

VEGETABLES

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FALL QUARTER FRESH MARKET VEGETABLE AREA DOWN 1 PERCENT

The prospective area for harvest of 14 fresh market vegetables during October, November and December is estimated to be 249 thousand acres (101 thousand hectares), 1 percent less than the acreage harvested during the 1979 fall quarter. Based on average yields per acre, for the past three years, production for the 14 crops is projected at 45.5 million cwt (2.06 million metric tons). This is down 4 percent from the 47.7 million cwt (2.16 million metric tons) produced during the fall quarter last year.

Production is expected to increase for snap beans, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant and escarole-endive. Decreases are projected for broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, lettuce, green peppers, spinach and tomatoes.

Melon acreage for harvest during the fall quarter is estimated at 10.2 thousand acres (4130 hectares), a decrease of 1 percent from a year ago. Production based on average yields of recent years is projected at 1.45 million cwt (65.7 thousand metric tons), down 1 percent from the 1979 fall output.

The final forecast for summer storage type onion production is placed at 17.3 million cwt (785 thousand metric tons), a decrease of 14 percent from the 1979 production and 2 percent below the September 1 forecast.

Texas onion growers intend to plant 19.0 thousand acres (7690 hectares) for harvest during the 1981 spring quarter. This is unchanged from the 1980 acreage.

Tomatoes contracted for processing in 1980 are expected to produce 6.30 million tons (5.71 million metric tons), 13 percent below the 1979 contract tonnage. The October 1 forecast is based on an October 1 survey in California. Forecasts for the other processing tomato States are carried forward from the September 1 report.

VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET, FALL QUARTER 1/, UNITED STATES
(DOMESTIC UNITS)

CROP	AREA				PRODUCTION			
	HARVESTED		FOR HARVEST	1978 TOTAL	1979		MAJOR STATES	1980 2/
	1978 TOTAL	1979 TOTAL			TOTAL	MAJOR STATES		
			MAJOR STATES					
	ACRES				1,000 CWT			
WINTER	182,150	183,550	180,100	190,800	33,511	34,326	34,090	36,689
SPRING	377,700	385,550	379,760	354,790	61,220	63,314	62,840	61,573
SUMMER	556,020	549,390	497,070	489,350	75,401	74,524	68,293	
FALL								
SNAP BEANS	20,030	20,000	20,000	22,240	675	634	634	756
BROCCOLI 3/	20,200	21,250	20,500	21,500	1,695	1,892	1,845	1,806
CABBAGE	24,350	24,380	23,740	21,000	6,088	6,024	5,883	5,271
CARROTS 3/	26,070	29,040	26,500	23,500	8,053	9,104	8,081	7,262
CAULIFLOWER 3/	19,450	16,750	15,300	16,300	1,839	1,681	1,580	1,712
CELERY 3/	9,800	9,550	9,550	8,760	5,053	4,732	4,732	4,424
SWEET CORN	14,400	13,100	13,100	14,300	1,043	894	894	1,058
CUCUMBERS	16,200	13,750	13,750	15,050	1,812	1,543	1,543	1,610
EGGPLANT	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,100	215	200	200	223
ESCAROLE-ENDIVE	1,650	1,650	1,650	1,740	205	188	188	212
LETTUCE	64,000	64,200	64,200	62,200	13,692	14,583	14,583	13,995
GREEN PEPPERS 3/	14,400	14,100	14,100	12,700	1,598	1,478	1,478	1,410
SPINACH	2,610	4,050	4,050	3,300	185	261	261	234
TOMATOES	24,700	24,200	24,200	25,100	5,299	5,749	5,749	5,547
TOTAL 14 VEGETABLES:	258,960	257,020	251,640	248,790	47,452	48,963	47,651	45,520
CANTALOUPS	6,800	7,900	7,900	7,600	846	918	918	874
HONEYDEW MELONS	2,120	2,400	2,400	2,600	444	542	542	575
TOTAL MELONS	8,920	10,300	10,300	10,200	1,290	1,460	1,460	1,449
TOTAL FALL	267,880	267,320	261,940	258,990	48,742	50,423	49,111	46,969

(METRIC UNITS)

CROP	AREA				PRODUCTION			
	HARVESTED		FOR HARVEST	1978 TOTAL	1979		MAJOR STATES	1980
	1978 TOTAL	1979 TOTAL			TOTAL	MAJOR STATES		
			MAJOR STATES					
	HECTARES				METRIC TONS			
WINTER	73 720	74 270	72 880	77 210	1 520 000	1 557 000	1 546 290	1 664 200
SPRING	152 840	156 030	153 690	143 580	2 776 890	2 871 850	2 850 350	2 792 890
SUMMER	225 020	222 320	201 140	198 040	3 420 110	3 380 320	3 097 700	
FALL								
SNAP BEANS	8 110	8 090	8 090	9 000	30 620	28 760	28 760	34 290
BROCCOLI	8 170	8 600	8 300	8 700	76 880	85 820	83 690	81 920
CABBAGE	9 850	9 870	9 610	8 500	276 150	273 240	266 850	239 090
CARROTS	10 550	11 750	10 720	9 510	365 280	412 950	366 550	329 400
CAULIFLOWER	7 870	6 780	6 190	6 600	83 420	76 250	71 670	77 650
CELERY	3 970	3 860	3 860	3 550	229 200	214 640	214 640	200 670
SWEET CORN	5 830	5 300	5 300	5 790	47 310	40 550	40 550	47 990
CUCUMBERS	6 560	5 560	5 560	6 090	82 190	69 990	69 990	73 030
EGGPLANT	450	400	400	450	9 750	9 070	9 070	10 120
ESCAROLE-ENDIVE	670	670	670	700	9 300	8 530	8 530	9 620
LETTUCE	25 900	25 980	25 980	25 170	621 060	661 470	661 470	634 800
GREEN PEPPERS	5 830	5 710	5 710	5 140	72 480	67 040	67 040	63 960
SPINACH	1 060	1 640	1 640	1 340	8 390	11 840	11 840	10 610
TOMATOES	10 000	9 790	9 790	10 160	240 360	260 770	260 770	251 610
TOTAL 14 VEGETABLES:	104 820	104 000	101 820	100 700	2 152 390	2 220 920	2 161 420	2 064 760
CANTALOUPS	2 750	3 200	3 200	3 080	38 370	41 640	41 640	39 640
HONEYDEW MELONS	860	970	970	1 050	20 140	24 580	24 580	26 080
TOTAL MELONS	3 610	4 170	4 170	4 130	58 510	66 220	66 220	65 720
TOTAL FALL	108 430	108 170	105 990	104 830	2 210 900	2 287 140	2 227 640	2 130 480

1/ OCT, NOV AND DEC. 2/ BASED ON AVERAGE YIELDS PER ACRE, 1977-79 FOR SUMMER AND FALL QUARTERS. 3/ FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING.

PLANTING INTENTIONS AND PROSPECTIVE AREA FOR HARVEST,
SPECIFIED CROPS, FALL QUARTER

CROP AND STATE	AREA PLANTED AND TO BE PLANTED				FALL AREA		
	PLANTING PERIOD	YEAR OF PLANTING		INTENDED 1980	HARVESTED		FOR HARVEST 1980
		1978	1979		1978	1979	
ACRES							
CABBAGE:							
CALIF	JUN-AUG	1,700	1,800	2,000	1,700	1,800	2,000
FLA 1/	SEP-MAR	18,300	18,600	17,300	2,000	1,100	1,700
IND	MAR-JUN	1,050	1,400	1,400	100	100	100
MICH	APR-JUL	3,700	3,700	3,700	1,450	1,600	1,200
N J	MAR-AUG	4,300	5,000	5,400	5,400	1,000	1,400
N Y - LI	APR-JUL	1,400	1,600	1,500	700	700	600
N Y - UPST	APR-JUL	7,400	7,800	7,600	6,000	6,500	5,900
N C	JUL-AUG	2,400	2,300	2,100	1,900	2,000	1,600
OHIO	JUN-AUG	700	500	450	600	400	350
PA	APR-AUG	2,960	3,200	3,100	1,100	1,100	1,000
TEX 1/	JUL-JAN	22,500	21,400	19,300	6,200	6,000	4,000
VA	FEB-AUG	1,550	1,380	1,600	400	340	550
WIS	APR-JUN	1,600	1,700	1,800	600	1,000	600
SUBTOTAL		69,560	70,380	67,250	23,750	23,740	21,000
MINOR STATES 2/		690	660		600	640	
GRAND TOTAL		70,250	71,040		24,350	24,380	
CANTALOUPS:							
ARIZ	JUN-AUG	800	2,000	1,800	800	2,000	1,800
CALIF	JUL-AUG	6,000	5,900	5,800	6,000	5,900	5,800
GROUP TOTAL		6,800	7,900	7,600	7,600	6,800	7,600
CELERY: 3/							
CALIF-S ⁻ CST 1/	JUL-APR	12,400	12,100	11,600	2,500	1,900	1,400
-C CST	JAN-SEP	8,480	10,600	10,000	4,500	5,300	5,200
FLA 1/	AUG-APR	12,300	12,700	12,500	2,400	1,800	1,800
MICH	APR-JUL	2,600	2,700	3,200	300	400	300
N Y	APR-JUL	700	650	660	100	150	60
GROUP TOTAL		36,480	38,750	37,960	9,800	9,550	8,760
ESCAROLE-ENDIVE:							
FLA 1/	AUG-MAR	7,100	7,500	7,900	1,600	1,600	1,700
OHIO	APR-AUG	950	920	700	50	50	40
GROUP TOTAL		8,050	8,420	8,600	1,650	1,650	1,740
HONEYDEW MELONS:							
ARIZ	JUN-AUG	220	400	400	220	400	400
CALIF	JUL-AUG	1,900	2,000	2,200	1,900	2,000	2,200
GROUP TOTAL		2,120	2,400	2,600	2,120	2,400	2,600
TOMATOES:							
ALA	APR-JUL	7,700	7,700	7,000	500	600	400
CALIF	FEB-JUL	28,800	27,300	29,100	11,300	11,400	11,500
FLA 1/	JUL-APR	41,300	42,900	43,400	12,800	11,700	12,400
TEX	JUL-SEP	700	600	1,000	100	500	800
GROUP TOTAL		78,500	78,500	80,500	24,700	24,200	25,100

1/ PLANTED AND INTENDED PLANTINGS ARE FOR CURRENT YEAR'S FALL CROP AND FOLLOWING YEAR'S WINTER AND SPRING CROPS.

2/ INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES WHICH ARE LIMITED TO END-OF-SEASON ESTIMATES ONLY: CABBAGE, OREG.

3/ INCLUDES FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING.

VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

CROP AND STATE	FALL AREA			1980 AREA FOR HARVEST AS PERCENT OF 1979
	HARVESTED		FOR HARVEST 1980	
	1978	1979		
	ACRES			
SNAP BEANS:				
CALIF	1,000	1,200	1,000	83
FLA	13,400	13,100	14,700	112
GA	1,100	1,600	2,400	150
MD	290	300	190	63
N J	800	800	800	100
N C	340	400	650	163
S C	1,200	900	1,000	111
VA	1,900	1,700	1,500	88
GROUP TOTAL	20,030	20,000	22,240	111
BROCCOLI: 1/				
CALIF	19,300	20,500	21,500	105
MINOR STATES 2/	900	750		
GRAND TOTAL	20,200	21,250		
CARROTS: 1/				
CALIF - DES	800	1,000	900	90
- OTH	7,300	8,500	8,100	95
MICH	2,900	3,200	2,600	81
N Y	1,900	1,900	2,100	111
OREG	1,300	1,400	1,500	107
TEX	3,400	3,800	3,400	89
WASH	3,500	4,100	2,900	71
WIS	2,500	2,600	2,000	77
SUBTOTAL	23,600	26,500	23,500	89
MINOR STATES 2/	2,470	2,540		
GRAND TOTAL	26,070	29,040		
CAULIFLOWER: 1/				
CALIF	14,000	10,900	11,800	108
N Y	2,000	2,300	2,500	109
OREG	2,100	2,100	2,000	95
SUBTOTAL	18,100	15,300	16,300	107
MINOR STATES 2/	1,350	1,450		
GRAND TOTAL	19,450	16,750		

SEE FOOTNOTES ON PAGE 5.

VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

CROP AND STATE	FALL AREA			1980 AREA FOR HARVEST AS PERCENT OF 1979
	HARVESTED		FOR HARVEST 1980	
	1978	1979		
	ACRES			
SWEET CORN:				
CALIF	1,400	1,000	900	90
FLA	13,000	12,100	13,400	111
GROUP TOTAL	14,400	13,100	14,300	109
CUCUMBERS:				
CALIF	800	850	650	76
FLA	8,000	6,900	7,100	103
S C	1,000	1,000	500	50
TEX	4,600	3,400	4,600	135
VA	1,800	1,600	2,200	138
GROUP TOTAL	16,200	13,750	15,050	109
EGGPLANT:				
FLA	1,100	1,000	1,100	110
LETTUCE:				
ARIZ	19,300	17,900	17,000	95
CALIF	35,400	38,000	37,400	98
FLA	2,700	2,600	3,100	119
N J	700	800	1,000	125
N MEX	3,700	3,200	2,800	88
TEX	2,200	1,700	900	53
GROUP TOTAL	64,000	64,200	62,200	97
GREEN PEPPERS: <u>1/</u>				
CALIF	3,700	3,500	2,800	80
FLA	4,300	3,600	4,200	117
N J	900	1,200	900	75
TEX	5,500	5,800	4,800	83
GROUP TOTAL	14,400	14,100	12,700	90
SPINACH:				
CALIF	800	850	800	94
N J	410	500	800	160
TEX	1,400	2,700	1,700	63
GROUP TOTAL	2,610	4,050	3,300	81

1/ INCLUDES FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING. 2/ INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES WHICH ARE LIMITED TO END-OF-SEASON ESTIMATES ONLY: BROCCOLI-ARIZ, TEX: CARROTS-IND, MINN, N J, OHIO; CAULIFLOWER-ARIZ, MICH, TEX.

VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

SEASON AND STATE	AREA			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	HARVESTED		FOR	1978	1979	IND	1978	1979	IND
	1978	1979	HARVEST						
				1978	1979	1980			
	ACRES			CWT			1,000 CWT		
ONIONS:									
SPRING 1/	29,400	29,100	24,800	193	204	236	5,673	5,944	5,850
SUMMER 1/									
NON-STORAGE TOTAL	12,800	12,340	12,450	240	233	244	3,074	2,873	3,038
STORAGE									
COLO	7,800	7,800	7,800	350	325	305	2,730	2,535	2,379
IDAHO & E OREG	12,300	11,700	10,800	475	510	510	5,843	5,967	5,508
MICH	7,200	7,100	6,500	340	340	230	2,448	2,414	1,495
MINN	970	480	760	230	260	265	223	125	201
N Y	13,900	14,600	14,300	310	330	300	4,309	4,818	4,290
OHIO	550	590	530	420	375	380	231	221	201
OREG, W	2,200	2,300	2,400	370	480	480	814	1,104	1,152
UTAH	2,000	2,000	1,900	360	415	330	720	830	627
WASH	3,100	3,900	3,000	380	400	380	1,178	1,560	1,140
WIS	1,500	1,500	1,200	295	290	255	443	435	306
SUBTOTAL	51,520	51,970	49,190	368	385	352	18,939	20,009	17,299
CALIF 2/	27,500	29,700	28,000	300	320	320	8,250	9,504	8,960
TOTAL SUMMER	91,820	94,010	89,640	330	344	327	30,263	32,386	29,297
U S	121,220	123,110	114,440	296	311	307	35,936	38,330	35,147

ONIONS: AREA INTENTIONS

SEASON AND STATE	PLANTED AREA			1981 AS PERCENT OF	
	1979	1980	INTENDED	1979	1980
			1981		
	ACRES			PERCENT	
SPRING 1/ TEX	24,500	19,000	19,000	78	100

1/ PRIMARILY FRESH MARKET.

2/ PRIMARILY PROCESSING.

SNAP BEANS: The acreage for harvest of snap beans during the 1980 fall quarter in major producing States is estimated at 22.2 thousand acres (9000 hectares), 11 percent more than the 1979 fall quarter harvested acreage. Projected production, based on average yields of recent years at 756 thousand cwt (34.3 thousand metric tons), is 19 percent above the fall crop a year ago.

Harvest is declining in New Jersey. Supplies are of good quality but volume is expected to drop sharply by mid-October. Light harvest started in early September in Virginia. The growing season to date has been very dry and yields are very low from non-irrigated fields. The fall snap bean crop in North Carolina is currently in poor to fair condition. Weather conditions have been unfavorable thus far this season.

In Florida, snap beans are in good to excellent condition. Planting is on schedule with good germination and good stands in most areas. Early plantings in the Pompano area are blooming and setting fruit. Light production began October 4th. Harvest of Gadsden County pole beans is progressing with good to very good quality. California's snap bean supplies will come primarily from southern coastal areas with smaller volumes from the Central Coast and lower San Joaquin Valley. Crop progress has been satisfactory.

BROCCOLI: Acreage of broccoli for harvest in California during the 1980 fall quarter is placed at 21.5 thousand acres (8700 hectares), 5 percent more than the acreage harvested during the fall of 1980. At 1.81 million cwt (81.9 thousand metric tons), projected production is down 2 percent from the 1979 fall output.

Harvest of fresh market broccoli will remain heavy from the Central Coast area. Supplies will also be available from the South Coast and Imperial Valley areas. Broccoli is in excellent condition except for poor stands in the San Joaquin Valley's processing crop.

CABBAGE: The 1980 prospective area of cabbage for harvest during the fall quarter is forecast at 21.0 thousand acres (8500 hectares), down 12 percent from the same quarter a year ago. Based on average yields for recent years, production is forecast at 5.27 million cwt (239 thousand metric tons), 10 percent less than the 1979 production.

The New York early cabbage crop was in good shape and developed normally until the onset of hot, dry weather conditions in August which hindered the later stages of development in the early crop and resulted in a poor start for the late cabbage crop. In New Jersey, cabbage harvest is increasing. Moderate to good volume is expected through October. Cooler temperatures have been beneficial. Harvest is expected to extend into November. Excess moisture in Michigan has caused a larger than normal amount of acreage to be abandoned. Growing conditions in Ohio have been good. Excessive moisture caused delays in setting the crop in some areas.

Fall crop harvest is underway in the southwest part of Virginia. Yields are variable. Generally rainfall has been heavier in the southwest than in other areas. The fall cabbage crop in North Carolina is in poor to fair condition. Good stands have been reported but development has been slow.

In Florida, transplanting and seeding of cabbage got underway in early September. Progress has been slow during the month due primarily to dry, hot weather and there has been a shortage of plants in a few scattered areas. Plants set in fields are in fair condition but cooler weather is needed. Harvest is expected to begin in late November.

California's fall cabbage supplies will come primarily from the South and Central Coast areas during the fall quarter. Desert cabbage will be available in December. Growing conditions have been satisfactory.

CANTALOUPS: The expected acreage of cantaloups for harvest during the fall quarter is estimated at 7600 acres (3080 hectares), a decrease of 4 percent compared to the 1979 fall quarter harvested acreage. Production from this acreage is expected to be 874 thousand cwt (39.6 thousand metric tons), 5 percent below the fall output last year.

Harvest of California's fall cantaloup crop will begin in early October and will continue through November. Cantaloups in Arizona have made better than average progress under higher than normal temperatures. Harvest is running slightly ahead of normal as picking began on a limited basis near the end of September. Harvest is expected to continue through most of November.

CARROTS: Carrot acreage for harvest during the fall quarter is estimated at 23.5 thousand acres (95.0 hectares), 13 percent below the 1979 fall quarter harvested acreage. If realized, the projected production would provide 7.26 million cwt (329 thousand metric tons), 10 percent below the previous year.

In New York, the carrot crop is in good condition as harvest continues. Harvest has been delayed in Michigan due to muddy fields. Excess moisture has resulted in a larger than normal abandonment.

Growing conditions for the fall crop in Washington have been excellent during September. Yields and quality are expected to run average or better. Harvest is rapidly becoming active and should be virtually completed by year's end. Disease and insect problems have been minimal.

Harvest of California's fall carrots is active in the Salinas Valley and just started in the Kern district. The fall desert carrots were planted during August with good weather conditions. Harvest will start about the first of December.

CAULIFLOWER: The area of cauliflower for harvest during the fall quarter is 16.3 thousand acres (6600 hectares), up 7 percent from 1979. Based on average yields of recent years, the fall production is expected to be 1.71 million cwt (77.7 thousand metric tons), 8 percent above a year ago.

The cauliflower crop has progressed nicely in New York. Dry, hot conditions on Long Island during August necessitated the use of irrigation to supplement the limited soil water; however, the crop was not adversely affected. Harvest is scheduled to begin in early October.

Oregon's cauliflower crop is a little later than normal. Harvest of California's fall cauliflower crop will continue steady from the Central Coast districts. Movement from southern California will peak in November.

CELERY: The 1980 fall quarter celery acreage for harvest is estimated at 8760 acres (3550 hectares), 8 percent below the acreage harvested in the 1979 fall quarter. Fall crop production based on yields of recent years is expected to be 4.42 million cwt (201 thousand metric tons), a decrease of 7 percent from the fall crop last year.

Celery harvest in New York is winding down and should be completed by mid-October. In Michigan, excessive moisture has lowered quality and yields and caused some rotting. Harvest is nearing completion.

Transplanting continues active in the Florida Everglades. Early transplantings are making good progress. In the Central area, early plantings are making good growth. Planting of California's South Coast celery crop began in July. Most of the volume will be from the Oxnard area beginning in early November. The crop is in normal condition to date. Cutting of the Central Coast celery crop is nearing peak levels and will continue heavy through November, then taper off into December. Plantings is nearing completion in the central districts.

SWEET CORN: An estimated 14.3 thousand acres (5790 hectares) of sweet corn will be harvested during the fall quarter. This is 9 percent more than the acreage harvested a year ago. Projected production based on average yields of recent years is placed at 1.06 million cwt (48.0 thousand metric tons), 18 percent more than the 1979 fall output.

In Florida, planting activity is winding down in the Everglades and increasing in the Pompano area. Light harvest is beginning in the Everglades and Zellwood areas. Early planted fields for U-Pic operations are making good progress.

Fall quarter sweet corn supplies in California will come primarily from the South Coast areas. The crop is progressing satisfactorily.

CUCUMBERS: The prospective acreage of cucumbers for harvest at 15.1 thousand acres (6090 hectares) is 9 percent more than the harvested acreage in the fall quarter of 1979. The projected production of 1.61 million cwt (73.0 thousand metric tons) if realized, would be above the 1979 fall output by 4 percent.

In Virginia, yields have been reduced by dry weather but rainfall during the last of September resulted in some improvement in prospects compared to a month earlier. The cucumber crop in Florida is making very good to excellent progress. Seeding continues active. Older plantings are putting on runners, blooming and setting fruit. Harvest has begun in some west and northern areas with light supplies of good quality.

Cucumber supplies in California will be available from the Imperial Valley and South Coast areas during the fall quarter. The crop is progressing satisfactorily.

EGGPLANT: Projected production of Florida's eggplant crop is estimated at 223 thousand cwt (10.1 thousand metric tons), an increase of 12 percent from fall production last year. At 1100 acres (450 hectares), the area for harvest is up 10 percent from the previous year. The crop is in very good to excellent condition. Growth is very good, fruit set is heavy, and fruit is sizing well. Light harvest is underway in the Pompano area.

ESCAROLE-ENDIVE: Escarole-Endive is expected to be harvested from 1740 acres (700 hectares) during the fall quarter, 5 percent more than the area harvested a year ago. Production, based on average yields, is projected to be 212 thousand cwt (9620 metric tons), 13 percent above the fall 1979 production. Weather conditions in Ohio have been nearly ideal for crop development. Planting activity continues in the Florida Everglades with earlier activity being hampered by frequent showers. Early planted fields are making good growth. Cooler temperatures are needed to improve crop development. Planting is active in the central areas.

HONEYDEWS: At 2600 acres (1050 hectares), the acreage for harvest of honeydews is up 8 percent from 1979. Projected production based on average yields is 575 thousand cwt (26.1 thousand metric tons), 6 percent more than a year ago.

Harvest of California's fall honeydew crop will begin in early October and will continue until late November. Desert acreage is up slightly from last fall's acreage. Arizona's honeydew crop has made good progress and harvest is expected to begin near mid-October and continue into mid-November.

LETTUCE: Area of lettuce for harvest during the 1980 fall quarter is placed at 62.2 thousand acres (25.2 thousand hectares), a decrease of 3 percent from the 1979 fall acreage. Fall quarter output is projected at 14.0 million cwt (635 thousand metric tons), 4 percent below the previous year.

In New Jersey, lettuce harvest is expected to be general most of October with good volume available. Earlier dry weather reduced potential yields but late planted acreage is showing good color and growth. Marketings are expected to be about complete by early November.

In Florida, seeding activity is increasing but early planting in September was interrupted by frequent rains in the Everglades. First plantings are up to good stands. Cooler weather would be beneficial for crop progress. Seeding activity continues in the central area.

Harvest of fall lettuce began during the last week of September in Arizona's southeastern area. Crop progress has been fairly good but unusually high temperatures are causing some leaf burn on tender young plants. Central area harvest is expected to begin in October and western area harvest will start in November.

In California, fall lettuce harvest is active in the Salinas-Watsonville and Santa Maria areas and at Brentwood. Harvest will begin shortly in the southern and central San Joaquin Valley. The Blythe deal will begin around mid-November.

ONIONS: At 17.3 million cwt (785 thousand metric tons), the final production forecast for storage type onions is 2 percent below the September forecast and 14 percent below the 1979 production. Combined production of non-storage and storage type onions in summer producing States is estimated at 29.3 million cwt (1.33 million metric tons), down 10 percent from 1979. Acreage for harvest at 89.6 thousand acres (36.3 thousand hectares) is 5 percent less than the acreage harvested during the 1979 summer quarter.

Harvest is nearing completion in all areas of New York. Dry, hot weather during late summer provided excellent conditions for field drying and harvesting. However, bulb size and yields are expected to be reduced as a result of the dry conditions.

Most of Ohio's onion acreage was harvested by the last week of September. The onion crop in Michigan is poor. Reduced yields were caused by waterlogged fields, thin stands and small onions. Much of the crop was deemed unmarketable. Minnesota's onion harvest is nearly completed. Quality of the crop is very good. Yields are expected to be above average.

In Idaho, harvest activity continues with ideal weather conditions. Harvest should be completed by the last week of October. The crop is in good condition. Hot weather in Colorado has reduced bulb size in some areas. Harvesting conditions have been excellent. Utah's onion harvest is expected to be complete by mid-October. Crop quality is good but size is smaller than expected. Hail in late August, combined with poor planting conditions have lowered the yield per acre.

In Washington, favorable weather has resulted in good harvesting conditions. Harvest is well along and should be virtually completed by the end of October. Onion harvest is continuing in Western Oregon with excellent weather conditions. Yields are better than average, with good quality. California's summer onion harvest is proceeding well under favorable weather conditions.

SPRING ONIONS: In the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, rainfall during September has helped alleviate dry conditions. Despite some rain delays, land preparation is active and planting is expected to be in full swing by early October. High levels of soil salt caused by the summer drought have been lowered by recent rains and soil conditions have improved.

In the Winter Garden and Laredo areas, conditions remain dry despite showers during September. Land preparation remains on schedule and planting is expected to begin during October.

GREEN PEPPERS: The 1980 fall quarter acreage of green peppers for harvest is estimated at 12.7 thousand acres (5140 hectares), 10 percent fewer than 1979. Output from these acres is projected at 1.41 million cwt (64.0 thousand metric tons), down 5 percent from last year's fall output.

In New Jersey, harvest continues from the late planted acreage. Marketings are expected to decline sharply after mid-October. Some late acreage will continue to produce until the first killing frost.

In Florida, the crop is in fair to very good condition. Transplanting is steady in some areas. Some early seeded fields have uneven stands due to heavy spot resetting. Older plants are bushing out well. Bloom and fruit set are increasing and fruit is sizing well. Light volume is expected from the southeast areas about mid-October.

Harvest is active in all producing areas of California. Volume will continue into November and decline by mid-December. Cooler than normal weather has slowed maturity.

SPINACH: Area for harvest of fall spinach is estimated at 3300 acres (1340 hectares), a decrease of 19 percent from a year ago. Based on historic average yields, the fall crop is expected to produce 234 thousand cwt (10.6 thousand metric tons), 10 percent below 1979.

In New Jersey, harvest is increasing. Cooler temperatures have improved crop quality. Increased marketings are expected during October and early November with most spinach marketed by late November or early December. California's fall spinach supplies will come from the southern coastal areas. Crop conditions have been satisfactory. Supplies will be available from October through December.

TOMATOES: The prospective area of tomatoes for harvest during the fall quarter is estimated at 25.1 thousand acres (10.2 thousand hectares), 4 percent more than last year's fall harvested acres. Production based on average yields of recent years, is projected at 5.55 million cwt (252 thousand metric tons), 4 percent below the 1979 fall output.

In Florida, the crop is in fair to very good condition. Planting activity continues with favorable weather. Early crops in the Palmetto-Ruskin and southwest areas are showing bloom buds, open blooms and some fruit set. Light harvest is expected after mid-October. Some fruit droppage from crown hands due to wet, hot conditions. Spraying active to control disease. Gadsden County crop in very good condition and making excellent growth and progress.

Hot, dry weather in Alabama has lowered the acreage for harvest. Harvest of fresh market tomatoes in California is active in all coastal districts except San Diego where the late crop harvest is just getting underway.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING

STATE	HARVESTED AREA			
	1978		1979	
	TOTAL	TOTAL	CONTRACT	INDICATED 1980 CONTRACT
	ACRES			
CALIF	231,900	250,000	249,400	207,000
COLO	760	750	750	550
IND	9,500	9,800	8,800	8,500
MD	3,900	2,800	2,500	2,500
MICH	4,500	6,100	5,100	5,100
N J	7,200	7,000	6,400	4,800
N MEX	600			
OHIO	19,700	18,700	18,700	16,300
PA	3,900	4,400	4,100	3,500
TEX	2,500	2,000	2,000	1,900
VA	3,800	3,600	3,500	1,900
OTH STS 1/	7,300	6,580	4,310	4,050
U S	295,560	311,730	305,560	256,100
	YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION	
	1978	1979	INDICATED 1980	1979
	TOTAL	TOTAL	CONTRACT	TOTAL
	TONS			
CALIF	22.81	25.40	26.90	5,289,650
COLO	15.26	10.80	13.80	11,600
IND	21.06	14.75	15.00	200,050
MD	11.27	12.82	10.00	43,950
MICH	18.04	18.61	16.00	81,200
N J	12.90	14.00	12.00	92,850
N MEX	8.00			4,800
OHIO	20.22	18.68	17.50	398,350
PA	19.51	16.65	15.00	76,100
TEX	8.62	8.70	8.50	21,550
VA	10.53	11.93	9.80	40,000
OTH STS 1/	14.74	14.95	14.26	107,600
U S	21.54	23.52	24.59	6,367,700

1/ 1978 - ARK, DEL, FLA, ILL, IOWA, KY, N Y, N C, UTAH AND W VA.

1979 - DEL, FLA, ILL, IOWA, KY, N MEX, N Y, N C, UTAH AND W VA.

1980 - DEL, ILL, IOWA, N MEX, N Y, N C, UTAH AND W VA.

The 1980 production of tomatoes contracted for processing is forecast at 6.30 million tons (5.71 million metric tons), down 13 percent from the contract tonnage produced during 1979 and 4 percent above the September 1 forecast. This forecast is based on an October 1 survey in California and a September 1 survey in the other processing tomato States.

Processing tomato harvest in California is virtually complete. Harvest conditions were nearly ideal in August and September. Very light harvest is expected through mid-October.

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