



California Vegetable Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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FALL FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Broccoli: California's area for fall harvest is forecast at 25,500 acres, up 2 percent from 2008. Harvest of the fall crop is underway and the crop is reported to be in good condition.

Cantaloupe: California producers expect to harvest 4,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Ideal temperatures boosted crop development. Nationally, fall cantaloupe area for harvest is forecast at 13,700 acres, up 19 percent from 2008.

Carrots: California growers intend to harvest 16,700 acres, 1 percent below 2008. The harvest is underway in the Bakersfield area and the crop is reported to be in good condition. Nationally, acreage for fresh market harvest is forecast at 16,800 acres, down 1 percent from last year.

Cauliflower: Area for fall harvest in California is forecast at 8,400 acres, up 6 percent from last year. The harvest is underway with crop quality reported to be in good to excellent condition.

Celery: California's fall area for harvest is forecast at 7,400 acres, up 6 percent from 2008. Growing conditions have been favorable for the fall celery crop.

Corn, Sweet: California growers expect to harvest 3,900 acres for the October-December quarter, unchanged from last year. The crop is in good condition due to favorable weather during the summer and early fall. Nationally, fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 10,000 acres, up 6 percent from last year. In Florida, land preparation and planting began in the southern Peninsula in July. By mid-August, fields in the Big Bend and central regions were ready for planting. In early September, heavy rainfall delayed some fieldwork. However, by mid-September fields began to dry out allowing growers to proceed with planting.

Honeydews: California producers intend to harvest 2,000 acres during the October-December quarter, up 5 percent from the previous year. The fall melon crop is progressing well due to ideal temperatures. Nationally, fresh market area for fall harvest is forecast at 3,500 acres, up 21 percent from last year.

Head Lettuce: California's area for fall harvest is forecast at 31,000 acres, up 11 percent from last year. Early planted lettuce fields have begun to emerge.

Tomatoes: Fresh market tomato growers in California expect to harvest 11,500 acres through the October-December period, unchanged from a year ago. The quality of fall tomatoes is good despite the summer heat wave. Nationally, area for fall harvest is forecast at 18,000 acres, down 1 percent from 2008. In Florida, acreage remains historically low due to competition from imports, lack of demand during the summer season, and high input costs.

FALL SEASON FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AND MELON ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area Harvested		For Harvest 2009	2009 2008	
		2007	2008			
					Acres	Percent
BROCCOLI 1/						
California	Oct-Dec	26,000	25,000	25,500	102	
CANTALOUPE						
Arizona	Oct-Dec	7,100	7,500	9,700	129	
California	Oct-Dec	3,400	4,000	4,000	100	
TOTAL		10,500	11,500	13,700	119	
CARROTS						
California	Oct-Dec	18,000	16,900	16,700	99	
Texas	Oct-Dec	200	100	100	100	
TOTAL		18,200	17,000	16,800	99	
CAULIFLOWER 1/						
California	Oct-Dec	8,300	7,900	8,400	106	
CELERY 1/						
California	Oct-Dec	7,100	7,000	7,400	106	
CORN, SWEET						
California	Oct-Dec	4,100	3,900	3,900	100	
Florida	Sep-Dec	5,200	5,500	6,100	111	
TOTAL		9,300	9,400	10,000	106	
HONEYDEW						
Arizona	Oct-Dec	1,200	1,000	1,500	150	
California	Oct-Dec	1,600	1,900	2,000	105	
TOTAL		2,800	2,900	3,500	121	
LETTUCE, HEAD						
California	Oct-Dec	29,000	28,000	31,000	111	
TOMATOES						
California	Oct-Dec	10,000	11,500	11,500	100	
Florida	Sep-Dec	7,400	7,500	7,300	97	
TOTAL		17,400	19,000	18,800	99	

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

SUMMER ONIONS

California's 2009 summer storage onion production is estimated at 13.9 million cwt., 5 percent above 2008. Harvested area is expected to be 32,000 acres, 2 percent more than last year. The yield is estimated at 435 cwt. per acre, 10 cwt. above the previous year. The storage onion crop is progressing well due to ideal temperatures. No major disease problems were reported.

Nationally, summer storage onion production is forecast at 57.2 million cwt., up 3 percent from last year. The harvested area is forecast at 104,410 acres, down 1 percent from 2008. The yield, at 548 cwt. per acre, is up 25 cwt. from last year.

SUMMER ONION ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Commodity	Harvested		For Harvest 2009	Yield Per Acre			Production		
	2007	2008		2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
	Acres			Cwt. Per Acre			1,000 Cwt.		
Non-Storage Total	20,200	19,400	17,700	545	533	599	10,999	10,344	10,608
Storage Total	109,680	105,690	104,410	536	523	548	58,769	55,278	57,169
California Storage 1/	29,000	31,300	32,000	425	425	435	12,325	13,303	13,920
U.S. TOTAL ONIONS 2/	160,080	153,490	149,110	497	490	518	79,638	75,225	77,205

1/ Primarily for dehydrated and other processing.

2/ Includes spring and summer onions.

Cash Income by Commodity Groups, California, 2006-2008 1/

Source of Income	2006	2007	2008
	\$1,000		
VEGETABLE CROPS			
Artichokes	49,350	58,080	57,499
Asparagus	61,124	70,180	52,625
Beans, Snap, Fresh	38,100	48,338	47,481
Broccoli, All	580,844	626,325	650,042
Cabbage	77,213	80,349	61,718
Carrots, All	431,225	461,976	515,631
Cauliflower	177,992	200,045	233,508
Celery	330,534	395,667	322,944
Corn, Sweet	82,598	107,072	99,899
Cucumbers, Fresh	19,848	13,142	13,986
Garlic	118,215	162,012	176,715
Lettuce	1,724,158	1,697,278	1,605,244
Melons, Cantaloupe	181,116	148,590	193,050
Melons, Honeydew	45,118	47,695	40,021
Melons, Watermelon	64,670	73,427	97,022
Mushrooms, Agaricus	181,603	186,399	185,195
Onions	201,169	189,159	164,559
Peppers, Chili	44,049	61,884	34,831
Peppers, Green	228,520	227,758	312,173
Pumpkins	15,105	12,852	22,260
Spinach, All	144,995	135,821	130,075
Squash	26,261	29,082	33,500
Tomatoes, Fresh	505,120	374,070	386,946
Tomatoes, Processing	660,802	849,365	897,290
Other Vegetable Crops	976,691	1,025,094	965,840
TOTAL	6,974,471	7,290,625	7,307,308

Source of Income	2006	2007	2008
	\$1,000		
FIELD CROPS	2,709,551	3,227,275	4,075,395
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	10,280,121	11,013,164	10,874,762
CHRISTMAS TREES	8,785	6,547	8,100
NURSERY, GREENHOUSE, AND FLORICULTURE	3,881,917	3,998,157	3,288,894
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, AND PRODUCTS	7,582,837	10,818,837	10,632,276
TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS	31,417,428	36,354,601	36,186,735
FARM RELATED INCOME 2/	2,879,793	2,456,011	2,902,952
GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING	34,297,221	38,810,612	39,089,687

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

Source: USDA's Economic Research Service

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