



California Vegetable Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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**SUMMER FRESH MARKET
VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE**

The prospective area for harvest in the U.S. of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the summer quarter is forecast to be 265,100 acres, virtually unchanged from last year. Acreage increases in snap beans, carrots, sweet corn, cucumbers, and bell peppers more than offset acreage declines in broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, head lettuce, and tomatoes. Area forecast for melon harvest is 87,900 acres, virtually unchanged from last year.

Broccoli: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 29,500 acres, down 2 percent from last year. Coastal growing conditions in the State have been favorable. However, unusually low temperatures in late May slowed plant growth. By late June, quality of the broccoli crop was reported to be good.

Cantaloupe: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 25,000 acres, unchanged from 2008. The summer melon crop is looking good. No major insect or disease problems have been reported. U.S. summer cantaloupe area for harvest is forecast at 28,900 acres, up 2 percent from 2008. In Georgia, favorable conditions have been reported during the growing season.

Carrots: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 16,900 acres, up 4 percent from last year. The quality of the carrot crop is reported to be good. Nationally, area for fresh market harvest is forecast at 19,100 acres, up 3 percent from last year. In Michigan, planting was complete by the first week of June. Growers in the east central region reported the crop is in good condition. However, early planted fields in the west central region were hampered by heavy rainfall toward the end of May. Replanted fields show slow emergence due to cool temperatures.

Cauliflower: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 7,900 acres, down 8 percent from 2008. Unusually low temperatures in late May slowed plant growth.

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PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE AND TONNAGE INTENTIONS

In California, growers are expected to contract 308,000 acres, 11 percent more than in 2008. Contracted production is expected to be 13.3 million tons, 14 percent above a year ago. Processing tomato fields were being planted in March. Transplanting of tomatoes began throughout the state in April through May. There were no indications of major quality issues or insect problems.

Nationally, contracted production is forecast at 13.9 million tons, up 14 percent from last year. The planted area contracted, at 327,700 acres, is up 11 percent from 2008 for comparable states.

PROCESSING TOMATOES BY STATE

| State | Area Planted | | | | Contract Change <u>2009</u> 2008 | Production | | | | Contract Change <u>2009</u> 2008 |
|------------|---------------|---------|-------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | 2007 Total | 2008 | | 2009 Contract Intentions 1/ | | 2007 Total | 2008 | | 2009 Contract Intentions 1/ | |
| | | Total | Contract 1/ | | Total | | Contract 1/ | | | |
| | Acres | | | | | Percent | Tons | | | |
| California | 301,000 | 281,000 | 278,000 | 308,000 | 111 | 12,082,000 | 11,822,000 | 11,691,000 | 13,300,000 | 114 |
| Indiana | 8,500 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,700 | 108 | 294,000 | 249,000 | 249,000 | 307,400 | 123 |
| Michigan | 3,400 | 3,400 | 3,400 | 3,400 | 100 | 112,200 | 102,000 | 102,000 | 115,000 | 113 |
| Ohio | 6,400 | 5,900 | 5,900 | 6,600 | 112 | 171,690 | 132,820 | 132,820 | 189,000 | 142 |
| U.S. | 319,300 | 299,300 | 296,300 | 327,700 | 111 | 12,659,890 | 12,305,820 | 12,174,820 | 13,911,400 | 114 |

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

**SUMMER FRESH MARKET
VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE**
(continued from page 1)

Celery: California's summer area for harvest is forecast at 6,000 acres, down 3 percent from 2008. The summer celery crop is in good condition. Presence of seeders was minimal.

Corn, Sweet: California's fresh area for harvest is forecast at 9,900 acres, unchanged from 2008. The sweet corn crop is developing well. Quality is reported to be good in all growing regions. Nationally, fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 101,000 acres, up 2 percent from last year. In New York, timely rains promoted plant growth. In Pennsylvania, wet weather and cold temperatures delayed germination for some early planted sweet corn. In Michigan, sweet corn planting was complete by the first week of June. Cool May temperatures hindered early sweet corn development. However, warm temperatures in June promoted crop growth. In Illinois, cold and wet weather resulted in some growers replanting their sweet corn crop. Although New Jersey experienced unseasonably cold and wet conditions during the growing season, the sweet corn crop looks good. In North Carolina, weather conditions were favorable during the planting season. In Wisconsin, a cold and wet spring delayed planting and crop development.

Honeydew: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 8,400 acres, 5 percent below 2008. No major insect or disease problems have been reported. U.S. fresh market area for summer harvest is forecast at 10,200 acres, down 5 percent from last year. Harvest in Arizona began in mid-May. The growing season is expected to end by early July.

Lettuce, Head: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 34,000, down 8 percent from last year. Planted acreage is down due to water shortages in many growing areas of the State.

Tomatoes: California's area for summer harvest is forecast at 17,500 acres, 5 percent below 2008. Water shortages are a major concern. Some fields received seedling transplants. Some early planted tomatoes were destroyed by hail in Fresno County around the beginning of June. Harvest began in many counties by mid-June. U.S. fresh market area for summer harvest is forecast at 31,700 acres, down 2 percent from last year. Michigan growers began transplanting throughout May. Early planted tomatoes progressed well by the end of May despite dry soil. Stakes were put in fields during the first week of June. Early plantings began to bloom and set fruit by mid-June. In New York, harvest is on schedule. In New Jersey, cold overnight temperatures and frequent rainfall during May into June stalled tomato growth. However, warm weather near the end of June benefitted plant development. Harvest is expected to begin around mid-July.

Watermelon: California's fresh area for harvest is forecast at 9,000 acres, unchanged from 2008. The crop is off to a good start. Nationally, summer area for harvest is forecast at 48,800 acres, down 1 percent from 2008. In Georgia, weather conditions have been favorable during the growing season. In Texas, yields and quality of the melon crop are reported to be less than ideal due to heat stress during late spring.

SUMMER VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

| Crop and State | Usual Harvest Period | Area Harvested | | For Harvest | <u>2009</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 |
| | | Acres | | | Percent |
| BROCCOLI 1/ | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 31,000 | 30,000 | 29,500 | 98 |
| CANTALOUPE | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 26,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 100 |
| Georgia | Jun-Sep | 1,500 | 1,000 | 1,700 | 170 |
| South Carolina | Jun-Sep | 1,600 | 1,100 | 1,200 | 109 |
| Texas | Jul-Sep | 2,200 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 91 |
| TOTAL | | 31,300 | 28,200 | 28,900 | 102 |
| CARROTS | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 17,000 | 16,200 | 16,900 | 104 |
| Michigan | Jul-Nov | 2,200 | 2,300 | 2,200 | 96 |
| TOTAL | | 19,200 | 18,500 | 19,100 | 103 |
| CAULIFLOWER 1/ | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 8,800 | 8,600 | 7,900 | 92 |
| CELERY 1/ | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 6,100 | 6,200 | 6,000 | 97 |
| CORN, SWEET | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 9,500 | 9,900 | 9,900 | 100 |
| Illinois | Jul-Aug | 6,600 | 6,800 | 6,800 | 100 |
| Michigan | Jul-Oct | 8,700 | 8,500 | 8,700 | 102 |
| New Jersey | Jul-Oct | 7,100 | 7,100 | 7,100 | 100 |
| New York | Jul-Oct | 22,500 | 22,900 | 23,400 | 102 |
| North Carolina | Jun-Aug | 6,200 | 6,500 | 7,600 | 117 |
| Ohio | Jul-Sep | 16,000 | 15,200 | 16,400 | 108 |
| Pennsylvania | Jul-Oct | 14,900 | 14,900 | 14,600 | 98 |
| Wisconsin | Jul-Sep | 7,400 | 6,800 | 6,500 | 96 |
| TOTAL | | 98,900 | 98,600 | 101,000 | 102 |
| HONEYDEW | | | | | |
| Arizona | May-Jul | 2,100 | 1,900 | 1,800 | 95 |
| California | Jul-Sep | 9,300 | 8,800 | 8,400 | 95 |
| TOTAL | | 11,400 | 10,700 | 10,200 | 95 |
| LETTUCE, HEAD | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 38,000 | 37,000 | 34,000 | 92 |
| TOMATOES | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 20,000 | 18,500 | 17,500 | 95 |
| Michigan | Jul-Sep | 2,200 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 100 |
| New Jersey | Jul-Oct | 2,900 | 2,900 | 2,900 | 100 |
| New York | Jul-Oct | 2,400 | 2,700 | 2,700 | 100 |
| Pennsylvania | Jul-Oct | 2,000 | 1,600 | 1,700 | 106 |
| Virginia | Jul-Sep | 4,500 | 4,700 | 4,800 | 102 |
| TOTAL | | 34,000 | 32,500 | 31,700 | 98 |
| WATERMELON | | | | | |
| California | Jul-Sep | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 100 |
| Georgia | Jun-Sep | 23,000 | 21,000 | 20,000 | 95 |
| Mississippi | Jun-Sep | 2,600 | 2,600 | 2,600 | 100 |
| South Carolina | Jun-Sep | 6,500 | 6,500 | 7,000 | 108 |
| Texas | Jul-Sep | 11,900 | 10,100 | 10,200 | 101 |
| TOTAL | | 53,000 | 49,200 | 48,800 | 99 |

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

Nationally, production of spring onions in 2009 is forecast at 9.65 million cwt., up 1 percent from last year. The crop is produced on 27,000 harvested acres. The average yield is 358 cwt. per acre, 20 cwt. above 2008. In California, cool weather delayed harvest. However, sizing and quality of spring onions are reported to be good. In Georgia, the crop is in fair to good condition. Harvest was 85 percent complete by the end of May, which is slightly behind normal.

Nationally, production of non-storage onions is forecast at 10.6 million cwt., up 3 percent from last year. Harvested area covers 17,700 acres, down 9 percent from 2008. In California, yield looks good. However, water availability is a concern for onion growers. In Nevada, the onion crop is developing well due to the arrival of warm temperatures. The crop is reported to be in very good to excellent condition. In New Mexico, quality of the crop is reported to be very good.

Nationally, growers expect to harvest 106,810 acres of storage onions this year, up 1 percent from last year. In California, storage onion growers report a good growing season. In Colorado, planting was delayed slightly due to wet May conditions. However, the crop is reported to be in good to excellent condition. In Michigan, field preparation was delayed

due to wet weather from late April into early May. Warm and dry conditions in mid-May allowed growers to get caught up. However, cool and cloudy conditions during the first week of June delayed plant growth. In Malheur County, Oregon, planting was delayed due to cool and wet spring conditions. Harvest is expected to be about two weeks behind schedule. In the "Other Area" of Oregon, planting was also delayed due to rainy and cool conditions during spring. However, the onion crop is reported to be in good condition. In Washington, the onion crop was five to seven days behind normal. Some insect related problems were reported, but they were controlled by spraying. Overall, the onion crop looks good.

The final tally of the U.S. 2008 storage onion production is 55.3 million cwt., down 6 percent from 2007. Harvested area, at 105,690 acres, is down 4 percent from 2007. Average yield of 523 cwt. per acre is 13 cwt. below 2007. The 2008 storage crop is valued at \$500 million, an increase of 67 percent from 2007. Average price per cwt. increased from \$5.69 in 2007 to \$9.96 in 2008. With spring and non-storage summer onions added in, total value of the 2008 harvested onions is \$857 million, up 5 percent from 2007.

ONION ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION 1/

| Season and State | Area Planted | | Area Harvested | | Yield Per Acre | | Production | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| | Acres | | | | Cwt. | | 1,000 Cwt. | |
| SPRING 2/ | | | | | | | | |
| Arizona | 1,500 | 1,600 | 1,500 | 1,600 | 440 | 360 | 660 | 576 |
| California | 6,700 | 6,200 | 6,500 | 6,000 | 440 | 430 | 2,860 | 2,580 |
| Georgia | 12,000 | 12,000 | 11,500 | 10,500 | 320 | 250 | 3,680 | 2,625 |
| Texas | 11,000 | 10,300 | 8,900 | 8,900 | 270 | 435 | 2,403 | 3,872 |
| SPRING TOTAL | 31,200 | 30,100 | 28,400 | 27,000 | 338 | 358 | 9,603 | 9,653 |
| SUMMER | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Non-Storage 2/</u> | | | | | | | | |
| California | 7,800 | 6,500 | 7,600 | 6,300 | 540 | 580 | 4,104 | 3,654 |
| Nevada | 2,600 | 3,400 | 2,600 | 3,400 | 760 | 720 | 1,976 | 2,448 |
| New Mexico | 7,000 | 5,500 | 6,600 | 5,400 | 500 | 640 | 3,300 | 3,456 |
| Texas | 800 | 700 | 700 | 600 | 400 | 500 | 280 | 300 |
| Washington 3/ | 1,900 | 2,000 | 1,900 | 2,000 | 360 | 375 | 684 | 750 |
| NON-STORAGE TOTAL | 20,100 | 18,100 | 19,400 | 17,700 | 533 | 599 | 10,344 | 10,608 |
| <u>Storage 4/</u> | | | | | | | | |
| California 5/ | 32,500 | 33,400 | 31,300 | 32,000 | 425 | --- | 13,303 | --- |
| Colorado | 8,000 | 7,000 | 7,500 | 6,300 | 380 | --- | 2,850 | --- |
| Idaho | 8,800 | 9,000 | 8,600 | 8,800 | 720 | --- | 6,192 | --- |
| Michigan | 4,000 | 4,000 | 3,600 | 3,900 | 280 | --- | 1,008 | --- |
| New York | 10,600 | 10,300 | 10,100 | 9,500 | 410 | --- | 4,141 | --- |
| Oregon - Malheur | 12,200 | 12,000 | 12,200 | 12,000 | 710 | --- | 8,662 | --- |
| - Other | 9,600 | 9,600 | 9,600 | 9,600 | 620 | --- | 5,952 | --- |
| Washington | 20,000 | 21,000 | 20,000 | 21,000 | 600 | --- | 12,000 | --- |
| Wisconsin | 1,900 | 2,000 | 1,100 | 1,900 | 300 | --- | 330 | --- |
| Other States 6/ | 1,690 | 1,910 | 1,690 | 1,810 | 497 | --- | 840 | --- |
| STORAGE TOTAL | 109,290 | 110,210 | 105,690 | 106,810 | 523 | --- | 55,278 | --- |
| SUMMER TOTAL | 129,390 | 128,310 | 125,090 | 124,510 | 525 | --- | 65,622 | --- |
| U.S. TOTAL -- ALL ONIONS | 160,590 | 158,410 | 153,490 | 151,510 | 490 | --- | 75,225 | --- |

1/ Estimates for 2008 revised.

2/ Primarily fresh market.

3/ Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.

4/ Yield and production for 2009 will be published October 2, 2009.

5/ Primarily dehydrated and other processing.

6/ OH and UT.