

VEGETABLES

Release: April 21, 1964
3:00 P.M. (E.S.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		TOTAL	
	1962-63			1963-64			LOWER VALLEY		2 STATES	
	Seeded	Set 2/	Total	Seeded	Set 2/	Total	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64
Season through	-Acres-						-Acres Seeded-		-Total Acres Seeded Basis-	
Dec. 28	33,360	6,000	39,360	32,270	5,260	37,530	400	800	39,760	38,330
Jan. 4	1,570	390	1,960	810	1,330	2,140	950	2,950	2,910	5,090
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	1,750	1,970	2,850
25	410	100	510	420	90	510	1,700	2,500	2,210	3,010
Feb. 1	270	---	270	230	140	370	2,400	1,000	2,670	1,370
8	80	---	80	50	60	110	950	500	1,030	610
15	---	---	---	160	---	160	700	600	700	760
22	170	60	230	40	20	60	500	450	730	510
29	210	20	230	---	---	---	600	100	830	100
Mar. 7	---	---	---	10	---	10	350	200	350	210
14	---	---	---	---	---	---	100	---	100	---
Season to date	37,400	6,880	44,280	35,520	7,860	43,380	12,900	14,750	57,180	58,130

Plant Development and Progress of Harvest 3/ - April 18, 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	300	800	4/	8,000	4/	8,800
Fruit set						
Early development	3,160	6,280	4/	6,600	4/	12,880
Mar. expected next 2 weeks	6,570	3,600	4/	150	4/	3,750
Times harvested						
Once	3,060	2,050	4/	---	4/	2,050
Twice	2,530	1,230	4/	---	4/	1,230
Three or more	3,160	3,330	4/	---	4/	3,330
Harvest completed	25,500	26,090	4/	---	4/	26,090

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.)

April 21, 1964

Temperatures averaged well above normal in all Florida tomato producing areas during the week. Shipments by rail and truck the week ended April 18 totaled 647 carlot equivalents compared to 733 the week before. This decrease in volume was the result of smaller supplies of mature greens from Dade County and fewer vine-ripes from the Pompano area. Shipments during the week ending April 25 are expected to hold steady as increased mature green supplies from the Fort Pierce and Immokalee-Fort Myers areas should offset the seasonal decline of mature greens from Dade County and vine-ripes from Pompano. Only a small acreage remains for harvest in Dade County. Harvest of mature greens will start in the Manatee-Ruskin-Wauchula area the last week of April and in the northcentral area around May 15. Total shipments are expected to increase the last week of April as more spring acreage comes into production and supplies will gradually become heavier until mid-May when peak volume for the season will be reached.

Rain in the Texas Rio Grande Valley on Monday and Tuesday, April 13 and 14, ranged from less than one inch in the upper section of the Valley to almost five inches in some middle and lower sections of the Valley. Irrigation water was not charged against allotments for a few days following the rain and many fields were watered where rain was light.

Plants are making good growth. Insects and disease are being controlled. Most of last week's weather was favorable for setting fruit. A few early fields will furnish a light production the first half of May with good volume expected the last half of the month.