

# California Processing Tomato Report



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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

## CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO CONTRACT TONNAGE

As of May 15, California's tomato processors reported they have or will have contracts for 9.20 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2001. This production is 9 percent less than the contracted production of last year.

The production for 2001 is expected to come from 255,000 acres, producing an average 36.08 tons per acre. The estimated acreage is 11 percent less than last year's contracted planted acreage. The yield forecast for 2001 would be the third highest yield: relatively less than yields obtained in 1999 and 2000; and just greater than the yield obtained in 1997.

The acreage distribution by county from highest to lowest is similar this year compared to the final total planted estimates last year with one exception: Stanislaus and Solano, which are currently in the sixth and seventh positions, respectively, were reversed last year. Fresno (39%) and Yolo (16%) counties combined represent 55% of the total acreage. San Joaquin (9%), Colusa (7%), and Merced (7%) account for 23%, and the remaining counties comprise 22% of the total estimated planted contracted acreage.

Wet conditions in mid-January slowed field preparation for processing tomatoes in some areas. Planting started in early February and continued through mid-March. As of mid-March, processing tomatoes were reported in good condition. However, between mid-March and May, there were some reports of the crop being affected by hail, wind, and extreme temperatures. Overall, the tomato crop is reported in good condition, but the harvest is expected to start later than normal.

This early processing tomato estimate is funded by the California League of Food Processors, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The USDA estimate for all states will be issued on July 11.

### ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION (CONTRACT AND TOTAL) - CALIFORNIA

Year	Total Crop			Contract Only		
	Planted	Harvested	Production	Planted	Harvested	Production
	Acres		Tons	Acres		Tons
1988	228,300	226,100	6,547,860	225,200	223,000	6,458,620
1989	290,000	276,500	8,585,330	280,000	272,000	8,445,200
1990	320,000	310,000	9,306,200	315,000	305,000	9,170,000
1991	322,000	312,000	9,893,520	320,000	310,000	9,820,000
1992	242,000	240,000	7,932,000	238,600	236,600	7,830,140
1993	282,000	274,000	8,951,707	280,000	272,000	8,890,240
1994	318,000	311,000	10,745,560	315,000	308,000	10,632,160
1995	331,000	317,000	10,605,787	329,000	315,000	10,472,980
1996	318,000	313,000	10,658,741	315,000	310,000	10,540,000
1997	270,000	260,000	9,342,309	267,000	257,000	9,241,720
1998	282,000	280,000	8,892,800	280,000	278,000	8,845,960
1999	337,000	329,000	12,239,300	332,000	324,000	11,990,270
2000	289,000	271,000	10,286,500	285,000	267,000	10,131,000
2001	---	---	---	255,000	---	9,200,000

**CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY**

County	2000 Total Crop		2001 Contracted Acreage
	Planted	Harvested	
	Acres		
Colusa	19,200	19,100	19,100
Fresno	116,000	109,400	98,200
Glenn	2,500	2,100	1,400
Kings	7,000	6,500	6,200
Merced	15,600	14,600	18,400
Sacramento	4,300	4,000	2,300
San Joaquin	25,900	24,700	23,100
Solano	14,700	12,400	10,500
Stanislaus	14,000	12,900	12,100
Sutter	10,800	9,700	10,400
Yolo	44,800	41,700	41,100
Other Counties <u>1/</u>	14,200	13,900	12,200
<b>State Total</b>	<b>289,000</b>	<b>271,000</b>	<b>255,000</b>

1/ Counties combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations include:  
 2000 - Alameda, Contra Costa, Imperial, Kern, Madera, San Benito, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura.  
 2001 - Contra Costa, Imperial, Kern, Madera, San Benito, and Ventura.