

# VEGETABLES

Released:

May 8, 1981  
3:00 P.M. ET



Crop  
Reporting  
Board

Economics and  
Statistics Service

U.S. Department  
of Agriculture

Washington, D.C.  
20250

GARLIC: California garlic acreage for harvest is placed at 13.2 thousand acres, 13 percent below last year's harvested acreage. Harvest is beginning in the desert areas. Harvest will begin in Fresno and Kern Counties about mid-June followed by the Gilroy-Hollister area in early July and Monterey in late July. Weather conditions have been favorable to date and the crop is growing well.

ONION-EARLY: The 1981 early crop onion acreage for harvest is estimated at 25.2 thousand acres (10.2 thousand hectares), 2 percent above the 1980 acreage. Production in Texas is forecast at 3.09 million cwt, unchanged from the April forecast but, 13 percent below the 1980 production. Production forecasts for Arizona and California will be published on June 8, 1981.

In the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, harvesting of early onions has been slow due to rain and wet fields. Yields in the Valley have been reduced by rain as blight and other disease problems caused skips in some fields. Harvesting is expected to increase as fields dry. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden area, harvesting progress has been slow due to wet fields. Damp, cool conditions have slowed development of this year's crop. Hail caused some damage in the Uvalde area during late April.

At Laredo, crop conditions remain good. Disease and insects have caused no major problems and yields are expected to be good.

ONIONS-LATE (NON-STORAGE): The 1981 acreage for harvest of late crop non-storage onions is placed at 11.3 thousand acres (4590 hectares), 10 percent below the 1980 harvested acreage.

In New Jersey much of the late crop (non-storage) acreage is planted. Earlier planted acreage from "sets" is up to 6 to 8 inches and showing good stands. Rainfall has been adequate for topsoil moisture and the crop is growing well.

On the Texas High Plains, transplanting of late crop (non-storage) onions was virtually completed during April. Rains during the month were helpful in replenishing soil moisture and aiding in growth. By the end of April, the crop was up to a good stand and progressing well with little damage from disease or insects.

In the Trans-Pecos region of Texas, late crop (non-storage) onions have developed well with moisture from rains which helped reduce irrigation in April. Some damage was caused by wind and hail which occurred in late April. Harvest is expected to begin in June. New Mexico onions are in good condition and harvest of granos should begin in late May. The Washington (non-storage) onion crop is in good condition despite above average rainfall. Winter damage to the fall seeded portion of the crop was minimal.

VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

CROP	AREA			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	HARVESTED		FOR	1979	1980	1981	1979	1980	1981
	1979	1980	HARVEST						
			1981						
	ACRES			CWT			1,000 CWT		
GARLIC 1/ CALIF	14,200	15,200	13,200	130	130		1,846	1,976	
ONIONS 1/ EARLY:									
ARIZ	1,600	1,400	1,500	335	445		536	623	
CALIF	5,600	5,100	5,500	340	330		1,904	1,683	
TEX	21,900	18,300	18,200	160	195	170	3,504	3,569	3,094
GROUP TOTAL:	29,100	24,800	25,200	204	237		5,944	5,875	
LATE: NON-STORAGE									
N J	790	680	750	145	110		115	75	
N MEX	3,200	3,900	3,600	300	290		960	1,131	
TEX	7,600	7,200	6,200	200	245		1,520	1,764	
WASH	750	750	780	370	300		278	225	
GROUP TOTAL:	12,340	12,530	11,330	233	255		2,873	3,195	

1/ INCLUDES FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING.