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**2005 Vegetable Season:** The mild winter, variable temperatures in spring, persistent dry summer, and favorable fall weather each had varying effects upon the vegetable crops this season. Early spring planting was delayed because of wet conditions. Temperatures were about normal in early spring, but then turned cooler for the second part of spring. The drier and cooler temperatures slowed the harvest of spring vegetables. The prolonged cool temperatures also had adverse impact on the planting of summer crops. Planting of sweet corn was 7-10 days later than usual. Fall planting was lower than usual because of higher fuel costs and sustained low produce prices for this season. Production of asparagus, collards, eggplant, kale, leaf and Romaine lettuce, spinach, winter squash, and sweet corn were higher, while cabbage, cucumbers, escarole & endive, head lettuce, bell peppers, pumpkins, snap beans, summer squash, and tomatoes had lower production. As the season concluded, total value of production of all principal fresh market vegetables and processing vegetables showed a 10 percent and 8 percent decrease, respectively.

**Vegetables for Fresh Market:** There are 17 fresh market vegetables in the USDA-NASS, New Jersey Field Office estimating program. Area harvested for these fresh market vegetables in 2005 totaled 32,500 acres, compared with 33,800 acres in 2004, down 1,300 acres. Production amounted to 4.4 million hundredweight, a decrease of 11 percent from the 5.0 million hundredweight produced in 2004. Overall yield in 2005 averaged 137 hundredweight per acre, down 11 hundredweight from the previous year. Season average price was \$26.20 per hundredweight compared with \$25.90 in 2004, up \$0.30 per hundredweight.

Among the fresh market vegetables, collards and cucumbers had higher harvested acres in 2005 than in 2004. Escarole & endive, head lettuce, bell peppers, pumpkins, snap beans, summer squash and sweet corn had lower harvested acres in 2005 than in 2004. Asparagus, cabbage, eggplant, kale, leaf & Romaine lettuce, spinach, winter squash, and tomato acres remained the same. The higher season average price was not enough to offset the decline of production. The value of production showed a decrease of \$13.15 million to a total of \$116 million.

Ranking New Jersey's fresh market vegetables by value of production, tomatoes were first with \$24.9 million, and bell peppers were second with \$20.6 million. Sweet corn, cucumbers, and cabbage were third, fourth, and fifth with \$12.2 million, \$9.7 million, and \$6.9 million, respectively.

**Vegetables for Processing:** Harvested acreage in 2005 of the eight major processing vegetables (carrots, cucumbers, green peas, lima beans, snap beans, spinach, sweet corn, and tomatoes) totaled 8,250 acres, compared with 9,100 acres harvested in 2004. Harvested acres increased for snap beans and cucumbers, while tomato, green pea, lima bean, spinach and sweet corn acres declined. Carrot acres remained the same. Total production, at 61,150 tons, was a 7 percent decrease from the 65,970 tons in 2004. The season average price was \$125.50 per ton, compared with \$126.10 per ton in 2004, down \$0.60 per ton. The 2005 value of production, at \$7.67 million, was up 8 percent from \$8.32 million in 2004.

***A SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES TO ALL THOSE PRODUCERS  
WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR VEGETABLE SURVEYS !***



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## 2005 NEW JERSEY ANNUAL VEGETABLE REPORT



## New Jersey Principal Vegetables Annual Summary - 2004 and 2005

Crop	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production		Season Average Price		Value of Production	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>Vegetables for Fresh Market</b>	-- acres --		-- acres --		-- cwt --		-- 1,000 cwt --		-- \$ per cwt --		-- \$ 1,000 --	
Asparagus 1/ .....	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	27	30	30	33	90.00	100.00	2,700	3,300
Cabbage .....	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	375	260	563	390	11.50	17.80	6,475	6,942
Collards 1/ .....	600	700	500	700	175	135	88	95	23.50	22.20	2,068	2,109
Cucumbers .....	3,100	3,200	3,100	3,200	220	150	682	480	22.70	20.20	15,481	9,696
Eggplant 1/ .....	800	800	800	800	210	260	168	208	32.00	18.90	5,376	3,931
Escarole & Endive 1/ .....	700	600	600	500	175	190	105	95	23.10	21.50	2,426	2,043
Kale 1/ .....	400	400	400	400	170	225	68	86	21.30	22.00	1,448	1,892
Lettuce, Head .....	900	600	800	500	205	190	164	95	23.60	35.00	3,870	3,325
Lettuce, Other 1/ .....	1,300	1,300	1,100	1,100	200	205	220	226	19.50	16.00	4,290	3,616
Peppers, Bell .....	3,600	3,500	3,500	3,200	265	260	928	832	25.00	24.70	23,200	20,550
Pumpkins 1/ .....	2,300	1,900	1,800	1,600	80	88	144	141	24.00	16.50	3,456	2,327
Snap Beans .....	3,100	3,100	3,100	2,900	40	40	124	116	52.00	47.00	6,448	5,452
Spinach .....	1,900	2,000	1,900	1,900	90	105	171	200	22.20	30.90	3,796	6,180
Squash, Summer 1/ .....	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,100	120	95	264	200	41.50	29.50	10,956	5,900
Squash, Winter 1/ .....	1,000	900	900	900	70	88	63	80	17.60	25.30	1,110	2,024
Sweet Corn .....	8,200	7,500	7,500	7,100	70	80	525	568	20.80	21.50	10,920	12,212
Tomatoes .....	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	230	200	690	600	37.00	41.50	25,530	24,900
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>35,700</b>	<b>34,300</b>	<b>33,800</b>	<b>32,500</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>4,997</b>	<b>4,445</b>	<b>25.90</b>	<b>26.20</b>	<b>129,550</b>	<b>116,399</b>
<b>Vegetables for Processing</b>	-- acres --		-- acres --		-- tons --		-- tons --		-- \$ per ton --		-- \$ 1,000 --	
<b>Total 2/.....</b>	<b>9,200</b>	<b>8,600</b>	<b>9,100</b>	<b>8,250</b>	<b>7.25</b>	<b>7.41</b>	<b>65,970</b>	<b>61,150</b>	<b>126.10</b>	<b>125.50</b>	<b>8,317</b>	<b>7,673</b>

1/ Not in the Federal Estimating Program, state estimate only.

2/ Not published separately to avoid disclosing individual operations. Processing vegetables include carrots, cucumbers, green peas, lima beans, snap beans, spinach, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Carrots, cucumbers, and lima beans are not in the Federal Estimating Program, and are state estimates only.