

Vegetables



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Fresh Vegetables Up 4 Percent; Onions Down 3 Percent

The prospective area for harvest of 13 selected fresh market vegetables during the fall quarter is forecast at 171,900 acres. This is 4 percent above last year. Acreage for harvest increased for snap beans, broccoli, carrots, sweet corn, eggplant, head lettuce, bell peppers, and tomatoes. Acreage for harvest remained the same or declined for cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, and escarole/endive. Sweet corn acreage showed the largest percentage increase at 25 percent, while cucumbers showed the largest acreage percentage decrease at 38 percent.

Acres harvested of cantaloups and honeydew melon are estimated at 5,300 acres, up 51 percent from last year. This is due to an increase in acreage of cantaloups. Total acreage of vegetables and melons for harvest in the fall quarter is estimated at 177,200 acres, up 5 percent from 1992.

Storage onion production (excluding California) is forecast at 30.9 million cwt. down 3 percent from last year but 7 percent above two years ago. This brings the annual production of onions to 56.6 million cwt. up 3 percent from last year and 12 percent above two years ago.

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Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested
by Season and Crop, Major States, 1991-93
(Domestic Units)

Season and Crop	Area <u>1/</u>		
	Harvested		For
	1991	1992	Harvest 1993
	Acres		
Winter	150,800	184,100	187,900
Spring	192,900	401,800	382,100
Summer	303,500	478,750	481,650
Fall			
Snap Beans <u>2/</u>		16,800	19,200
Broccoli <u>3/</u>	20,000	23,000	24,000
Cabbage <u>2/</u>		6,700	5,800
Carrots <u>3/</u>	14,800	16,900	20,000
Cauliflower <u>3/</u>	11,000	11,500	11,500
Celery <u>3/</u>	8,600	7,500	7,300
Sweet Corn	9,100	8,700	10,900
Cucumbers <u>2/</u>		13,700	8,500
Eggplant <u>2/</u>		700	900
Escarole/Endive <u>2/</u>		1,100	900
Head Lettuce	42,100	36,200	37,100
Bell Peppers <u>2/</u> <u>3/</u>		9,700	11,100
Tomatoes	14,100	12,200	14,700
Total 13 Vegetables	119,700	164,700	171,900
Cantaloups <u>2/</u>		3,100	5,000
Honeydew Melons	1,400	400	300
Total Fall Crop	121,100	168,200	177,200

1/ The total for 1991 area are not comparable with 1992-93 because of the reinstatement of 6 vegetable and 1 melon crops.

2/ Estimates reinstated with the 1992 crop.

3/ Includes fresh market and processing.

Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested
by Season and Crop, Major States, 1991-93
(Metric Units)

Season and Crop	Area <u>1/</u>		
	Harvested		For
	1991	1992	Harvest 1993
	Hectares		
Winter	61.010	74.510	76.030
Spring	78.070	162.600	154.640
Summer	122.820	193.750	194.920
Fall			
Snap Beans <u>2/</u>		6.800	7.770
Broccoli <u>3/</u>	8.090	9.310	9.710
Cabbage <u>2/</u>		2.710	2.350
Carrots <u>3/</u>	5.990	6.840	8.090
Cauliflower <u>3/</u>	4.450	4.650	4.650
Celery <u>3/</u>	3.480	3.040	2.950
Sweet Corn	3.680	3.520	4.410
Cucumbers <u>2/</u>		5.540	3.440
Eggplant <u>2/</u>		280	360
Escarole/Endive <u>2/</u>		450	360
Head Lettuce	17.040	14.650	15.010
Bell Peppers <u>2/</u> <u>3/</u>		3.930	4.490
Tomatoes	5.710	4.940	5.950
Total 13 Vegetables	48.440	66.660	69.540
Cantaloups <u>2/</u>		1.250	2.020
Honeydew Melons	570	160	120
Total Fall Crop	49.010	68.070	71.680

1/ The total for 1991 area are not comparable with 1992-93 because of the reinstatement of 6 vegetable and 1 melon crops.

2/ Estimates reinstated with the 1992 crop.

3/ Includes fresh market and processing.

Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop,
State, and Total, Fall Season, 1991-92 and Prospective Area, 1993

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area			1993 as Percent of 1992
		Harvested		For Harvest 1993	
		1991	1992		
		Acres		Percent	
Snap Beans <u>1/</u>					
FL	Oct-Dec	4,300	7,300	170	
GA	Oct-Dec	4,700	4,700	100	
MD	Oct-Nov	400	400	100	
NJ	Aug-Oct	3,500	3,800	109	
SC	Oct-Dec	1,100	900	82	
VA	Sep-Oct	2,800	2,100	75	
Total		16,800	19,200	114	
Broccoli <u>2/</u>					
CA	Oct-Dec	20,000	23,000	104	
Cabbage <u>1/</u>					
FL	Oct-Dec	1,500	1,500	100	
GA	Oct-Dec	3,000	2,100	70	
NJ	Sep-Oct	1,400	1,300	93	
TX	Aug-Nov	800	900	113	
Total		6,700	5,800	87	
Cantaloups <u>1/</u>					
AZ	Oct-Dec	3,100	5,000	161	
CA	Oct-Dec				
Total		3,100	5,000	161	
Carrots <u>2/</u>					
CA	Oct-Dec	14,000	16,000	119	
TX	Aug-Nov	800	900	111	
Total		14,800	16,900	118	
Cauliflower <u>2/</u>					
CA	Oct-Dec	11,000	11,500	100	
Celery <u>2/</u>					
CA	Oct-Dec	7,200	6,300	105	
FL	Nov-Dec	1,400	1,200	58	
Total		8,600	7,500	97	
Sweet Corn					
CA	Oct-Nov	1,000	900	156	
FL	Oct-Dec	8,100	7,800	122	
Total		9,100	8,700	125	

See footnotes at end of the table.

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Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop, State, and Total, Fall Season, 1991-92 and Prospective area, 1993 (continued)

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area			1993 as Percent of 1992
		Harvested		For	
		1991	1992	Harvest 1993	
		Acres		Percent	
Cucumbers <u>1/</u>					
FL	Oct-Dec	6,200	3,900	63	
SC	Oct-Dec	800	800	100	
TX	Aug-Nov	1,100	1,000	91	
VA	Sep-Oct	5,600	2,800	50	
Total		13,700	8,500	62	
Eggplant <u>1/</u>					
FL	Oct-Dec	700	900	129	
Escarole/Endive <u>1/</u>					
FL	Oct-Nov	600	500	83	
NJ	Sep-Oct	500	400	80	
Total		1,100	900	82	
Honeydews					
AZ	Oct-Dec	900	400	75	
CA	Oct-Dec	500			
Total		1,400	400	75	
Head Lettuce					
AZ - Other	Oct-Dec	2,300	1,500	1,000	67
CA	Oct-Nov	36,000	31,000	33,000	106
FL	Oct-Dec	1,300	1,000	1,000	100
NJ	Sep-Nov	1,200	800	700	88
NM	Oct-Nov	1,300	1,900	1,400	74
Total		42,100	36,200	37,100	102
Bell Peppers <u>1/</u> <u>2/</u>					
FL	Oct-Dec	6,000	7,400	123	
TX	Aug-Nov	3,700	3,700	100	
Total		9,700	11,100	114	
Tomatoes					
FL	Sep-Dec	13,800	11,900	14,400	121
TX	Aug-Nov	300	300	300	100
Total		14,100	12,200	14,700	120

1/ Estimates reinstated with the 1992 crop.

2/ Includes fresh market and processing.

Onions: Acreage, Yield, and Production, by Season,
Type, and State, 1991-93

Season and State	Area			Yield Per Acre		
	Harvested		For Harvest 1993	1991	1992	1993
	1991	1992				
	Acres			Cwt		
Spring	26,700	31,200	30,100	266	264	265
Summer						
Non-Storage	12,000	12,700	13,500	347	341	359
Storage						
CO	12,700	14,000	14,500	390	390	370
ID & OR-Malheur	19,000	19,200	20,000	610	610	570
MI	7,300	7,200	7,200	280	340	340
MN	980	950	110	300	300	200
NY	11,800	12,200	11,700	300	360	280
OH	490	480	470	345	240	350
OR - Other	3,200	4,200	5,900	380	410	420
UT	1,900	2,000	2,000	460	525	440
WA	7,700	8,300	9,500	470	470	470
WI	1,600	1,800	1,800	350	430	240
Subtotal	66,670	70,330	73,180	433	453	423
CA 1/	28,600	27,500	33,000	370	375	390
Summer Total	107,270	110,530	119,680	407	421	407
US	133,970	141,730	149,780	378	386	378
	Production					
	1991		1992		1993	
	1,000 Cwt					
Spring	7,093		8,229		7,988	
Summer						
Non-Storage	4,168		4,330		4,852	
Storage						
CO	4,953		5,460		5,365	
ID & OR-Malheur	11,590		11,712		11,400	
MI	2,044		2,448		2,448	
MN	294		285		22	
NY	3,540		4,392		3,276	
OH	169		115		165	
OR - Other	1,216		1,722		2,478	
UT	874		1,050		880	
WA	3,619		3,901		4,465	
WI	560		774		432	
Subtotal	28,859		31,859		30,931	
CA 1/	10,582		10,313		12,870	
Summer Total	43,609		46,502		48,653	
US	50,702		54,731		56,641	

1/ Primarily for processing.

Onions: Area Planted by Season, Texas, 1992-94

Season and State	Area Planted			1994 as Percent of	
	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993
	----- Acres -----			---- Percent ----	
Spring TX	15,500	14,400	15,000	97	104

Storage Onions: Production of summer storage onions (excluding California) is forecast at 30.9 million cwt, down 1 percent from last month and 3 percent below last year. Harvest area is estimated at 73,180 acres, a 4 percent gain from last year. The average yield of 423 cwt per acre is down 30 cwt from a year ago. California summer onions (used mostly for processing) are forecast at 12.9 million cwt, a jump of 25 percent from last year and 22 percent above 1991.

Onions in the North Central States were severely damaged this summer by too much rain. Hundreds of acres in Minnesota were flooded, and excessive rains throughout the area retarded sizing and maturity. Harvest of onions in Michigan was slowed by wet conditions and is about half completed. New York progress is late because of a late, cool, and dry growing season. Some have delayed harvest hoping for more bulb size, but a hard freeze in mid-September ended sizing.

Western yields are also down because of a late, cool growing season. Colorado harvest is behind last year as wet weather in September slowed digging progress. A cool growing season in Utah, Idaho, and eastern Oregon has caused harvest to be late and sizes to be smaller than usual. Some worry about keeping quality this winter. Better sizes are showing up in Washington where acreage is up sharply from last year. A jump in acreage in other (than Malheur) Oregon counties has produced a large crop. Harvest is a little late but is progressing under good weather. In California, harvest progress is on schedule where production is up 25 percent from last year.

Spring Onions, 1994: Texas onion growers expect to plant 15,000 acres of onions for harvest in the spring of 1994. This is up 4 percent from last year but 3 percent below two years ago.

Snap Beans: Fall acreage for harvest in the six selected States is estimated at 19,200 acres, up 14 percent from last year. Heavy rain during early September caused poor germination in some southern Florida fields, but affected acreage was replanted. Excessive heat damaged some of the early crop in New Jersey. The late crop was generally good. In South Carolina and Virginia, producers reported planting less acreage due to the hot and dry weather conditions experienced this past summer.

Broccoli: California's acreage for harvest is estimated at 24,000 acres, up 4 percent from last year. The crop progressed normally with excellent weather and no unusual problems reported.

Cabbage: During the fall season, acreage for harvest in the four selected States is estimated at 5,800 acres, off 13 percent from last year. Planting has started in the North and Central areas of Florida with good progress being made. Normal growing conditions helped the New Jersey crop. In south Texas, the crop made good progress.

Cantaloups: Acreage for harvest is estimated at 5,000 acres, up 61 percent from last year. In Arizona, weather conditions have been favorable for the crop.

Carrots: During the fall season, harvested acreage is estimated at 20,000 acres, 18 percent greater than last year. The California crop was developing normally with no unusual problems reported.

Cauliflower: Acreage for fall harvest in California is estimated at 11,500 acres, unchanged from a year ago. Planting was on schedule, and development has been normal.

Celery: Fall harvested acreage in two selected States is estimated at 7,300 acres, a decline of 3 percent from last year. Planting in the Florida Everglades was held up in mid-September by excessive rainfall. Rain also delayed planting of the California crop. However, better weather conditions helped the crop to progress nicely.

Sweet Corn: Acreage for fall harvest in two selected States is estimated at 10,900 acres, up 25 percent from 1992. Planted acreage increased in all major growing regions of Florida. Growing conditions were generally good in the north and slightly cooler than normal in the Central area. Planting was delayed in the Everglades area in mid-September by excessive rain. In California, acreage for harvest increased as some melon producers used sweet corn as an alternate crop.

Cucumbers: During the fall season, harvested acreage is estimated at 8,500 acres in the four selected States, down 38 percent from last year. In Florida, wet weather during the first half of September slowed some planting and crop development. Extremely dry weather this summer caused many producers in Virginia to not plant fall cucumbers.

Eggplant: Florida's fall acreage for harvest is estimated at 900 acres, up 200 acres from 1992. Overall, the crop condition rated good to excellent.

Escarole/Endive: Acreage for fall harvest in two selected States is estimated at 900 acres, down 18 percent from last year. In Florida, planting began on schedule. Growing conditions have been good and the crop was in generally good condition. Planting in New Jersey was interrupted by excessive heat and dry conditions in late August.

Honeydews: Fall acreage for harvest is estimated at 300 acres, off 100 acres from a year ago. Conditions in Arizona were favorable for the crop.

Head Lettuce: Acreage for fall harvest in five selected States is estimated at 37,100 acres, up 2 percent from last year. Growing conditions have been generally good in the Central area of Florida but heavy rains have delayed planting in the Everglades region. In New Mexico, few problems were encountered at planting time and the crop was reported in mostly good condition. The California crop was planted on schedule and experienced mostly good weather conditions.

Bell Peppers: Harvested acreage for the fall crop is estimated at 11,100 acres, an increase of 14 percent from last year. Heavy rains mid-September caused some bloom loss for the Florida crop. In Texas, harvest advanced in the High Plains.

Tomatoes: Fall acreage for harvest is estimated at 14,700 acres, 20 percent more than last year. The north Florida crop is in good to excellent condition due to warm temperatures and mostly dry weather conditions. Wet weather during the first half of September delayed some south Florida plantings. However, drier conditions during the last half of September allowed planting progress to get back on schedule.

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