

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

2020 California Processing Tomato Report



Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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2020 PROCESSING TOMATO PRODUCTION

Contracted production for California processing tomatoes is forecast at 11.4 million tons, averaging 49.6 tons per acre. The current forecasted production is 2.4 percent above last year's contracted production, and 5.0 percent below the May forecast. The projected harvested acreage of tomatoes grown under contract is 230,000 acres, an increase of 1.3 percent compared to 2019.

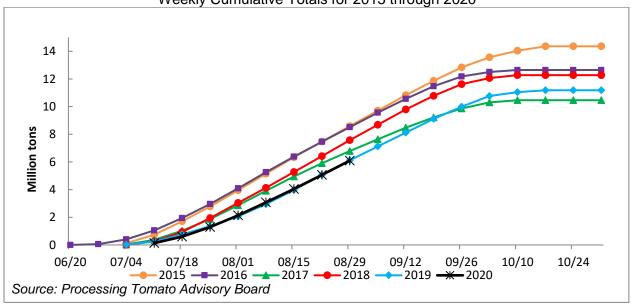
There were no significant issues with planting, but higher than average temperatures through most of summer have lowered expected yields, especially in the early crop. Inconsistent weather patterns during the growing season caused short interruptions in the flow of ripe tomatoes to the processor. Reports on crop quality varied by region. Due to a lack of rain this year, water availability continues to be a concern. However, pest and disease pressure was low.

Harvest began the second week of July with a slow start, but caught up by early August. The Processing Tomato Advisory Board has published shipments through August 22, 2020, which were running about the same as those of 2019. Since then, wildfires across the State have impacted harvest activities and transportation at a critical point in the season.

This processing tomato estimate is funded by the California League of Food Producers, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

California's Harvested Processing Tomatoes

Weekly Cumulative Totals for 2015 through 2020



ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION (CONTRACT AND TOTAL) - CALIFORNIA

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2016 262,000 258,000 49.0 12,647,000 260,000 256,000 48.9 12,527,000 11,3	364,000
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2018 241,000 236,000 52.1 12,284,000 235,000 230,000 52.1 11,994,000 10,8	381,000
2019 235,000 228,000 49.1 11,186,000 234,000 227,000 49.0 11,130,000 10,0	97,000
2020 (NA) (NA) (NA) (NA) 234,000 230,000 49.6 11,400,000 10,3	342,000

(NA) Not available.

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