

VEGETABLES

Release: May 19, 1964
3:00 P.M. (E.D.T.)

WEEKLY TOMATO REPORT 1/ - 1963-64 Season

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

Week Ending	FLORIDA						TEXAS LOWER VALLEY		TOTAL 2 STATES	
	1962-63			1963-64			1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64
	Seeded	Set 2/	Total	Seeded	Set 2/	Total				
Season through	-Acres-						-Acres Seeded-		-Total Acres Seeded Basis-	
Jan. 4	34,930	6,390	41,320	33,080	6,590	39,670	1,350	3,650	42,670	43,320
11	870	150	1,020	1,040	350	1,390	2,900	3,900	3,920	5,290
18	460	160	620	490	610	1,100	1,350	1,700	1,970	2,800
25	410	100	510	420	90	510	1,700	2,500	2,210	3,010
Feb. 1	270	---	270	230	140	370	2,400	950	2,670	1,320
8	80	---	80	50	60	110	950	500	1,030	610
15	---	---	---	160	---	160	700	550	700	710
22	170	60	230	40	20	60	500	450	730	510
29	210	20	230	---	---	---	600	100	830	100
Mar. 7	---	---	---	10	---	10	350	150	350	160
14	---	---	---	---	---	---	100	---	100	---
21	---	---	---	40	---	40	---	---	---	40
Season	37,400	6,880	44,280	35,560	7,860	43,420	12,900	14,450	57,130	57,870

Plant Development and Progress of Harvest 3/ - May 16, 1964

STAGES	FLORIDA		TEXAS		TOTAL 2 STATES	
	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64
	-Acres-		-Acres-		-Acres-	
Pre-fruit stage	---	---	4/	700	4/	700
Fruit set						
Early development	130	220	4/	3,500	4/	3,720
Har. expected next 2 weeks	560	890	4/	6,400	4/	7,290
Times harvested						
Once	2,320	3,370	4/	2,750	4/	6,120
Twice	3,970	1,900	4/	900	4/	2,800
Three or more	2,070	1,260	4/	200	4/	1,460
Harvest completed	35,230	35,780	4/	---	4/	35,780

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. 4/ Not available.

(See comments on reverse side.)

Weekly Tomato Shipments 1961-62 through 1963-64
 Rail and Truck Combined - Equivalent Carlots

Week Ending	FLORIDA			TEXAS			TOTAL 2 STATES		
	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
Apr. 25	776	1,055	923	---	---	---	776	1,055	923
May 2	1,002	1,140	1,205	---	---	1	1,002	1,140	1,206
9	957	1,463	1,656	71	---	40	1,028	1,463	1,696
16	981	1,493	1/1,099	375	2	166	1,356	1,495	1/1,265
23	666	1,149		847	23		1,513	1,172	
30	444	621		869	94		1,313	715	
June 6	191	363		441	414		632	777	

1/ Preliminary.

Weather in Florida's tomato producing areas during the week ended May 16 was mostly clear and sunny. Rainfall was scattered and generally light. Shipments during the week dropped to 1,099 carlot equivalents. The week before, growers shipped 1,656 carlot equivalents--the highest of the season. Less acreage will be available for harvest the week of May 17-23 and volume will continue to decrease seasonally. Harvest of mature green acreage in the Immokalee-Fort Myers and Fort Pierce areas will be about complete by May 23. Many growers are picking only twice. Harvest in the Manatee-Ruskin-Wauchula area gained momentum during the week as more acreage was available for first and second pickings. Peak volume in this area will be reached the week ending May 23. Supplies from a small acreage in the northcentral area of Florida continues to increase.

Supplies of tomatoes from the Texas Rio Grande Valley continued to increase last week, with rail and truck shipments totaling 166 equivalent carlots. Rain amounting up to 3 inches on Monday, May 11 delayed harvest in local areas of the middle and lower sections of the Valley. Supplies will continue to increase with peak movement expected during the first 2 weeks of June. Plants are in good condition with latest hands blooming and setting fruit. Most of the plants in the pre-fruit stage have a good bloom set in upper hands.