



California Vegetable Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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SPRING SEASON FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Broccoli: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 30.0 thousand acres, down 6 percent from 2009. Quality of the broccoli crop is reported to be good. However, some minor problems this spring have been reported.

Cantaloupe: Area intended for harvest is forecast at 26.4 thousand acres, down 5 percent from 2009. In California, planting has begun in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Harvest is expected to begin sometime in June. The Georgia crop is in fair to good condition. In Texas, land preparation and some melon planting was underway.

Carrots: Area for harvest is forecast at 11.1 thousand acres, down 9 percent from last year. In California, rainfall delayed spring carrot planting in the major production areas of the State. In Texas, growing conditions have been favorable for the spring carrot crop. However, wet fields during the winter season slowed some harvest activities.

Cauliflower: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 6.9 thousand acres, 5 percent above 2009. Wet fields slowed plant development in the Salinas Valley.

Celery: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 6.0 thousand acres, unchanged from last year. The spring celery crop is in good condition with no pest or disease problems reported.

Sweet Corn: Intended area for harvest is forecast at 40.8 thousand acres, up 4 percent from a year ago. In California, weather conditions were favorable for the sweet corn crop. Planting for the spring crop has begun in the Imperial Valley. Harvest is expected to begin around mid-April. In Florida, favorable weather conditions during late February allowed planting to progress on schedule.

Honeydew Melons: Area for harvest is forecast at 3.15 thousand acres, up 5 percent from 2009. In California, planting of the spring melon crop has begun in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Harvest is expected to begin in June. In Texas, spring melon planting is underway.

Head Lettuce: California's area for harvest is forecast at 32.0 thousand acres, unchanged from 2009. Above average rainfall during winter hindered crop development.

Tomatoes: Area for harvest is forecast at 24,800 acres, down 4 percent from 2009. In California, cool and rainy weather slowed plant growth. However, crop quality is reported to be good. In Florida, field work and planting activities were delayed due to rainy conditions and a hard freeze in the Panhandle and northern counties of the State.

Watermelons: Area intended for harvest is forecast at 44.5 thousand acres, up 14 percent from last year. In California, planting is still ongoing for the spring melon crop. Harvest is expected to begin in June. In Florida, some planted acreage was lost due to freeze damage. Planting was delayed in the Northern and Panhandle counties due to cold temperatures and extremely wet conditions.

SPRING FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE ACREAGE

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Harvested		For Harvest 2010	2010 2009
		2008	2009		
		Acres			Percent
BROCCOLI: 1/					
California	Apr-June	33,000	32,000	30,000	94
CANTALOUPE:					
Arizona	May-July	11,900	13,500	11,500	85
California	Apr-June	10,000	9,800	10,200	104
Georgia	May-July	3,500	3,400	3,300	97
Texas	Apr-June	700	1,100	1,400	127
GROUP TOTAL		26,100	27,800	26,400	95
CARROTS:					
California	Apr-June	13,800	11,800	10,500	89
Texas	Apr-June	400	400	600	150
GROUP TOTAL		14,200	12,200	11,100	91
CAULIFLOWER: 1/					
California	Apr-June	7,800	6,600	6,900	105
CELERY: 1/					
California	Apr-June	6,000	6,000	6,000	100
CORN, SWEET:					
California	Apr-June	11,100	11,100	13,200	119
Florida	Apr-July	27,300	28,000	27,600	99
GROUP TOTAL		38,400	39,100	40,800	104
HONEYDEW:					
California	Apr-June	2,400	2,400	2,300	96
Texas	Apr-June	700	600	850	142
GROUP TOTAL		3,100	3,000	3,150	105
LETTUCE, HEAD:					
California	Apr-June	33,000	32,000	32,000	100
TOMATOES:					
California	Apr-June	7,000	7,000	7,200	103
Florida	Apr-July	15,000	16,800	15,800	94
South Carolina	May-Aug	2,500	1,900	1,800	95
GROUP TOTAL		24,500	25,700	24,800	96
WATERMELON					
California	Apr-June	2,300	3,300	4,000	121
Florida	Apr-June	26,100	25,800	27,800	108
Texas	Apr-June	9,400	10,000	12,700	127
GROUP TOTAL		37,800	39,100	44,500	114

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

PROCESSING TOMATO ACREAGE AND TONNAGE INTENTIONS

California production is forecast at 12.6 million tons, down 4 percent from 2009. In California, water shortages remain a concern for processing tomato growers.

Nationally, contracts with growers cover 299 thousand acres in 2010, down 9 percent from last year. Contract production, at 13.2 million tons, is 4 percent below 2009. In Indiana, field work and planting was delayed due to rainy conditions.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING BY STATE

State	Area Planted				Contract Change <u>2010</u> 2009	Production				Contract Change <u>2010</u> 2009
	2008 Total	2009		2010 Contract Intentions 1/		2008 Total	2009		2010 Contract Intentions 1/	
		Total	Contract 1/		Total		Contract 1/			
	Acres				Percent	Tons				Percent
California	281,000	312,000	308,000	280,000	91	11,822,000	13,314,000	13,148,000	12,600,000	96
Indiana	9,000	9,800	9,800	9,700	99	249,000	321,340	321,340	314,450	98
Michigan	3,400	3,500	3,500	3,300	94	102,000	132,600	132,600	112,000	84
Ohio	5,900	6,600	6,600	6,000	91	132,820	202,620	202,620	174,000	86
UNITED STATES	299,300	331,900	327,900	299,000	91	12,305,820	13,970,560	13,804,560	13,200,450	96

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES

Table data for California are included in "Other States" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Nationally, pickle packers intend to contract 82.9 thousand acres of cucumbers for pickles, down 5 percent from last year. In Florida, planting activities were delayed due to a series of cold fronts in February. Field preparation was delayed in the Panhandle and northern counties due to cold and excessively wet fields. In Indiana, rainy weather delayed planting and field work.

CUCUMBERS FOR PICKLES BY STATE

State	Area Planted				Contract Change <u>2010</u> 2009
	Total	Total	Contract 1/	Contract Intentions 1/	
	2008	2009	2009	2010	
	Acres				Percent
Florida	7,000	7,000	5,450	7,200	132
Indiana	1,700	1,500	1,500	2,000	133
Michigan	31,000	33,000	25,700	30,000	117
North Carolina	10,700	9,500	7,500	9,000	120
Ohio	3,300	2,700	2,100	2,400	114
South Carolina	2,500	2,200	2,200	2,200	100
Texas	7,500	7,600	7,300	6,100	84
Wisconsin	7,500	6,300	6,300	6,500	103
Other States 2/	28,100	30,300	29,040	17,500	60
UNITED STATES	99,300	100,100	87,090	82,900	95

1/ Includes acreage from major brokers.

2/ Includes AL, CA, DE, GA, MD, and MO.

SPRING AND SUMMER ONIONS

California growers planted 6,400 acres of spring onions this year, 3 percent above the previous year. Mostly favorable weather during January and February boosted crop development. California's summer storage onion planted acreage is estimated at 29.0 thousand acres, a decrease of 11 percent from last year. Despite concerns with water availability during planting, good growing conditions are currently being reported. The summer non-storage onion planted acreage is estimated at 6.9 thousand acres, up 5 percent from last year. Precipitation during January and February benefitted crop development.

Nationally, the total planted onion acreage for all seasons in 2010 is forecast at 154,010 acres, down 2 percent from last year. Spring onions were planted on 28,200 acres in 2010, decreasing 6 percent from 2009. The summer non-storage onion planted acreage, at 18.2 thousand acres, is up 2 percent from a year ago. The summer storage onion planted acreage is 107,610 acres, down 2 percent from 2009. The total summer onion acreage, at 125,810 acres, is down 1 percent from the previous year.

SPRING AND SUMMER ONIONS, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES

Season and State	2008	2009	2010	<u>2010</u> <u>2009</u>
	Acres Planted			Percent
Spring 1/				
Arizona 2/	1,500	1,600	---	---
California	6,700	6,200	6,400	103
Georgia	12,000	12,000	11,800	98
Texas	11,000	10,300	10,000	97
Spring Total	31,200	30,100	28,200	94
Summer 1/				
<u>Non-Storage</u>				
California	7,800	6,600	6,900	105
Nevada	2,600	3,400	3,200	94
New Mexico	7,000	5,200	5,500	106
Texas	800	700	600	86
Washington 3/	1,900	2,000	2,000	100
Non-Storage Total	20,100	17,900	18,200	102
<u>Storage</u>				
California 4/	32,500	32,600	29,000	89
Colorado	8,000	8,000	8,200	102
Idaho	8,800	9,000	9,800	108
Michigan	4,000	4,000	4,500	112
New York	10,600	10,600	10,700	101
Oregon				
Malheur County	12,200	11,200	11,400	102
Other	9,600	9,100	9,400	103
Washington	20,000	21,000	21,000	100
Wisconsin	1,900	2,000	1,900	95
Other States 5/	1,690	1,910	1,710	90
Storage Total	109,290	109,410	107,610	98
Summer Total	129,390	127,310	125,810	99
UNITED STATES TOTAL ONIONS	160,590	157,410	154,010	98

- 1/ Primarily fresh market.
- 2/ Estimates discontinued in 2010.
- 3/ Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.
- 4/ Primarily dehydrated and other processing.
- 5/ Includes Ohio and Utah.

ASPARAGUS

California's intended acreage for harvest is forecast at 12.0 thousand acres, down 4 percent from 2009. Harvest was delayed in February due to muddy field conditions. However, adequate rainfall and mild temperatures in the Salinas and San Joaquin Valleys provided favorable growing conditions.

Nationally, intended area for harvest is forecast at 28.3 thousand acres, down 3 percent from 2009. In Michigan, growers are optimistic about this year's crop.

ASPARAGUS BY STATE 1/

State	Area Harvested		Area For Harvest 2010	Yield Per Acre			Production		
	2008	2009		2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
	Acres		Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.			
California 2/	14,500	12,500	12,000	29	32	---	421	400	---
Michigan	11,200	10,700	10,300	23	22	---	258	235	---
Washington	6,500	6,000	6,000	42	44	---	273	264	---
TOTAL	32,200	29,200	28,300	30	31	---	952	899	---

- 1/ Includes fresh market and processing.
- 2/ Includes a small amount of fall acreage.

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