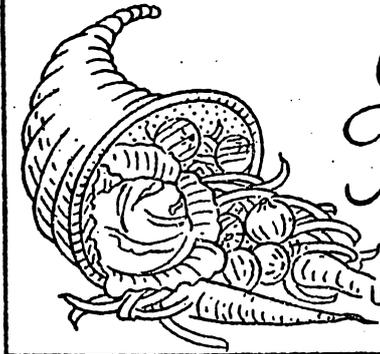


TC-52: 105

Commercial Truck Crops

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Washington, D.C.

BAE

January 17, 1952

ONION STOCKS IN STORAGE - - JANUARY 1, 1952

Stocks of onions held by growers and dealers in or near areas of production totaled 7,169,000 fifty pound sacks on January 1, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. Current holdings are 38 percent below the stocks of 11,502,000 sacks on hand a year ago, and are 13 percent less than the preceding ten-year average of 8,219,000 sacks. These estimates include all onions in both common and cold storage held by growers and dealers in or near areas of production. As in the past, these January 1 estimates cover total quantities of marketable quality on January 1. Allowance has been made for shrinkage, waste and other losses from harvest to January 1, but no allowance is made for shrinkage, waste or other loss expected to occur after January 1.

Although late summer onion production in 1951 was down from the previous year, total sales from time of harvest through December were nearly 10 percent larger. Production was down in all major areas and sales through December were down slightly in the Eastern and Central areas. In the Western States however, movement to market was much more rapid than in 1950. Sales through December were substantially larger. Percentage loss from shrinkage, waste, etc. prior to January 1 was heavier than last year in New York, and in the Idaho - Malheur County, Oregon area, but was less than last year in most other areas. Such losses prior to January 1 for the entire late summer crop equalled 16 percent of the total disappearance to January 1.

Rail and boat shipments of late summer onions during the fall months increased from last year's low level, but with that exception were the lowest since the fall of 1940. On the other hand, movement by truck continued the upward trend and was the largest of record.

