



Press Release

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On: TEXAS SPRING ONION ACREAGE

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Austin . . . Onion producers in South Texas expect to harvest 12,900 acres of spring onions this year. This forecast is 1,900 acres more than last year.

Planted acreage for the 2004 spring crop is up 4 percent from a year ago, to 13,300 acres, but down 18 percent from the 2002 crop.

Expected acreage for harvest in the Lower Rio Grande Valley is estimated at 8,900 acres, up 29 percent from 2003. The onion crop was progressing well in the Valley.

In the San Antonio-Winter Garden and Laredo areas, producers expect to harvest 4,000 acres, down 2 percent from last year. This area showed good progress for onions.

United States onion acreage planted for spring is forecast at 35,600 acres, up 1 percent from 2003 and down 8 percent from 2002.

TEXAS SPRING ONIONS: ACRES PLANTED AND HARVESTED BY AREAS, 2002-2004 ¹

Area	Acres Planted			Acres Harvested		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
	<i>Acres</i>			<i>Acres</i>		
Lower Rio Grande Valley	11,300	8,300	9,100	10,500	6,900	8,900
Winter Garden/Laredo ²	4,900	4,500	4,200	4,500	4,100	4,000
TOTAL ALL AREAS	16,200	12,800	13,300	15,000	11,000	12,900

¹ Preliminary 2004 acres for harvest. ² Includes San Antonio and Eagle Pass, and the Coastal Bend areas.