



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



VEGETABLES

ACREAGE- FALL QUARTER (OCT. NOV. DEC.)

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Florida

Summary: The combined acreage of the six major vegetable crops for fall harvest is 31,900 acres, up two percent from 2010. Temperatures in July, August, and September mostly averaged above normal. Topsoil moisture in the central and southern regions returned to normal conditions during August and September after several months of drought. Drought conditions continued in areas located near Pensacola, Tallahassee, and Melbourne. When fall land preparations and plantings were underway, rainfall interrupted progress. Growers in various parts of the State had to pump water out of low lying fields. Fall crop planting and land preparation continued in between showers. Some vegetable growers applied fungicides to prevent early plant disease. Irrigation was used to maintain soil moisture and crop development.

Snap Beans: Fall fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 10,200 acres, the same as last year. In Florida, growers began land preparation across the central and southern Peninsula areas by the end of July. Harvest of the fall crop is expected to begin in November and continue through April.

Cabbage: Fall fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 1,700 acres. This is 200 acres more than the previous year's harvest. In September, field preparation and planting for cabbage was active in the tri-county area.

Sweet Corn: Acres planted in sweet corn totaled 7,000 for 2011, up 17 percent from the previous year. Land preparation, planting, and harvesting were on schedule. In September, sweet corn was planted around Lake Okeechobee.

Cucumbers: Area for fall harvest is forecast 3,200 acres, down 9 percent from 2010. Fall harvest is expected to begin by late October and continue through December.

Bell Peppers: Florida's fall area for harvest is forecast at 3,800 acres, down 5 percent from 2010. Land preparation was underway by mid-August. Planting of bell peppers began in September.

Tomatoes: Fresh market area for fall harvest is forecast at 6,000 acres, the same as 2010. Land preparation and planting began on schedule.

United States

General: The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the fall quarter is forecast at 153,450 acres, up 5 percent from last year. Acreage increased from last year for broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, and cucumbers while acreage declined for head lettuce, bell peppers, and tomatoes. Snap bean acreage remains unchanged.

Snap Beans: Fall fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 17,300 acres, unchanged from last year. In New Jersey, sufficient soil moisture aided plant development. Ideal temperatures during the growing season boosted plant growth.

Cabbage: Fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 4,850 acres, up 2 percent from last year. In Texas, planting of the early fall crop was underway. In New Jersey, planting was ahead of schedule due to cooler summer conditions and sufficient rainfall. Harvest began in early September. In Georgia, recent rains improved growing conditions despite little rainfall during May through July.

Sweet Corn: Fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 11,600 acres, up 12 percent from last year. The California crop was in good condition due to favorable weather during the summer season. No pest or disease problems have been reported.

Cucumbers: Area for fall harvest is forecast at 5,200 acres, up 2 percent from 2010. In Texas, planting for the early fall crop was underway.

Tomatoes: Fresh market area for fall harvest is forecast at 18,000 acres, down 2 percent from 2010. In California, growing conditions were reported to be good.

Vegetables for Fresh Market, Prospective Acreage for Harvest, Fall Season, by States, 2011 with Comparisons

Selected crops and States	Usual harvest period	Fall acreage			2011 area for harvest as percent of 2010 (percent)
		Harvested		For harvest 2011 (acres)	
		2009 (acres)	2010 (acres)		
SNAP BEANS					
Florida ¹	October-December	9,200	10,200	10,200	100
Georgia	October-December	5,300	3,600	3,800	106
New Jersey	September-October	1,200	1,000	1,000	100
Virginia	September-November	2,200	2,500	2,300	92
Total		17,900	17,300	17,300	100
CABBAGE					
Florida ¹	October-December	1,700	1,500	1,700	113
Georgia	October-December	3,700	2,400	2,400	100
New Jersey	September-November	700	700	600	86
Texas	September-November	180	160	150	94
Total		6,280	4,760	4,850	102
SWEET CORN					
Florida ¹	September-December	6,100	6,000	7,000	117
California	October-December	4,400	4,400	4,600	105
Total		10,500	10,400	11,600	112
CUCUMBERS					
Florida ¹	October-December	3,300	3,500	3,200	91
South Carolina	October-December	700	400	700	175
Texas	September-November	800	800	900	113
Virginia	September-November	400	400	400	100
Total		5,200	5,100	5,200	102
BELL PEPPERS²					
Florida ¹	October-December	3,600	4,000	3,800	95
TOMATOES					
Florida	October-December	7,300	6,000	6,000	100
California	October-December	12,500	12,300	12,000	97
Total		19,800	18,300	18,000	98
TOTAL OF CROPS LISTED					
Florida ¹		31,200	31,200	31,900	102
United States		63,280	59,860	60,750	101
TOTAL OF CROPS ESTIMATED					
United States ³		166,780	162,660	171,950	106

¹ Fall season for Florida refers to previous year. For example, the 2010 marketing year consists of Fall 2009, Winter 2010, and Spring 2010.

² Includes fresh market and processing.

³ Total of crops listed plus broccoli, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, head lettuce, and honeydew melons.