

Commercial Vegetable Production, 2009

By Mark A. Linstedt

For more detailed data, see the Census of Agriculture found at www.agcensus.usda.gov

Production: Pennsylvania's total production of both fresh market and processing principal vegetables for 2009 was 152,900 tons. Fresh market production in 2009 was down 22 percent and processing was down 26 percent.

Sweet corn production decreased 21 percent for fresh market. Fresh market tomato production decreased 18 percent from 2008. Strawberry production was down 11 percent, while snap bean production for processing declined 26 percent from a year ago. Total pumpkin production for fresh market and processing was 819,000 cwt., down 34 percent from 2008.

Yield: Sweet corn yields decreased 18 percent for fresh market. Tomato yields decreased 23 percent for fresh market over the previous year level. Strawberry yields

decreased 3 percent; snap bean yields for processing increased 14 percent from 2008.

Acreage: Total harvested acreage for fresh market vegetables and snap beans for processing was 31,500 acres. Fresh market harvested acreage decreased 3 percent to 24,500 and snap beans for processing harvested acreage was down 3,700 acres from a year ago.

Value: The combined value of both fresh and processing vegetables was \$85,992,000. The fresh market section totaled \$78,922,000, down 14 percent. Fresh market prices per hundredweight were higher for tomatoes, sweet corn and cabbage, but lower for cantaloups, pumpkins and strawberries. Processing vegetable prices per ton were lower for snap beans.

Pennsylvania: Vegetables Harvested for Sale, 2007 and 2002

Data taken from the 2007 Census of Agriculture published February 4, 2009, www.agcensus.usda.gov

Crop	2007						2002	
	Total harvested		Harvested for processing		Harvested for fresh market		Total harvested	
	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres
VEGETABLES HARVESTED FOR SALE ¹	4,338	55,655	443	17,217	4,147	38,439	3,478	48,698
0.1 to 0.9 acres	803	(D)	75	26	758	(D)	525	(D)
1.0 to 4.9 acres	1,890	4,003	125	104	1,865	3,899	1,366	2,978
5.0 to 14.9 acres	963	7,808	64	(D)	956	(D)	907	7,397
15.0 to 24.9 acres	255	4,738	30	412	237	4,326	265	4,907
25.0 to 49.9 acres	205	7,014	41	1,234	175	5,780	227	7,776
50.0 to 99.9 acres	117	7,707	44	2,447	84	5,260	103	6,814
100.0 to 249.9 acres	76	11,375	46	6,477	50	4,898	65	9,120
250.0 to 499.9 acres	21	6,713	12	2,926	16	3,787	14	5,236
500.0 to 749.9 acres	6	3,660	4	1,992	4	1,668	5	3,042
750.0 to 999.9 acres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1,000.0 acres or more	2	(D)	2	(D)	2	(D)	1	(D)

- Represents zero. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.

¹ The acres of vegetables harvested is the summation of the acres of individual vegetables harvested. When more than one vegetable crop was harvested from the same acreage, acres were counted for each crop. In 2007, ginseng, potatoes, and sweet potatoes are included in vegetables harvested. In 2002, these data, where compared, were not adjusted to include ginseng, potatoes, and sweet potatoes acreage.