

Vegetables



**National
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Service**

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

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**Storage Onions And Asparagus Up 3 Percent;
Processed Vegetables Drop 15 Percent; Spring Strawberries Down 9**

Storage onion production (excluding California) is forecast at 29.8 million cwt, up 3 percent from last year and 4 percent above 1990. Total annual production of onions is seen at 52.5 million cwt, up 4 percent from last year but 1 percent below two years ago.

Processing vegetable production for the 4 major crops on contract is forecast at 13.1 million tons, down 15 percent from last year and 10 percent below 1990. Sweet corn production should decrease 2 percent and tomatoes are expected to be off 19 percent from last year.

Asparagus production in 4 selected States is estimated at 2.24 million cwt, up 3 percent from last year. Production was up in California, Michigan, and New Jersey but down in Washington.

Spring strawberry production in 5 selected States is estimated at 10.8 million cwt, down 9 percent from 1991. Declines in production in California, Michigan, and Oregon offset increased production in New Jersey and Washington.

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Production of 4 Major Processing Crops Off 15 Percent

U.S. vegetable processors expect to take in 13.1 million tons of raw product from 4 major crops in 1992. This is 15 percent less than last year and 10 percent less than in 1990. Contracted acreage of 1.31 million acres was 9 percent less than a year earlier. Production of each of the 4 crops are projected to be less than last year. Tomato production is forecast at 8.66 million tons, down 19 percent from last year. Sweet corn production of 3.30 million tons is predicted to be off 2 percent from 1991. Snap bean production is forecast to be down 10 percent from 1990, while green peas production is forecast to be off by less than 1 percent.

Sweet Corn: Predicted sweet corn production of 3.30 million tons is off 2 percent from 1991. Area for harvest, at 506,700 acres, is 7 percent less than last year. Contracted yield of 6.51 tons per acre is up 0.29 tons from 1991. Above normal temperatures have pushed the crop 10 days ahead of normal in Idaho. The Illinois yield was the highest on record. In Minnesota, slow maturity and slow harvest progress have made the crop susceptible to an early frost. Over 80 percent of the crop was harvested in Maryland and Delaware. Warm and dry weather provided excellent growing conditions in Oregon and record high yields.

Tomatoes: Tomato production is forecast to decline in all areas in 1992, with decreased acreage the major factor. In California, processing tomato harvest peaked during the first week of August. Warmer than average temperatures caused the crop to ripen one to two weeks ahead of schedule. Below normal yields in Southern Districts were followed by average to above average yields in the Central and Northern Districts. In Ohio, cooler temperatures and excessive rainfall has pushed the State's processing tomatoes two to three weeks behind normal maturity. Growers are using ethrel to speed ripening. Harvest is active in Michigan, although the crop is about three weeks late due to cool temperatures. Excessive rain in July damaged some fields. The crop is in good condition in Delaware. In Texas, heavy rain caused the abandonment of some fields.

Processing Vegetables: Area Harvested and Production,
by Crop, United States, 1990-92
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Harvested Area			
	1990 Total	1991		Indicated 1992 Contract
		Total	Contract	
Acres				
All Processing <u>1/</u>				
Snap Beans	246,130	235,050	221,530	196,920
Sweet Corn	490,080	545,860	543,060	506,700
Green Peas	341,100	332,800	332,300	335,500
Tomatoes	354,700	355,980	350,960	272,850
Total	1,432,010	1,469,690	1,447,850	1,311,970
Cucumbers for Pickles <u>2/</u>	115,490	104,240	91,770	
Total 5 Vegetables	1,547,500	1,573,930	1,539,620	
Production				
	1990 Total	1991		Indicated 1992 Contract
		Total	Contract	
Tons				
All Processing <u>1/</u>				
Snap Beans	795,980	778,670	735,680	662,910
Sweet Corn	3,120,610	3,396,080	3,372,740	3,300,580
Green Peas	528,150	491,110	490,160	488,480
Tomatoes	10,355,260	10,872,990	10,751,140	8,663,200
Total	14,800,000	15,538,850	15,349,720	13,115,170
Cucumbers for Pickles <u>2/</u>	653,480	623,030	561,630	
Total 5 Vegetables	15,453,480	16,161,880	15,911,350	

1/ Snap beans and green peas carried forward from earlier forecasts.

2/ Cucumbers for pickles published December 15, 1992.

Processing Vegetables: Area Harvested and Production,
by Crop, United States, 1990-92
(Metric Units)

Crop	:	Harvested Area				
	:	1991		:	Indicated	
	:	1990	:	:	1992	
	:	Total	:	Total : Contract	Contract	
<hr/>						
	:	Hectares				
	:					
All Processing <u>1/</u>	:					
Snap Beans	:	99,610	95,120	89,650	79,690	
Sweet Corn	:	198,330	220,900	219,770	205,060	
Green Peas	:	138,040	134,680	134,480	135,770	
Tomatoes	:	143,540	144,060	142,030	110,420	
	:					
Total	:	579,520	594,760	585,930	530,940	
	:					
Cucumbers for Pickles <u>2/</u>	:	46,740	42,180	37,140		
	:					
Total 5 Vegetables	:	626,260	636,940	623,070		
<hr/>						
	:	Production				
	:					
	:	1990	:	1991	:	Indicated
	:	1990	:	:	:	1992
	:	Total	:	Total : Contract	:	Contract
<hr/>						
	:	Metric Tons				
	:					
All Processing <u>1/</u>	:					
Snap Beans	:	722,100	706,390	667,390	601,380	
Sweet Corn	:	2,830,950	3,080,860	3,059,680	2,994,220	
Green Peas	:	479,130	445,530	444,660	443,140	
Tomatoes	:	9,394,080	9,863,760	9,753,220	7,859,080	
	:					
Total	:	13,426,260	14,096,540	13,924,950	11,897,820	
	:					
Cucumbers for Pickles <u>2/</u>	:	592,820	565,200	509,500		
	:					
Total 5 Vegetables	:	14,019,080	14,661,740	14,434,450		

1/ Snap beans and green peas carried forward from earlier forecasts.

2/ Cucumbers for pickles published December 15, 1992.

Sweet Corn for Processing: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production,
by State and United States, 1990-92

State	Harvested Area						
	1991						Indicated 1992 Contract
	1990 Total	1991					
		Total	Contract				
Acres							
DE	6,100	6,700	6,700				6,300
ID	20,100	21,600	21,600				20,400
IL	34,500	44,000	44,000				40,000
MD	7,100	7,100	7,100				7,200
MI		6,300	6,300				7,500
MN	130,000	141,400	141,400				134,500
NY	29,700	31,100	31,100				32,100
OR	47,200	47,500	45,900				42,400
PA	3,500	2,700	2,700				1,900
WA	56,300	59,000	58,200				56,000
WI	141,200	166,700	166,300				147,000
Oth Sts 1/	14,380	11,760	11,760				11,400
US	490,080	545,860	543,060				506,700
Yield Per Acre : Production							
: : Indicated: : 1991 : Indicated							
: 1990 : 1991 : 1992 : 1990 : 1992							
: Total: Total: Contract : Total : Total : Contract : Contract							
Tons							
DE	5.77	5.33	5.40	35,200	35,710	35,710	34,020
ID	8.28	8.37	8.65	166,430	180,790	180,790	176,460
IL	5.17	4.90	5.80	178,370	215,600	215,600	232,000
MD	6.14	5.98	5.50	43,590	42,460	42,460	39,600
MI		6.56	6.00		41,330	41,330	45,000
MN	5.79	5.66	6.00	752,700	800,320	800,320	807,000
NY	5.60	3.80	5.35	166,320	118,180	118,180	171,740
OR	8.40	8.42	9.40	396,480	399,950	385,700	398,560
PA	4.60	4.28	5.50	16,100	11,560	11,560	10,450
WA	8.38	8.45	9.00	471,790	498,550	491,910	504,000
WI	5.73	6.00	5.50	809,080	1,000,200	997,750	808,500
Oth Sts 1/	5.88	4.37	6.43	84,550	51,430	51,430	73,250
US	6.37	6.22	6.51	3,120,610	3,396,080	3,372,740	3,300,580

1/ 1990 - IN, IA, MI, OH, and VA.
1991 - IN, IA, OH, and VA.
1992 - IN, IA, NJ, and OH.

**Tomatoes for Processing: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production,
by State and United States, 1990-92**

State	Harvested Area						
	1990			1991			Indicated 1992 Contract
	Total	Total		Contract	Contract		
Acres							
CA	310,000			312,000	310,000		240,000
CO	150			200	200		150
IN	7,600			8,800	8,200		6,300
MI	5,700			6,700	6,600		6,200
NJ	3,300			2,600	2,600		1,400
NY	2,100						
OH	17,100			17,700	16,900		14,500
PA	1,800			2,000	1,500		1,100
Oth Sts <u>1/</u>	6,950			5,980	4,960		3,200
US	354,700			355,980	350,960		272,850
Yield Per Acre : Production							
: 1990		: Indicated:		: 1991		: Indicated	
: 1990		: 1991		: 1991		: 1992	
: Total		: Total		: Total		: Contract	
Tons							
CA	:30.02	31.71	33.00	9,306,200	9,893,520	9,820,000	7,920,000
CO	:15.93	15.00	15.00	2,390	3,000	3,000	2,250
IN	:25.40	24.72	21.90	193,040	217,540	202,790	137,970
MI	:29.80	25.30	26.00	169,860	169,510	167,130	161,200
NJ	:17.28	18.20	19.75	57,020	47,320	47,320	27,650
NY	:18.95			39,800			
OH	:25.41	22.17	24.50	434,510	392,410	374,700	355,250
PA	:19.40	13.80	21.00	34,920	27,600	26,550	23,100
Oth Sts <u>1/</u>	:16.91	20.42	11.18	117,520	122,090	109,650	35,780
US	:29.19	30.54	31.75	10,355,260	10,872,990	10,751,140	8,663,200

1/ 1990 - DE, FL, IL, IA, MD, SC, TX, and VA.

1991 - DE, FL, IL, IA, MD, NY, SC, TX, and VA.

1992 - DE, FL, IL, MD, NY, SC, TX, and VA.

**Onions Up 4 Percent, Asparagus Up 3 Percent;
Spring Strawberries Down 9 Percent**

Asparagus: Production of asparagus is forecast at 2.2 million cwt, up 3 percent from 1991. A 2 percent decline in harvested acreage was more than offset by a 100 pound per acre increase in yield. Yields were up in all four producing States from a year ago. In New Jersey and Michigan, increased yields more than offset declines in acreage. California had increases in both yield and harvested acreage. Only in Washington was this year's production less than in 1991.

Strawberries: Spring strawberry production is forecast at 10.8 million cwt, down 9 percent from 1991. Production in California was off 9 percent from last year due to decreased yields. The strawberry season was favorable in New Jersey. Fruit size was average, while quality was good. Winter strawberry production in Florida is estimated at 1.4 million cwt, up 7 percent from last year. Favorable growing conditions promoted good crop growth and yields with this year's yield 60 cwt greater than last year.

Onions: Annual production of onions (including all seasons) is forecast at 52.5 million cwt, up 4 percent from last year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 138,680 acres, up 4 percent, while the yield per acre of 378 cwt is unchanged from 1991.

Storage onions: Production of summer storage onions (excluding California) is forecast at 29.8 million cwt, up 3 percent from last year and 4 percent above two years ago. Harvest area is estimated at 69,280 acres, a 4 percent gain from last year. The average forecast yield of 430 cwt per acre is down 3 cwt.

Harvest is early in the West; late in Central States and New York. A hot summer in Washington reduced onion yields. Idaho and Oregon's harvest is moving ahead of normal with good size and yields. Utah's harvest started in early September. Higher acreage in Colorado should give growers a larger production in spite of slightly lower yields. Michigan onions are three weeks late in some areas but yields are expected to be up from last year. New York received heavy rain in August, flooding out some acreage.

California's production is forecast at 10.0 million cwt, down 5 percent from last year. Area for harvest, at 27,500 acres, is down 4 percent, while yields, anticipated at 365 cwt per acre, are down 5 cwt from last year. Hot weather reduced yield prospects.

Spring onions: The season end report of spring onions places production at 8.37 million cwt, up 18 percent from last year and 9 percent above 1990. Acreage harvested was up 13 percent from last year and yields were up 11 cwt per acre. The 1992 crop was valued at \$136 million, up 1 percent from last year.

**Asparagus, Onions and Strawberries: Area Planted and Harvested,
and Yield, Selected States, 1991-92**

Crop and State	Area				Yield per Acre	
	Planted		Harvested		1991	1992
	1991	1992	1991	1992		
	Acres				Cwt	
Asparagus: <u>1/</u>						
CA	35,500	34,500	33,500	34,000	28	29
MI	24,000	23,000	23,500	22,500	11	13
NJ	1,400	1,300	1,400	1,300	17	23
WA	30,000	28,500	29,000	27,500	33	34
Total	90,900	87,300	87,400	85,300	25	26
Onions: <u>2/</u>						
Spring						
AZ	900	1,300	900	1,200	490	520
CA	9,000	10,000	8,000	9,000	395	420
GA	7,000	8,200	6,000	7,700	110	180
TX	13,100	15,500	11,800	12,300	240	210
Total	30,000	35,000	26,700	30,200	266	277
Strawberries: <u>1/</u>						
Winter						
FL	5,500	4,700	5,500	4,700	240	300
Spring						
CA	21,100	23,400	21,100	23,400	520	425
MI	2,300	2,300	2,100	2,100	62	58
NJ	500	500	500	500	38	50
OR	5,700	6,200	5,600	6,100	110	100
WA	1,400	1,600	1,400	1,600	60	70
5 State Total	31,000	34,000	30,700	33,700	385	321
Major States Total	36,500	38,700	36,200	38,400	363	318

See footnotes on page 9.

**Asparagus, Onions and Strawberries: Production and Value,
Selected States, 1991-92**

Crop and State	Production		Value			
	1991	1992	Per Cwt		Total	
			1991	1992	1991	1992
	--- 1,000 Cwt ---		---- Dollars----		- 1,000 Dollars -	
Asparagus: <u>1/</u>						
CA	938	986	78.10	84.60	73,258	83,415
MI	259	293	54.50	57.60	14,126	16,888
NJ	24	30	75.90	110.00	1,822	3,300
WA	957	935	59.50	58.00	56,932	54,197
Total	2,178	2,244	67.10	70.30	146,138	157,800
Onions: <u>2/</u>						
Spring						
AZ	441	624	8.61	8.92	3,797	5,563
CA	3,160	3,780	18.00	11.70	56,880	44,226
GA	660	1,386	31.50	25.40	20,790	35,204
TX	2,832	2,583	19.10	19.90	54,091	51,402
Total	7,093	8,373	19.10	16.30	135,558	136,395
Strawberries: <u>1/</u>						
Winter						
FL	1,320	1,410	64.30	67.20	84,876	94,752
Spring						
CA	10,972	9,945	42.40	55.00	465,515	547,179
MI	130	122	49.50	57.90	6,430	7,066
NJ	19	25	67.00	67.40	1,273	1,685
OR	616	610	51.00	34.60	31,416	21,105
WA <u>3/</u>	84	112	62.50	43.40	5,248	4,856
Total	11,821	10,814	43.10	53.80	509,882	581,891
Major States						
Total	13,141	12,224	45.30	55.40	594,758	676,643

1/ Includes fresh and processing.

2/ Primarily fresh market.

3/ Excludes the following quantities not harvested or not marketed because of economic conditions: 1991 - WA, 8,000 cwt; 1992 - WA, 8,000 cwt.

Onions: Acreage, Yield, and Production, by Season, Type,
and State, 1990-92

Season and State	Area			Yield Per Acre		
	Harvested		For	1990	1991	1992
	1990	1991	Harvest 1992			
	Acres			Cwt		
Spring	27,700	26,700	30,200	276	266	277
Summer						
Non-Storage	14,700	12,000	11,700	321	347	363
Storage:						
CO	13,500	12,700	14,000	380	390	380
ID & OR-Malheur	17,600	19,000	19,200	585	610	610
MI	7,400	7,300	7,400	330	280	300
MN	540	980	990	385	300	270
NY	12,200	11,800	11,200	380	300	300
OH	500	490	490	395	345	350
OR - Other	3,500	3,200	4,200	390	380	400
UT	1,900	1,900	2,000	480	460	450
WA	6,800	7,700	8,000	440	470	450
WI	1,500	1,600	1,800	420	350	330
Subtotal	65,440	66,670	69,280	440	433	430
CA 1/	30,500	28,600	27,500	380	370	365
Total Summer	110,640	107,270	108,480	408	407	407
US	138,340	133,970	138,680	382	378	378
	Production					
	1990		1991		1992	
	1,000 Cwt					
Spring	7,657		7,093		8,373	
Summer						
Non-Storage	4,725		4,168		4,250	
Storage:						
CO	5,130		4,953		5,320	
ID & OR-Malheur	10,296		11,590		11,712	
MI	2,442		2,044		2,220	
MN	208		294		267	
NY	4,636		3,540		3,360	
OH	198		169		172	
OR - Other	1,365		1,216		1,680	
UT	912		874		900	
WA	2,992		3,619		3,600	
WI	630		560		594	
Subtotal	28,809		28,859		29,825	
CA 1/	11,590		10,582		10,038	
Total Summer	45,124		43,609		44,113	
US	52,781		50,702		52,486	

1/ Primarily for processing.

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