.7	51.7	52.2	53.3	54.1	55.6	57.2	56.3	54.5	51.7	51.7	53.4	10.0
	2007	51.7	51.4	51.8	52.9	53.0	53.8	54.5	52.2	52.0	51.7	52.7	52.0	52.5	2.6
	2008	52.5													1.5
<b>Broccoli</b>	2000	118.2	98.9	106.9	101.3	117.4	123.6	113.9	112.0	105.2	108.0	108.5	151.8	113.8	5.3
	2001	98.7	97.8	108.3	95.4	99.9	100.5	98.1	97.8	96.9	101.1	89.7	97.3	98.5	-16.5
	2002	137.4	168.1	114.7	120.4	103.6	109.3	111.9	113.5	124.7	107.3	116.5	105.2	119.4	39.2
	2003	112.2	110.1	119.9	113.9	115.1	112.7	113.3	109.3	130.3	135.8	131.2	135.6	120.0	-18.3
	2004	131.9	121.6	112.5	102.2	110.7	106.0	106.9	106.7	120.8	139.9	133.5	141.4	119.5	17.6
	2005	123.5	134.6	131.8	148.9	129.9	130.7	144.2	132.0	135.2	119.6	128.8	122.9	131.8	-6.4
	2006	135.5	149.3	135.8	136.7	137.3	143.2	151.1	152.1	168.9	140.9	138.9	146.0	144.6	9.7
	2007	182.8	172.0	145.8	154.1	141.2	137.3	147.5	154.2	153.6	174.9	174.1	165.5	158.6	34.9
	2008	173.3													-5.2
<b>Lettuce, iceberg</b>	2000	74.8	65.0	67.1	65.0	80.3	68.6	65.6	67.3	89.7	77.2	77.4	85.1	73.6	15.3
	2001	73.6	84.7	89.5	76.7	87.0	72.2	66.3	78.4	89.7	81.1	73.4	78.8	79.3	-1.6
	2002	100.3	106.1	154.2	114.7	72.0	67.5	67.4	68.9	70.2	68.7	75.4	68.0	86.1	36.3
	2003	73.4	68.2	65.5	72.3	79.5	83.2	80.8	70.9	89.8	85.8	92.7	125.5	82.3	-26.8
	2004	87.6	80.5	81.3	80.1	71.0	75.1	73.7	80.8	77.1	83.0	84.9	82.3	79.8	19.3
	2005	81.7	73.0	82.9	100.4	92.6	89.5	88.5	85.5	84.8	92.6	87.3	85.4	87.0	-6.7
	2006	87.4	79.4	81.5	86.9	96.7	84.8	78.3	86.4	95.3	87.3	85.0	89.6	86.6	7.0
	2007	92.6	92.0	91.5	98.6	87.9	85.6	84.9	87.9	92.7	106.6	98.8	94.9	92.8	5.9
	2008	95.0													2.6
<b>Tomatoes, field grown</b>	2000	144.3	128.6	136.4	148.7	136.6	131.8	128.2	126.2	131.9	138.7	150.3	156.7	138.2	-24.2
	2001	141.4	131.3	133.6	143.3	124.3	135.6	125.7	118.5	116.8	126.7	146.8	140.4	132.0	-2.0
	2002	145.1	129.8	129.2	131.9	133.2	129.9	124.3	118.1	115.8	123.6	143.0	165.5	132.5	2.6
	2003	171.1	156.5	161.9	155.5	140.1	139.8	146.0	151.3	143.8	143.6	148.0	153.3	150.9	17.9
	2004	147.2	151.0	152.9	151.9	151.0	133.1	125.3	131.2	132.1	171.5	233.7	246.7	160.6	-14.0
	2005	166.0	142.8	154.8	171.0	191.1	165.5	160.7	141.6	142.9	154.7	157.4	184.8	161.1	12.8
	2006	216.2	191.0	164.9	157.3	154.3	145.7	147.9	148.8	190.8	218.8	178.4	163.9	173.2	30.2
	2007	162.1	164.4	155.5	163.0	168.5	151.0	148.6	148.5	149.6	164.9	185.1	214.7	164.7	-25.0
	2008	203.2													25.4
<b>Lettuce, romaine 1/</b>	2006	134.1	140.5	138.3	147.6	147.6	132.0	123.7	135.9	143.0	141.0	142.9	145.5	139.3	--
	2007	161.2	181.7	163.1	154.5	150.4	142.5	134.4	137.3	149.4	157.1	175.7	177.5	157.1	20.2
	2008	172.4													6.9
<b>Peppers, sweet 2/</b>	2005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	192.7	--	--	--	--
	2006	--	--	--	--	163.8	169.5	176.8	171.3	171.0	208.0	195.5	189.0	180.6	--
	2007	190.5	211.9	218.2	235.2	222.6	221.9	195.3	181.6	188.7	208.0	219.8	218.7	209.4	--
	2008	216.6													13.7
<b>Cabbage 2/</b>	2006	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	56.1	60.0	58.5	59.5	60.6	58.9	--
	2007	61.0	66.5	68.9	65.1	61.0	58.1	58.6	57.1	56.8	62.6	60.6	61.3	61.5	--
	2008	62.6													2.6
<b>Celery 2/</b>	2007	--	128.3	--	92.1	--	82.9	--	75.1	78.0	--	--	--	91.3	--
	2008	--													--
<b>Carrots 2/</b>	2007	--	--	--	--	--	80.5	77.8	77.6	78.2	--	75.3	75.0	77.4	--
	2008	78.0													--

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

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

**Price table 6—Representative wholesale prices for selected fresh-market vegetables and melons in Chicago, 2007-08**

Commodity	Shipping point 1/	Shipping container	2007												2008	
			Jan. 3	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Apr. 2	May 1	June 1	July 2	Aug. 1	Sep. 3	Oct. 1	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Jan. 3	Feb. 1
Artichokes	CA	Carton, 24s	46.50	54.00	54.50	23.00	17.00	16.50	28.75	21.50	31.00	30.00	33.00	41.00	48.00	32.00
Beans, round green, machine-pick	FL, GA, MI	Bushel cartons	25.00	25.50	49.00	20.50	13.00	12.50	14.50	12.00	29.00	29.00	27.50	23.00	18.50	37.00
Beets, medium	TX, IL, CA	25 lb sacks/filmbags	8.25	8.25	8.75	11.00	12.00	11.50	11.50	9.50	9.00	7.00	7.00	7.50	6.75	7.25
Bok choy, baby	CA, FL	30 lb cartons	12.00	17.00	23.00	13.00	12.00	11.25	13.50	12.00	12.00	20.00	13.00	12.50	13.00	13.00
Brussels sprouts	CA, MX	25 lb cartons	23.00	28.00	33.00	15.50	45.00	44.00	--	36.00	19.00	33.00	20.00	21.50	27.50	24.00
Cabbage, round-green, medium	NY, GA	50 lb cartons	12.00	14.00	14.50	11.75	10.00	10.50	10.00	9.50	9.25	12.00	11.25	11.50	9.00	9.50
Chinese cabbage (Napa)	CA	30 lb cartons	12.00	16.00	18.50	13.00	12.00	11.25	13.50	11.00	13.00	22.50	14.00	14.00	13.00	15.00
Carrots, baby peeled	CA	Carton, 24-1 lb filmbag	17.00	17.50	17.50	18.00	17.00	16.75	17.50	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Eggplant, medium	FL, GA, MX	1 1/9 bushel cartons	17.00	13.00	19.00	33.00	19.00	12.50	10.00	7.00	12.50	13.00	13.00	16.50	10.50	15.00
Garlic, white colossal	CA, MX	30 lb cartons	37.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	40.00	40.50	40.00	40.00	39.00	36.50	41.50	41.50	41.50	41.50
Greens, kale	CA	Carton, 24s	12.00	15.00	14.25	13.00	13.00	12.75	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	9.00	12.50	13.50
Greens, kohlrabi	CA, TX, IL	Carton, 12s/24s	21.00	22.50	21.00	24.00	25.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	20.50	20.50	24.00
Greens, turnip tops	GA, IL	Carton, 24s	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.50	10.25	10.25	9.75	9.50	11.50	13.75	10.00	10.50	10.00	11.50
Greens, mustard	CA	Carton, 24s	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.50	10.25	10.25	9.75	9.50	11.50	14.00	10.50	10.50	10.00	11.50
Greens, collards	GA, CA	Carton, 24s	9.75	9.75	9.75	9.50	10.25	10.25	9.75	9.50	11.50	13.50	10.00	11.00	10.00	11.50
Leeks	CA, IL, MX	Carton, bunched 12s	15.50	16.00	15.00	14.50	15.50	13.50	15.50	15.25	13.00	18.00	29.00	39.50	29.50	22.50
Lettuce, Boston	CA	Carton, 24s	15.00	14.50	14.25	10.00	9.50	13.00	9.50	11.00	17.00	16.00	13.00	14.50	14.50	13.00
Lettuce, Romaine	CA	Carton, 24s	14.50	19.00	14.50	13.00	10.50	10.50	11.50	11.50	17.00	17.00	17.50	12.00	15.00	14.00
Mushrooms, button, large	PA	10 lb carton	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Mushrooms, shiitake	PA	5 lb carton	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
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
Mushrooms, cremini, medium	PA	10 lb carton	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50	12.50
Mushrooms, portobellas, lrg	PA	5 lb carton	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Okra, small-medium	FL, MX, TN	1/2 bushel carton	27.00	24.50	26.00	21.25	12.50	16.50	11.00	9.50	12.00	17.00	17.00	28.00	25.00	29.00
Onions, green	CA, MX	Carton, bunched 48s	17.00	15.50	15.00	8.00	9.25	16.50	12.25	12.50	13.50	12.50	17.00	20.50	17.50	24.50
Parsley, curly	CA	Cartons, bunched 60s	28.00	19.50	15.00	13.00	14.50	14.00	13.50	13.00	13.50	14.00	17.00	17.00	16.00	24.00
Peas, snow	CA, GU	10 lb carton	28.00	11.00	10.00	11.00	10.00	7.00	18.00	15.00	15.00	21.00	16.00	16.00	20.50	9.00
Peas, sugar snap	CA, GU	10 lb carton	28.00	12.50	12.00	13.50	16.00	15.00	20.00	15.00	17.00	18.00	16.00	36.50	21.50	11.00
Peppers, green bell, large	FL, CA	1 1/9 bushel carton	19.00	17.50	14.00	15.50	13.00	19.00	11.00	9.50	12.50	13.50	17.00	14.50	10.00	24.50
Peppers, jalapeno, medium	FL, GA, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	14.00	14.50	14.50	12.00	18.00	25.00	9.50	9.75	8.00	16.00	9.50	20.00	9.50	17.50
Radishes	FL, MI	Carton, 30-6oz filmbag	10.00	9.00	11.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	10.00	8.25	10.00	10.00	9.00	9.00	10.00	9.00
Spinach, flat	CA	Cartons, bunched 24s	16.00	19.50	13.00	12.50	11.00	11.50	12.50	13.00	21.00	15.50	16.00	16.25	21.00	19.00
Squash, zucchini, medium	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	16.50	15.00	7.00	12.00	8.00	6.75	9.00	5.75	14.00	13.50	8.00	15.00	25.00	13.00
Squash, yellow straightneck, med.	FL, NJ, MI	1/2 & 5/9 bushel crates	13.50	20.00	16.50	16.50	8.50	7.00	9.00	6.75	17.00	12.00	9.00	10.50	19.00	13.00
Sweet potatoes, US #1, Beauregard	LA	40 lb carton	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.50	22.00	21.50	22.50	23.50	23.50	23.00	21.50	21.00	21.00
Tomatoes, mature green, lrg, 6x6	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	9.50	14.00	9.00	13.00	27.00	9.00	9.50	7.50	13.00	13.00	15.75	20.00	18.00	12.00
Tomatoes, vine ripe, md/lrg	MX, CA, FL	25 lb carton	8.50	14.50	10.00	11.50	27.00	10.75	13.00	5.50	11.00	11.00	16.25	21.00	24.50	14.50
Tomatoes, greenhse, v. ripe, md/lrg	CD, NL, MX	5 kg carton (on vine)	16.50	13.00	11.50	7.50	13.50	12.50	7.25	9.00	9.00	12.50	10.50	17.50	11.00	29.00
Tomatoes, cherry	FL, CA, MX	Flats, 12 1-pint buckets	8.50	12.25	11.00	15.50	15.00	14.50	9.50	7.00	9.00	13.00	13.00	11.50	11.00	11.00
Tomatoes, plum-type, med/lrg	FL, CA, MX	25 lb carton	10.50	10.50	8.00	10.00	14.50	5.00	11.50	11.50	16.00	24.00	19.00	20.00	19.00	11.75
Turnips, purple top, medium-large	CA, IL	25 lb filmbags	10.00	10.00	10.00	12.00	18.25	15.00	14.00	9.50	7.75	7.75	7.75	8.00	8.00	8.00
Cantaloups	CA, CR, MX	1/2-2/3 carton 15s	13.50	18.00	13.50	13.50	12.50	15.00	10.00	12.50	12.00	11.50	24.50	24.50	13.00	19.00
Honeydews	CA, HD, CR	2/3 cartons 6s	21.00	24.50	17.00	9.50	14.50	9.00	9.25	10.50	10.25	10.50	16.50	10.50	11.50	14.00
Watermelon, various red	CA, TX, MX	Carton 3s or 4s, per lb	0.32	0.37	0.38	0.45	0.33	0.36	0.29	0.18	0.18	0.29	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.40
Watermelon, red seedless	CA, MX	Carton 4s or 5s, per lb	0.29	0.43	0.46	0.48	0.39	0.39	0.23	0.17	0.19	0.38	0.39	0.37	0.40	0.36

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

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

**Price table 7—Canned vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 2000-08 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	6/10
											-- Dollars/case --	
											\$/lb	\$/case
<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	12.00	9.00	12.00	0.32	17.63
II	8.33	15.08	8.33	12.05	8.75	15.08	9.00	12.00	9.00	12.00	0.31	17.80
III	8.00	14.75	8.00	10.88	8.63	15.00	9.00	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.50
IV	8.00	14.67	8.00	11.05	8.88	15.09	8.75	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.31	20.38
Average	8.33	15.06	8.33	12.14	8.82	15.11	8.94	11.75	9.00	12.00	0.31	18.58
<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	8.17	14.80	8.17	14.38	9.17	16.00	8.63	11.50	9.00	12.00	0.29	18.67
II	8.42	15.46	8.33	15.92	9.13	15.75	8.75	11.50	9.00	13.00	0.30	20.25
III	8.50	15.63	8.33	16.17	9.00	15.59	9.00	11.50	9.00	14.00	0.30	20.25
IV	8.42	15.29	8.46	15.84	8.92	15.54	9.00	11.75	8.50	15.00	0.30	20.25
Average	8.38	15.30	8.32	15.58	9.06	15.72	8.85	11.56	8.88	13.50	0.30	19.86
<b>2005</b>												
I	8.58	14.08	8.54	13.54	8.96	15.67	9.00	11.75	8.83	14.58	0.30	20.25
II	8.75	13.42	8.67	13.25	9.13	15.33	9.00	11.75	9.00	14.00	0.30	20.25
III	8.67	13.58	8.71	12.83	9.13	15.42	9.00	12.00	9.00	13.63	0.31	20.54
IV	8.71	12.25	8.88	12.50	9.13	15.25	9.00	12.00	8.96	13.38	0.33	21.13
Average	8.68	13.33	8.70	13.03	9.09	15.42	9.00	11.88	8.95	13.90	0.31	20.54
<b>2006</b>												
I	8.63	12.25	8.88	12.13	9.25	15.46	9.00	12.00	9.05	12.80	0.36	21.46
II	8.63	12.25	8.75	12.13	9.17	15.50	9.00	12.00	9.03	12.25	0.37	22.58
III	8.38	11.75	8.45	12.00	8.71	15.50	9.00	12.00	8.50	11.88	0.40	23.25
IV	8.38	11.75	8.57	12.00	8.63	15.50	9.00	12.00	8.50	11.88	0.44	23.25
Average	8.51	12.00	8.66	12.07	8.94	15.49	9.00	12.00	8.77	12.20	0.39	22.64
<b>2007</b>												
I	8.38	12.50	8.63	12.38	9.25	15.50	8.88	12.00	8.43	13.10	0.46	23.25
II	8.60	13.00	8.73	13.13	9.17	16.00	8.88	12.00	8.71	11.90	0.46	23.25
III	9.16	13.33	8.95	13.30	8.71	16.00	8.88	12.00	8.85	11.97	0.43	23.25
IV	9.38	13.83	9.00	13.92	9.38	16.00	8.88	12.00	8.85	12.67	0.41	23.41
Average	8.88	13.17	8.83	13.18	9.13	15.88	8.88	12.00	8.71	12.41	0.44	23.29
<b>2008</b>												
I f	9.38	14.50	9.00	13.92	9.38	16.00	9.00	12.00	9.14	14.00	0.43	23.73
II f	9.63	14.50	9.10	14.76	9.30	16.52	9.00	12.00	9.14	14.00	0.43	23.73
III f	9.63	14.25	9.33	14.50	8.83	16.52	9.00	12.00	9.00	13.50	0.43	23.73
IV f	9.50	14.25	9.39	14.50	8.80	16.52	9.00	12.00	9.00	13.50	0.45	24.00
Average	9.53	14.38	9.21	14.42	9.08	16.39	9.00	12.00	9.07	13.75	0.44	23.80

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

1/ Some prices calculated as averages of quoted ranges. 2/ Whole kernel corn, Midwest. 3/ 4-sieve cut, Midwest. 4/ 4-sieve, Midwest. 5/ Medium sliced, Midwest. 6/ Medium sliced, Midwest. 7/ 26-percent solids for 6/10 and 31 percent for 55-gallon drum, California.

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

**Price table 8—Frozen vegetables: Quarterly wholesale price trends, 2000-08 1/**

Year and quarter	Sweet corn 2/		Snap beans 3/		Green peas 4/		Cauliflower 4/		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
--Dollars/case--												
<b>2000</b>												
I	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.48	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
IV	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
Average	6.83	0.47	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.54	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
<b>2001</b>												
I	6.83	0.46	6.83	0.47	6.93	0.53	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
II	6.83	0.46	6.84	0.47	6.88	0.53	9.47	0.70	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.43
III	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.47	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
IV	6.88	0.49	6.85	0.49	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.45
Average	6.86	0.47	6.84	0.48	6.89	0.54	9.49	0.71	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.44
<b>2002</b>												
I	6.88	0.49	6.93	0.49	6.88	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.50	7.05	0.55	9.49	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.50	7.10	0.51	7.07	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.51	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.05	0.50	7.06	0.51	7.02	0.55	9.48	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
<b>2003</b>												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
IV	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
Average	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
<b>2004</b>												
I	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.10	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
II	7.10	0.55	7.10	0.54	7.38	0.55	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.48
III	7.38	0.56	7.38	0.58	7.38	0.58	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
IV	7.30	0.54	7.33	0.58	7.28	0.57	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.50
Average	7.22	0.55	7.23	0.56	7.29	0.56	9.50	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.49
<b>2005</b>												
I	7.00	0.48	7.33	0.57	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
II	7.04	0.47	7.33	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
III	7.12	0.48	7.33	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.53
IV	7.10	0.48	--	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
Average	7.07	0.48	7.33	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.30	0.52
<b>2006</b>												
I	7.10	0.50	7.25	0.56	7.28	0.52	9.47	0.72	10.15	0.72	8.32	0.52
II	7.35	0.50	7.63	0.56	7.63	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.30	0.72	8.81	0.49
III	7.58	0.50	7.63	0.56	7.34	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
IV	7.58	0.50	7.63	0.56	7.20	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
Average	7.40	0.50	7.53	0.56	7.36	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.30	0.72	8.72	0.50
<b>2007</b>												
I	7.58	0.44	7.63	0.56	7.20	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
II	7.50	0.48	7.61	0.57	7.49	0.55	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.50
III	7.58	0.44	7.95	0.59	7.34	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.38	0.73	8.88	0.48
IV	7.84	0.44	7.75	0.59	7.60	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.42	0.79	8.71	0.50
Average	7.63	0.45	7.74	0.58	7.41	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.39	0.74	8.84	0.50
<b>2008</b>												
I f	7.84	0.44	7.75	0.59	7.60	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.42	0.79	8.63	0.50
II f	7.84	0.44	7.75	0.59	7.60	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.42	0.79	8.63	0.50
III f	7.84	0.44	7.75	0.59	7.60	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.42	0.79	8.63	0.50
IV f	7.84	0.44	7.75	0.59	7.60	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.42	0.79	8.63	0.50
Average	7.84	0.44	7.75	0.59	7.60	0.54	9.47	0.72	10.42	0.79	8.63	0.50

p = Preliminary. f = ERS forecast.

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

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

**Price table 9—Potatoes and pulses: Prices received by U.S. growers, by month, 2001-08 1/**

Item	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Season average
--Dollars/hundredweight (cwt)--														
<b>Potatoes, all uses</b>	2001	4.72	5.28	5.12	5.47	5.22	5.71	6.36	7.20	6.23	5.28	6.16	6.73	6.99
	2002	7.34	7.33	8.24	8.01	8.59	9.38	10.59	7.39	6.29	5.53	6.24	6.62	6.67
	2003	6.44	6.47	6.79	6.99	6.94	6.67	6.84	5.57	5.24	5.03	5.42	5.76	5.89
	2004	5.70	5.87	6.09	6.62	6.47	6.47	6.44	5.60	5.23	4.61	4.89	5.28	5.66
	2005	5.64	5.79	6.44	6.20	6.23	6.30	7.05	6.61	5.69	5.37	6.36	6.89	7.06
	2006	7.08	6.76	8.50	8.35	7.83	8.41	9.77	7.70	6.12	5.76	6.59	6.79	7.33
	2007	7.06	7.23	8.34	8.53	8.27	8.27	8.48	6.87	5.98	5.83	6.47	7.09	7.12
	2008	7.11												
<b>Potatoes, table stock</b>	2001	3.54	5.41	4.48	5.53	7.23	8.31	8.93	12.96	10.96	8.69	8.68	9.37	10.79
	2002	10.49	11.63	13.19	12.17	14.69	16.28	16.70	15.31	11.52	8.34	8.62	8.60	9.59
	2003	8.09	8.54	8.58	8.80	9.09	9.16	8.96	8.04	7.08	6.95	6.70	6.52	7.32
	2004	6.26	6.68	7.20	7.82	7.76	9.04	9.07	7.87	6.97	5.09	4.89	5.56	6.75
	2005	6.13	6.58	8.04	7.22	7.43	8.23	10.37	11.30	10.77	8.90	9.02	9.17	10.36
	2006	9.58	9.13	13.78	12.32	10.51	11.90	13.14	13.99	9.67	9.06	8.34	8.38	10.27
	2007	8.53	9.20	11.95	11.68	11.08	11.78	11.33	10.47	8.11	7.82	8.17	8.72	
	2008													
<b>Potatoes, processing</b>	2001	4.95	5.15	5.10	5.19	5.10	4.96	5.24	4.43	4.56	4.47	4.89	5.15	5.05
	2002	5.37	5.27	5.34	5.66	6.02	5.83	6.09	4.67	4.62	4.79	5.14	5.35	5.16
	2003	5.38	5.32	5.28	5.33	5.59	5.60	5.39	4.69	4.64	4.52	4.85	5.31	5.10
	2004	5.29	5.24	5.24	5.54	5.64	5.54	5.30	4.76	4.60	4.45	4.88	5.10	5.06
	2005	5.29	5.30	5.37	5.47	5.68	5.51	5.45	4.92	4.65	4.66	4.89	5.51	5.39
	2006	5.65	5.59	5.74	6.04	6.30	6.46	6.51	5.47	5.22	5.10	5.70	5.96	5.90
	2007	6.13	6.16	6.34	6.78	6.87	6.75	6.36	5.48	5.37	5.37	5.60	6.07	
	2008													
<b>Dry edible beans</b>	2001	15.10	15.30	14.90	15.60	16.90	16.40	16.80	17.40	18.40	19.20	22.70	21.70	22.10
	2002	21.50	26.10	27.10	27.50	27.80	27.40	24.50	23.20	17.90	16.60	15.90	16.10	17.10
	2003	16.40	19.20	15.90	18.70	19.10	16.60	17.20	18.00	17.60	17.60	19.10	17.40	18.40
	2004	17.20	17.50	20.20	19.60	19.90	20.00	19.20	20.90	22.80	24.50	25.90	27.00	25.70
	2005	27.20	27.80	26.60	28.70	31.10	27.70	25.40	21.40	18.00	18.80	18.00	18.10	18.50
	2006	19.20	17.40	17.10	18.90	19.30	19.00	21.70	19.50	18.80	19.50	21.80	21.80	22.10
	2007	22.70	25.40	25.70	24.50	24.40	24.40	28.50	25.70	24.50	25.90	28.40	27.00	26.40
	2008	28.40												
<b>Green peas, whole-dry 2/</b>	2001	5.84	6.28	6.44	6.53	6.43	6.28	6.25	6.19	6.21	6.35	6.56	6.88	6.80
	2002	7.04	7.06	7.13	7.40	7.25	7.25	7.25	7.13	7.38	7.68	7.91	8.33	8.89
	2003	9.08	9.81	10.88	10.60	10.44	9.92	9.30	7.56	7.63	8.09	8.84	9.08	9.26
	2004	9.56	9.94	10.50	10.56	10.88	8.43	7.38	6.45	6.41	6.66	6.93	6.69	6.36
	2005	6.63	6.56	6.03	5.69	5.47	5.38	5.31	5.15	4.84	4.81	4.80	4.75	5.26
	2006	4.97	5.31	5.50	5.78	6.00	5.91	5.84	5.93	6.44	6.70	7.19	7.58	8.07
	2007	7.81	8.69	9.50	10.25	10.43	10.44	10.68	10.88	11.88	13.25	13.75	13.75	14.50
	2008	15.75	16.75											
<b>Yellow peas, whole-dry 2/</b>	2001	5.81	6.31	6.44	6.38	6.40	6.25	6.25	6.19	6.17	6.25	6.56	6.79	6.90
	2002	7.04	7.25	7.31	7.68	7.66	7.59	7.38	6.50	6.72	7.10	7.34	7.58	7.66
	2003	7.42	7.94	8.03	8.50	8.75	8.67	8.44	6.63	6.43	6.75	7.53	7.75	7.97
	2004	7.91	8.72	9.03	9.25	9.42	7.73	7.13	6.08	5.97	6.25	6.43	6.25	6.05
	2005	6.00	6.00	5.73	5.56	5.59	5.55	5.25	5.15	4.66	4.63	4.63	4.63	4.99
	2006	4.75	4.97	5.00	5.25	5.50	5.50	5.53	5.35	5.78	6.10	6.66	7.04	7.30
	2007	7.13	7.94	8.63	8.75	9.20	9.50	9.60	9.75	10.69	11.80	13.00	13.25	12.75
	2008	15.00	15.50											
<b>Lentils, regular (Brewer) 2/</b>	2001	10.84	10.50	10.22	10.25	9.90	9.91	9.78	9.84	9.83	9.75	9.72	9.71	9.58
	2002	9.44	9.06	9.03	9.75	9.59	9.44	9.40	9.50	10.75	12.85	13.81	14.25	14.84
	2003	15.42	17.63	18.63	18.70	18.63	18.56	15.20	14.50	14.85	16.50	16.88	16.50	17.41
	2004	17.13	19.00	20.90	21.25	20.38	15.80	14.19	13.25	14.38	15.56	15.95	15.38	13.93
	2005	14.69	14.19	13.45	12.56	12.19	11.40	11.25	11.25	11.34	11.25	10.78	10.08	10.77
	2006	10.38	10.31	10.25	10.69	10.75	10.94	10.94	12.25	13.06	14.15	14.25	14.50	14.01
	2007	14.59	14.81	14.75	14.75	14.85	15.25	15.25	18.00	20.50	24.40	28.00	30.00	27.00
	2008	30.00	30.00											

-- = not available. 1/ Prices for 2008 are preliminary. 2/ Grower bids for U.S. no. 1 grade reported by the *Bean Market News* for Idaho & Washington. The season averages for peas and lentils presented here are calculated by ERS based on a July-June marketing year.

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

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

Herb	Unit	2006			2007			Change from prev. year		
		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
		--Dollars/hundredweight (cwt)--						--- Percent ---		
Anise	24-ct crtn	11.50	11.50	14.00	11.00	11.00	11.50	- 4.3	- 4.3	- 17.9
Arrugula	12-ct ctns	8.10	8.25	8.25	8.00	8.00	8.00	- 1.2	- 3.0	- 3.0
Basil	12-ct ctns	8.25	7.75	7.90	8.25	7.50	7.50	.0	- 3.2	- 5.1
Celeriac	12-ct ctns	15.25	15.25	15.25	12.70	12.50	12.50	- 16.7	- 18.0	- 18.0
Chervil	12-ct flmbag	6.90	6.88	6.69	6.75	6.75	6.75	- 2.2	- 1.9	.9
Chives	12-ct flmbag	6.00	5.50	5.50	5.23	5.00	5.00	- 12.8	- 9.1	- 9.1
Cilantro	60-ct ctns	19.13	10.81	10.75	18.40	12.63	11.75	- 3.8	16.8	9.3
Cipolinos	10-lb ctns	23.10	22.63	18.50	17.50	17.50	17.50	- 24.2	- 22.7	- 5.4
Dill	12-ct ctns	9.40	9.56	8.44	7.88	8.00	8.00	- 16.2	- 16.3	- 5.2
Dry Eschallot	5-lb sack	5.21	5.75	5.56	6.00	5.41	5.00	15.2	- 5.9	- 10.1
Horseradish	5-lb bag	2.05	2.00	2.05	2.15	2.15	2.15	4.9	7.5	4.9
Lemon grass	Per lb-ctns	1.50	1.50	1.50	2.25	2.25	2.25	50.0	50.0	50.0
Marjoram	12-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.63	2.4	2.4	2.4
Oregano	12-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.63	2.4	2.4	2.4
Rosemary	12-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.63	2.4	2.4	2.4
Mint	12-ct ctns	7.86	8.00	7.69	8.00	7.81	7.50	1.8	- 2.4	- 2.5
Sage	12-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.63	2.4	2.4	2.4
Salsify	5-1kg flmbg	23.50	25.69	29.31	29.25	29.25	29.25	24.5	13.9	- .2
Savory	24-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.63	2.4	2.4	2.4
Sorrel	12-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.63	2.4	2.4	2.4
Tarragon	12-ct flmbag	6.30	6.00	6.19	7.50	7.50	7.50	19.0	25.0	21.2
Thyme	12-ct flmbag	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.63	5.63	5.63	2.4	2.4	2.4
Verdulaga	24-ct ctns	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.50	8.50	8.50	3.0	3.0	3.0
Watercress	12-ct ctns	11.75	10.50	10.50	14.29	14.94	14.50	21.6	42.3	38.1

-- = not available.

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



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

Item	Annual			2006	2007					
	2004	2005	2006	Sep	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep
<b>Market basket</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	194.4	198.2	201.9	203.1	208.3	209.9	210.4	210.9	211.6	213.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	124.4	122.3	120.0	126.0	140.8	141.9	139.4	144.1	143.3	148.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	232.1	239.2	246.0	244.7	244.6	246.6	248.6	247.0	248.4	248.4
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	22.4	21.6	20.8	21.7	23.7	23.7	23.2	23.9	23.7	24.3
<b>Fresh fruit</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	318.5	330.7	350.7	357.6	361.3	377.7	363.7	352.2	353.0	365.2
Farm value (1982-84=100)	200.5	173.4	195.4	230.5	174.4	213.3	197.0	191.5	188.5	202.1
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	372.9	403.3	422.4	416.3	447.6	453.6	440.7	426.4	429.0	440.5
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	19.9	16.6	17.6	20.4	15.2	17.8	17.1	17.2	16.9	17.5
<b>Fresh vegetables</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	261.2	271.7	284.3	294.2	299.3	293.3	283.5	280.1	274.4	282.3
Farm value (1982-84=100)	146.5	145.5	157.9	195.5	240.3	184.1	161.9	146.8	127.6	126.9
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	320.2	336.7	249.3	345.0	329.6	349.4	346.0	348.6	349.9	362.2
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	19.0	18.2	18.9	22.6	27.3	21.3	19.4	17.8	15.8	15.3
<b>Processed fruits and vegetables</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	183.1	192.3	201.0	202.3	204.8	206.9	209.5	211.5	211.9	212.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	125.4	138.0	137.6	137.5	140.9	141.1	141.2	143.2	142.7	142.3
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	201.1	209.3	220.7	222.5	224.7	227.4	230.8	232.8	233.5	234.5
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	16.3	17.1	16.3	16.2	16.4	16.2	16.0	16.1	16.0	15.9
<b>Fats and oils</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	167.8	167.7	168.0	167.9	169.8	171.5	171.6	173.7	174.3	174.1
Farm value (1982-84=100)	128.4	108.2	101.8	107.4	137.2	148.6	148.0	153.3	148.6	162.6
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	182.3	189.6	192.3	190.2	181.8	179.9	180.3	181.2	183.7	178.3
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	20.6	17.3	16.3	17.2	21.7	23.3	23.2	23.7	22.9	25.1
<b>Meat products</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	183.2	187.5	188.8	190.0	194.1	196.3	197.7	196.2	196.1	196.2
Farm value (1982-84=100)	116.9	121.4	117.8	123.2	132.3	129.8	119.6	120.4	123.8	126.9
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	251.3	255.4	261.7	258.5	257.5	264.6	277.8	274.0	270.3	267.3
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	32.3	32.8	31.6	32.9	34.5	33.5	30.6	31.1	32.0	32.8
<b>Dairy products</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	180.2	182.4	181.4	179.9	185.8	187.3	191.4	197.9	201.7	203.5
Farm value (1982-84=100)	125.9	118.7	102.6	101.8	132.9	143.0	159.8	173.0	173.4	174.0
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	230.3	241.1	254.0	251.9	234.6	228.2	220.5	220.8	227.8	230.7
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	33.5	31.2	27.1	27.2	34.3	36.6	40.1	41.9	41.3	41.0
<b>Poultry</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	181.7	185.3	182.0	183.9	188.8	190.4	194.4	194.9	195.4	197.1
Farm value (1982-84=100)	142.9	139.4	128.1	140.0	158.2	161.6	166.1	165.1	163.2	164.7
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	226.4	238.1	244.1	234.4	224.1	223.5	227.0	229.2	232.5	234.3
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	42.1	40.3	37.7	40.7	44.8	45.4	45.7	45.3	44.7	44.7
<b>Eggs</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	167.0	144.1	151.2	147.1	178.6	183.8	176.3	188.1	196.4	211.6
Farm value (1982-84=100)	92.2	60.1	70.0	63.9	95.9	105.7	85.4	139.6	123.1	165.0
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	301.4	295.2	297.0	296.5	327.2	324.1	339.6	275.3	328.1	295.3
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	35.5	26.8	29.7	27.9	34.5	36.9	31.1	47.7	40.3	50.1
<b>Cereal and bakery products</b>										
Retail cost (1982-84=100)	206.0	209.0	212.8	213.6	220.5	220.9	222.6	223.6	224.0	223.4
Farm value (1982-84=100)	103.7	96.4	110.3	110.9	132.5	134.9	138.9	143.0	147.9	166.3
Farm-retail spread (1982-84=100)	220.3	224.6	227.2	227.9	232.8	232.9	234.3	234.5	234.6	231.4
Farm value-retail cost (percent)	6.2	5.7	6.3	6.4	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.8	8.1	9.1

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: USDA, ERS, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/agoutlook/aotables/2008/01Jan/aotab08.xls>