

VEGETABLES

Release: October 20, 1964
3:00 P.M. (E.D.T.)

WEEKLY TOMATO REPORT 1/ - 1964-65 Season

Weekly Planting in Florida and the
Spring Crop in the Texas Lower Valley

Week Ending	FLORIDA						TEXAS LOWER VALLEY		TOTAL 2 STATES	
	1963-64			1964-65			1963-64	1964-65	1963-64	1964-65
	Seeded	Set 2/	Total	Seeded	Set 2/	Total				
Season through	-Acres-						-Acres Seeded-		-Total Acres Seeded Basis-	
July 18	---	---	---	---	80	80	---	---	---	80
25	200	50	250	60	20	80	---	---	250	80
Aug. 1	220	160	380	330	50	380	---	---	380	380
8	1,390	190	1,580	1,350	580	1,930	---	---	1,580	1,930
15	3,480	110	3,590	3,790	410	4,200	---	---	3,590	4,200
22	2,920	30	2,950	3,440	150	3,590	---	---	2,950	3,590
29	1,670	210	1,880	2,020	50	2,070	---	---	1,880	2,070
Sept. 5	1,390	500	1,890	3,590	90	3,680	---	---	1,890	3,680
12	1,210	630	1,840	1,980	50	2,030	---	---	1,840	2,030
19	880	320	1,200	1,220	170	1,390	---	---	1,200	1,390
Total through Sept. 19	13,360	2,200	15,560	17,780	1,650	19,430	---	---	15,560	19,430
Sept. 26	460	240	700	1,900			---	---	700	
Oct. 3	1,660	350	2,010	1,680			---	---	2,010	
10	1,580	220	1,800	1,740			---	---	1,800	
17	1,560	210	1,770	1,460			---	---	1,770	
Season to date	18,620	3,220	21,840	24,560			---	---	21,840	

Plant Development and Progress of Harvest 3/ - October 17, 1964

STAGES	FLORIDA		TEXAS		TOTAL 2 STATES	
	1963-64	1964-65	1963-64	1964-65	1963-64	1964-65
	-Acres-		-Acres-		-Acres-	
Pre-fruit stage	14,420	18,000	---	---	14,420	18,000
Fruit set						
Early development	6,040	7,010	---	---	6,040	7,010
Har. expected next 2 weeks	190	1,200	---	---	190	1,200
Times harvested						
Once	170	---	---	---	170	---
Twice	---	---	---	---	---	---
Three or more	---	---	---	---	---	---
Harvest completed	---	---	---	---	---	---

1/ Excludes acreage contracted for processing. 2/ The acreage set is shown as planted 4 weeks earlier to make crop development comparable to that on the acreage seeded. 3/ For fresh market. Does not include harvest for processing.

(See comments on reverse side.)

Hurricane "Isbell" passed across Florida the evening of October 14, damaging a large portion of the tomato acreage.

Winds from the southern edge of the storm whipped older plants in Dade County being grown for the mature green market. Many of the plants were badly laid over and these are not straightning up as fast as expected. Strong winds on Thursday and Friday following the storm caused additional damage. Light harvest is expected by mid-November. Plants in the Ft. Myers area escaped damage but the northern fringe of the storm hit fields in the Naples and Immokalee areas blowing plants over and scarring fruit. The Devils Garden area was closest to the storm center and plants were blown over, fruit scarred, and foliage badly burned by the high wind. Fruit is sizing well. Harvest on earliest fields is expected near the first of November.

Plant condition in the Ft. Pierce area is good in all but Martin and Palm Beach Counties which were affected by the storm. Most of the fields in these two counties were further advanced than usual. The majority of the fruit was blown off or scarred. Cool, dry weather after the storm has been beneficial.

Plants in the Manatee-Ruskin-Wauchula area escaped storm damage. Condition is mostly good. First harvest will start in late October.

Plant condition in the Pompano vine ripe area is generally poor. Winds from the hurricane stripped leaves from plants in the Lake Worth sector. Wind burn varied from moderate to severe in the remainder of this area. Most of the fruit on the older plants was blown off or badly scarred. Fields in the southern part of the vine ripe area with good wind breaks suffered only light to moderate damage. Some young acreage will probably be replanted but plants lost on older acreage will not be replanted.

This is the first weekly Tomato Report for the 1964-65 season.

Weekly Tomato Shipments 1962-63 through 1964-65
Rail and Truck Combined - Equivalent Carlots

Week Ending	FLORIDA			TEXAS			TOTAL 2 STATES		
	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65
Oct. 3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
10	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
17	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
24	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---
31	14	6	---	---	---	---	14	6	---
Nov. 7	61	68	---	---	---	---	61	68	---