

Vegetables



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

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Fresh Market Harvested Acreage Up 3 Percent

Acreage intended for harvest of the 1994 winter crop fresh market vegetables is forecasted at 191,500 acres, up 3 percent from a year ago, and a 2 percent increase from 1992. Increases in the acreage of snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, celery, eggplant, escarole/endive, head lettuce, and bell peppers offset declining acreage of carrots, sweet corn, spinach, and tomatoes. Winter strawberry acreage is forecasted at 5,600 acres, up 10 percent from last year and up 19 percent from 1992.

Spring Onion Acreage Unchanged

Acreage planted to spring onions is estimated at 32,500 acres for 1994, unchanged from 1993 but 7 percent less than two years ago.

For information call David Mueller at (202) 720-2157. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area for Harvest
by Season, Major States, 1992-1994
(Domestic Units)

Crop and Season	Area		
	Harvested		For
	1992	1993	Harvest 1994
	Acres		
Snap Beans	8,500	11,000	11,500
Broccoli <u>1/</u>	27,000	23,000	25,500
Cabbage	10,400	11,000	12,300
Carrots <u>1/</u>	25,700	24,800	24,000
Cauliflower <u>1/</u>	10,000	10,500	10,000
Celery <u>1/</u>	8,200	7,900	8,900
Sweet Corn	4,000	5,300	4,800
Eggplant	800	500	700
Escarole/Endive	1,500	1,300	1,400
Head Lettuce	67,600	66,500	69,600
Bell Pepper <u>1/</u>	4,400	4,800	5,500
Spinach	3,400	2,800	2,300
Tomatoes	17,000	17,300	15,000
Total Winter Crop	188,500	186,700	191,500

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area for Harvest
by Season, Major States, 1992-1994
(Metric Units)

Crop and Season	Area		
	Harvested		For
	1992	1993	Harvest 1994
	Acres		
Snap Bean	3,440	4,450	4,650
Broccoli <u>1/</u>	10,930	9,310	10,320
Cabbage	4,210	4,450	4,980
Carrots <u>1/</u>	10,400	10,040	9,710
Cauliflower <u>1/</u>	4,050	4,250	4,050
Celery <u>1/</u>	3,320	3,200	3,600
Sweet Corn	1,620	2,140	1,940
Eggplant	320	200	280
Escarole/Endive	610	530	570
Head Lettuce	27,360	26,910	28,170
Bell Peppers <u>1/</u>	1,780	1,940	2,230
Spinach	1,380	1,130	930
Tomatoes	6,880	7,000	6,070
Total Winter Crop	76,300	75,550	77,500

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area for Harvest
by Crop, State, and Total, Winter Season, 1992-94

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area			1994 as Percent of 1993
		Harvested		For	
		1992	1993	Harvest 1994	
		Acres			Percent
Snap Beans FL	Jan-Mar	8,500	11,000	11,500	105
Broccoli <u>1/</u> CA	Jan-May	27,000	23,000	25,500	111
Cabbage FL	Jan-Mar	6,200	6,000	5,800	97
TX	Jan-Mar	4,200	5,000	6,500	130
Total		10,400	11,000	12,300	112
Carrots <u>1/</u> CA	Dec-Jan	16,000	16,000	16,000	100
FL	Nov-Mar	6,200	5,800	4,800	83
TX	Dec-Mar	3,500	3,000	3,200	107
Total		25,700	24,800	24,000	97
Cauliflower <u>1/</u> CA	Jan-Mar	10,000	10,500	10,000	95
Celery <u>1/</u> CA - S Coast	Jan-Mar	5,100	5,100	6,000	118
FL	Jan-Mar	3,100	2,800	2,900	104
Total		8,200	7,900	8,900	113
Sweet Corn FL	Jan-Mar	4,000	5,300	4,800	91
Eggplant FL	Jan-Mar	800	500	700	140
Escarole/Endive FL	Jan-Mar	1,500	1,300	1,400	108
Head Lettuce AZ - Western		45,900	47,500	48,000	101
CA	Dec-Apr	17,000	15,000	16,100	107
FL	Jan-Mar	4,200	3,500	5,000	143
TX	Nov-Apr	500	500	500	100
Total		67,600	66,500	69,600	105
Bell Pepper <u>1/</u> FL	Jan-Mar	4,400	4,800	5,500	115
Spinach TX	Jan-Mar	3,400	2,800	2,300	82
Tomatoes FL	Jan-Mar	17,000	17,300	15,000	87

1/ Includes fresh market and processing.

Onions and Strawberries for Fresh Market: Area Planted
and Harvested by Crop, Season, and Total, 1992-94

Crop, Season, and State	Planted Area			Harvested Area		
	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	For Harvest 1994
	Acres					
Onions <u>1/</u>						
Spring						
AZ <u>2/</u>	1,300	1,400	1,300	1,200	1,300	
CA <u>2/</u>	10,000	8,000	7,200	9,000	7,000	
GA	8,200	8,700	9,000	7,700	8,300	
TX	15,500	14,400	15,000	13,300	13,500	14,500
Total	35,000	32,500	32,500	31,200	30,100	
Strawberries <u>3/</u>						
Winter						
FL	4,700	5,100	5,600	4,700	5,100	5,600

1/ Primarily fresh market.

2/ 1994 - planting intentions - harvested acreage published Apr 15, 1994.

3/ Includes fresh market and processing.

Onions: Spring onion acreage is estimated at 32,500 acres planted for 1994, unchanged from a year ago but 7 percent less than 1992. Texas acreage for harvest is estimated at 14,500 acres, up 7 percent from a year ago.

Arizona growers planted 100 acres less than last year. Planting of California's spring crop has progressed normally with few interruptions from the weather. Planting in Georgia was about a week ahead of last year's planting by mid-December. However, then planting slowed because transplants were in short supply. By early January, planting was nearing completion and conditions remained mostly good. The Texas crop looks good and is about 2 weeks ahead of last year.

Strawberries: Winter strawberry crop acres intended for harvest in Florida is estimated at 5,600 acres, up 10 percent from 1993 and up 19 percent from two years ago. Florida growing conditions have been very good. Harvest began in late November.

Snap Beans: Acres intended for the winter snap bean harvest is estimated at 11,500 acres, up 5 percent from last year and up 35 percent from 1992. In Florida rain and wind-born sand reduced the quality of young beans. Early yields averaged below normal due to higher grade outs.

Broccoli: California harvested acreage is estimated at 25,500 acres, up 11 percent from last year but down 6 percent from 1992. The crop was progressing normally with no unusual problems from weather, insects or diseases.

Cabbage: Acres intended for harvest is estimated at 12,300 acres, 12 percent greater than last year and 18 percent more than 1992. Planting of the Florida crop was active. This fall's cool weather has not hurt the crop.

Carrots: Harvested acreage is estimated at 24,000 acres, a 3 percent decrease from last year and 7 percent less than 1992. In California, the fall weather did not hinder the planting of the crop. Cool weather in Florida delayed crop maturity but boosted quality. Below freezing temperatures the end of December did no significant damage to the crop in north central Florida.

Cauliflower: Acres intended for harvest in California, is estimated at 10,000, down 5 percent from last year but unchanged from two years ago. The crop was progressing normally with no unusual problems from weather, insects or diseases.

Celery: Acreage for harvest is estimated at 8,900 acres, up 13 percent from last year and 9 percent greater than two years ago. In Florida, a cool growing season slowed plant maturity. Frost in the north central part of Florida at the end of December did no significant damage.

Sweet Corn: Acres intended for harvest in Florida, is forecasted at 4,800 acres, down 9 percent from last year but 20 percent greater than 1992. Growing conditions have been favorable for Florida, sweet corn. Cooler than normal temperatures has delayed maturity slightly.

Eggplant: Florida acreage for harvest is estimated at 700 acres, up 40 percent from 1993 but 12 percent less than 1992. Cooler than normal growing conditions slowed fruit development.

Escarole/Endive: Acreage intended for harvest in Florida is estimated at 1,400 acres, up 8 percent from last year, but off 7 percent from 1992. Growing conditions have been cooler than normal, increasing quality but slowing maturity. A frost at the end of December in the central growing region did no significant damage.

Head Lettuce: Acres for harvest is estimated at 69,600 acres, up 5 percent from 1993 and 3 percent more than in 1992. In California, the crop was progressing normally with no unusual problems from weather, insects or diseases. Growing conditions have been cooler than normal in Florida, increasing quality, but delaying maturity. A freeze at the end of December caused some leaf burn in parts of central Florida.

Bell Peppers: Acreage for harvest in Florida, is estimated at 5,500 acres, up 15 percent from last year and a 25 percent increase from 1992. Picking began in southern Florida near the end of December. Strong winds damaged unprotected areas during late November and early December and caused light damage to young plants, and burned some leaves of older plants. Growers covered some acreage to protect against cold temperatures and strong winds in late December.

Spinach: Texas spinach for harvest for the winter quarter is estimated at 2,300 acres, down 18 percent from last year and 32 percent less than in 1992.

Tomatoes: Florida acreage intended for harvest is estimated at 15,000 down 13 percent from 1993 and 12 percent less than in 1992. Cold winds battered tomato plants in west central areas during late October and early November. Warm, dry conditions promoted plant growth and fruit development during the rest of November. Cooler temperatures, in early december, slowed fruit development.

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