



California Vegetable Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Broccoli: California harvested area is forecast at 24.0 thousand acres, down 8 percent from 2008. Cool and dry weather boosted crop growth and development. However, preparatory irrigation was required in many areas due to lack of rain.

Carrots: U.S winter harvested area is forecast at 16.2 thousand acres, down 1 percent from last year. In California, cool and dry weather aided plant growth. No major pest or disease problems were reported. In Texas, planting is on the decline for fresh market carrots due to dry weather and mild temperatures.

Cauliflower: California harvested area is forecast at 8.50 thousand acres, up 6 percent from last year. Preparatory irrigation was required in many areas due to lack of rain. However, cool and dry weather benefited plant growth.

Celery: The winter celery crop for harvest in California is forecast at 7.20 thousand acres, down 1 percent from last year. Harvest of the celery crop began a week ahead of schedule. However, rainfall and cool weather conditions at the end of the season slowed maturation.

Head Lettuce: Nationally, area for harvest is forecast at 45.5 thousand acres, down 10 percent from last year. In Arizona, warmer than average temperatures boosted crop growth. However, by mid-December precipitation and unseasonably cold weather delayed harvest. California's iceberg lettuce crop is growing well.

SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS

Growers intend to plant 30.3 thousand acres of spring onions for 2009, down 3 percent from 2008. California onion growers began planting in October and continued through mid-December. Onion fields have shown good growth in many areas following recent rains. In Georgia, weather conditions have been good for transplanting. Precipitation during the winter months was near normal to slightly below normal. No disease problems have been reported and plants are in good condition. In Texas, onion acreage is down due to weak market prices.

SPRING ONION ACREAGE INTENTIONS 1/

State	Area Planted		2009 Intentions
	2007	2008	
Acres			
Arizona	1,100	1,500	1,400
California	6,900	6,700	8,400
Georgia	12,500	12,000	11,500
Texas	12,500	11,000	9,000
4-STATE TOTAL	33,000	31,200	30,300

1/ Primarily fresh market.

WINTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvesting Period	Area Harvested		2009 Forecast	2009 2008 Percent
		2007	2008		
		Acres			
Broccoli: 1/					
California	Jan-Mar	28,000	26,000	24,000	92
Carrots:					
California	Jan-Mar	17,500	15,600	15,400	99
Texas	Oct-Dec	900	800	800	100
TOTAL		18,400	16,400	16,200	99
Cauliflower: 1/					
California	Jan-Mar	8,200	8,000	8,500	106
Celery: 1/					
California	Jan-Mar	7,600	7,300	7,200	99
Lettuce, Head:					
Arizona, Western	Nov-Apr	39,900	32,700	29,500	90
California	Jan-Mar	19,000	18,000	16,000	89
TOTAL		58,900	50,700	45,500	90

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

UNITED STATES LIMA BEANS FOR PROCESSING UTILIZATION 1/

Utilization	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Acres				Tons			
Canning	3,600	4,790	3,200	4,640	1.29	1.08	4,130	5,020
Freezing:	36,630	33,830	36,130	33,630	1.36	1.31	48,970	44,130
Fordhooks	2,800	1,900	2,700	1,800	2.13	1.68	5,750	3,020
Baby Limas	33,830	31,930	33,430	31,830	1.29	1.29	43,220	41,110
UNITED STATES TOTAL	40,230	38,620	39,330	38,270	1.35	1.28	53,100	49,150

1/ 2007 and 2008 – CA, DE, IL, MD, OR, TN, WA, and WI.

2008 VEGETABLE CROP SUMMARY

California fresh market and dual utilization vegetable crop production (excluding mushrooms) was 11.0 million tons, 1 percent below the previous year. California continues to be the leading fresh market State, accounting for 44 percent of the harvested area, 49 percent of production, and 50 percent of the value for the United States.

Crops that had value increases were broccoli, fresh and processing carrots, cauliflower, cucumbers, garlic, leaf lettuce, cantaloupe, watermelons, summer storage onions, bell peppers, pumpkins, processing spinach, squash and tomatoes. Crops showing a decrease in value were artichokes, asparagus, snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, head lettuce, romaine lettuce, honeydew melons, spring onions, summer non-storage onions, chili peppers, and fresh spinach.

CALIFORNIA FRESH MARKET AND DUAL UTILIZATION VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop and Use 1/	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Cwt. 2/		Total Value	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Artichokes	9,600	8,800	110	135	1,056	1,188	55.00	48.40	58,080	57,499
Asparagus 3/	20,000	14,500	29	29	580	421	121.00	125.00	70,180	52,625
Beans, Snap	6,800	6,800	105	105	714	714	67.70	66.50	48,338	47,481
Broccoli 3/	118,000	114,000	150	160	17,700	18,240	35.40	35.60	626,325	650,042
Cabbage	14,100	13,700	385	385	5,429	5,275	14.80	11.70	80,349	61,718
Carrots,										
Fresh	68,000	62,500	300	325	20,400	20,313	22.40	25.10	456,960	509,856
Processing	1,900	1,500	660	700	1,254	1,050	4.00	5.50	5,016	5,775
Total	69,900	64,000	309	334	21,654	21,363	21.33	24.14	461,976	515,631
Cauliflower 3/	33,500	32,300	180	185	6,030	5,975	33.20	39.10	200,045	233,508
Celery	26,500	26,500	720	720	19,080	19,080	20.70	16.90	395,667	322,944
Corn, Sweet	25,600	24,900	175	170	4,480	4,233	23.90	23.60	107,072	99,899
Cucumbers	3,200	3,000	185	180	592	540	22.20	25.90	13,142	13,986
Garlic 3/	22,200	23,000	170	170	3,774	3,910	42.90	45.20	162,012	176,715
Lettuce,										
Head	119,000	116,000	355	355	42,245	41,180	22.00	21.20	929,390	873,016
Leaf	44,000	42,500	230	230	10,120	9,775	28.40	31.20	287,408	304,980
Romaine	65,000	64,500	330	320	21,450	20,640	22.40	20.70	480,480	427,248
Melons,										
Cantaloupe	39,000	39,000	300	300	11,700	11,700	12.70	16.50	148,590	193,050
Honeydew	13,600	13,100	210	205	2,856	2,686	16.70	14.90	47,695	40,021
Watermelon	11,400	11,300	570	540	6,498	6,102	11.30	15.90	73,427	97,022
Mushrooms (Agaricus)	570	555	207	206	1,179	1,143	159.00	162.00	187,473	185,662
Onions,										
Spring	6,700	6,500	450	440	3,015	2,860	11.00	8.60	33,165	24,596
Summer (Non-Storage)	7,800	7,600	565	540	4,407	4,104	9.90	8.60	43,629	35,294
Summer (Storage) 4/	29,000	31,300	425	425	12,325	1,303	8.53	9.01	102,959	117,587
Peppers,										
Bell 3/	21,000	22,500	380	380	7,980	8,550	28.50	36.50	227,758	312,173
Chili 3/	5,800	5,600	310	270	1,798	1,512	34.40	23.00	61,884	34,831
Pumpkins	5,100	5,300	240	280	1,224	1,484	10.50	15.00	12,852	22,260
Spinach,										
Fresh	23,000	26,000	175	140	4,025	3,640	32.00	33.40	128,800	121,576
Processing	8,500	7,100	140	190	1,190	1,349	5.90	6.30	7,021	8,499
Total	31,500	33,100	166	151	5,215	4,989	26.04	26.07	135,821	130,075
Squash 3/	5,600	5,500	210	205	1,176	1,128	24.70	29.70	29,082	33,500
Tomatoes	37,000	37,000	300	315	11,100	11,655	33.70	33.20	374,070	386,946

1/ Fresh Market Usage, except where specified.

2/ Fresh market price is at the point of first sale. For processing crops and the processing segment of the dual utilization crops, price is based on equivalent returns at the processing plant door.

3/ Fresh Market and processing combined.

4/ Primarily for dehydrated and other processing.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES

California's processing tomato production in 2008 was 11.8 million pay tons, 2 percent below the 2007 production. Harvested acreage was 279 thousand acres, 6 percent below a year earlier. The yields was 42.37 tons per acre, up 4 percent from 2007.

U.S. PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre 1/		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Acres				Tons			
California	301,000	281,000	296,000	279,000	40.82	42.37	12,082,000	11,822,000
Indiana	8,500	9,000	8,400	8,300	35.00	30.00	294,000	249,000
Michigan	3,400	3,400	3,300	3,400	34.00	30.00	112,200	102,000
Ohio	6,400	5,900	5,900	5,800	29.10	22.90	171,690	132,820
UNITED STATES	319,300	299,300	313,600	296,500	40.37	41.50	12,659,890	12,305,820

1/ Yield per acre may not equal production divided by area harvested due to rounding.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

Processing Crop	Area Harvested		Average Yield		Production		Price Per Ton		Total Value	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Acres		Tons		Dollars		1,000 Dollars			
Tomatoes	296,000	279,000	40.82	42.37	12,082,000	11,822,000	70.30	75.90	849,365	897,290

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES BY COUNTY, 2008 CROP

County	Contracted and Open Market					
	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre	Production 1/
	Acres		Tons			
Colusa	14,000	14,000	44.29	620,000		
Fresno	102,000	101,000	42.40	4,282,000		
Kern	13,000	13,000	50.62	658,000		
Kings	27,000	27,000	46.74	1,262,000		
Madera	4,000	3,900	24.62	96,000		
Merced	16,000	16,000	47.44	759,000		
San Joaquin	32,000	32,000	38.69	1,238,000		
Solano	10,000	10,000	38.50	385,000		
Stanislaus	11,000	11,000	45.45	500,000		
Sutter	8,000	8,000	38.75	310,000		
Yolo	39,000	39,000	38.31	1,494,000		
Other Counties 2/	5,000	4,100	53.17	218,000		
Total	281,000	279,000	42.37	11,822,000		

1/ On the basis of "paid for tonnage" purchased from growers as reported by processors, dockage not included.

2/ To avoid disclosure of individual operations, "Other Counties" includes: Contra Costa, Glenn, Monterey, Sacramento, San Benito, and Santa Barbara.