

TC-51: 603

Commercial Truck Crops

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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TRUCK CROPS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING PROGRESS OF PLANTING AND CONDITIONS ON JUNE 1

Prospects for green peas, sweet corn, snap beans and tomatoes -- the "big four" processing crops -- were generally favorable on June 1, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. Good planting and growing conditions the last half of May enabled crops in many areas to overcome much of the earlier delays. An exception is the area embracing much of Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, where dry weather has delayed setting of tomato plants and hindered growth of snap beans.

The condition of the green pea crop on June 1 was 92 percent, which is 5 points above that for the same date in 1950 and 4 points higher than the 10-year average June 1 figure. Prospects on that date were reported above average in all States except Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa and Oregon. The California 1951 production of green peas for processing is expected to be the largest of record for that State.

Planting of sweet corn and snap beans and transplanting of tomatoes will continue during June in northern areas. Details by States follow:

Condition and Progress of Truck Crops - 2 - TC-51: 603 June 11, 1951
 for Commercial Processing on June 1
 (Continued)

GREEN PEAS FOR PROCESSING -- CONDITION ON JUNE 1, 1951, WITH COMPARISONS

STATE	10-year average	June 1, 1950	June 1, 1951
	June 1, 1940-1949		
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Maine	94	95	95
New York	80	93	89
New Jersey	84	100	90
Pennsylvania	86	93	89
Ohio	78	90	77
Indiana	80	83	85
Illinois	92	75	90
Michigan	86	92	96
Wisconsin	90	91	96
Minnesota	92	93	90
Iowa	93	90	85
Delaware	75	86	89
Maryland	74	94	93
Virginia	73	100	85
Idaho	86	98	95
Colorado	90	91	97
Utah	89	87	92
Washington	93	82	93
Oregon	90	80	86
California 1/	85	85	100
Other States 2/	84	88	89
TOTAL ALL STATES	88.0	87.3	92.0

1/ Acreage for harvest and indicated production, 1951, with comparisons:

California

Year	Acreage harvested	Yield Per Acre : Lbs. (Shelled)	Production : Tons (Shelled)
10-year average, 1940-49	4,450	1,780	4,090
1950 revised	7,870	2,390	9,400
Indicated 1951	10,090	2,820	14,230

2/ Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia and Wyoming.

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GREEN PEAS FOR PROCESSING

Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and New Jersey: Harvesting on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Delaware and Virginia and in New Jersey was in full swing by the first week in June. Moisture supplies were excellent, and conditions of the growing crop was satisfactory.

Pennsylvania: Early and late varieties were in full bloom before the end of May. Harvesting of the early plantings was expected to get under way early in June. Condition of the growing crop is good.

Maine: Since the middle of May, weather conditions have been favorable for germination. Recent good rains and current moderate temperatures should help the crop make a good early growth.

New York: While there was some delay in planting operations in Western New York due to excessive rainfall, the condition of the crop on June 1 was generally satisfactory.

Ohio, Indiana and Michigan: The crop is now growing nicely in this area after some delay in planting due to early-season rains. Prospects for a good crop are favorable, but some localities report rain will soon be needed.

Illinois and Wisconsin: In Illinois the crop is developing favorably. Moisture has been adequate for good growth. Wisconsin is still experiencing difficulties in completing planting schedules which in some instances are from 10 days to 2 weeks late. A continued wet spring has seriously hampered operations and also caused spotty stands in some fields. Warmer weather is needed to give the crop a satisfactory start.

Iowa and Minnesota: Planting operations in these States experienced some delay due to the wet, backward spring; however, harvest time on the earlier fields is expected to be about normal.

Colorado and Utah: Ample moisture for germination and favorable growing conditions have given the crop a satisfactory start.

Idaho, Oregon and Washington: Generally favorable growing conditions for peas have prevailed in these States. Cool nights with some frost have hindered development in certain localities but advancement generally appears about normal at this time.

California: By June 1 practically all of the acreage, which is the largest of record, had been harvested. Weather conditions during the late spring were excellent and this year's production promises to be a record high for this State.

SWEET CORN FOR PROCESSING

Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and New Jersey: Sweet corn planting has progressed about normally for this area. First plantings are growing nicely under excellent conditions. Moisture supplies have been ample.

Pennsylvania: Planting is continuing about on schedule, under generally favorable growing conditions. Soil moisture has been adequate for good germination of the crop.

New York: Field work in this State has been delayed by a wet, backward season. Some growers report less than half their acreage planted by June 1, but operations are now progressing satisfactorily.

Ohio and Indiana: Good stands are reported on early fields and planting was continuing about normally in these States. Soil moisture conditions have been excellent.

Illinois and Wisconsin: Planting operations by June 1 were progressing nicely under improved weather conditions. Early plantings were coming thru the ground, but stands in some fields were uneven due to cool, wet weather at planting time in mid-May.

Iowa and Minnesota: Planting operations in these States were hampered by excessive rainfall during May, so that schedules were delayed up to 10 days. The growing crop was reported to be in good condition on June 1. Some localities in Minnesota were still handicapped by frequent rains.

Idaho, Oregon and Washington: Cool, rainy weather in a few localities adversely affected the growth on some early plantings, but the growing crop is now progressing about normally. Planting is still in progress.

SNAP BEANS FOR PROCESSING

Delaware, Maryland and Virginia: The acreage in this area shows good growth. Rainfall generally has been sufficient for favorable development of the crop.

New Jersey and Pennsylvania: Condition of the growing crop and the moisture supply in these States have been excellent to date. Planting is still in progress.

New York: Little planting was accomplished during May because of a cold, wet spring.

Michigan and Wisconsin: Planting operations are getting under way in these States. Very little acreage had been seeded by June 1, but weather and moisture conditions were favorable.

Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma: The season here is about 2 weeks late with insufficient sub-soil moisture for good plant growth. Rains are needed in the near future to avert serious damage to growing crops.

Oregon and Washington: Planting has not been completed in this area. The growing crop looks good, but has been slowed by cool weather. Some frost damage was reported on early plantings.

California: Weather during the last half of May was favorable. Earlier cool weather had held back the development of early-planted fields, but if normal June weather prevails, the crop will not be off schedule.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING

- Delaware, Maryland and Virginia: Setting of plants in the fields was well advanced by June 1. Most of the fields were in good condition and the plants developing satisfactorily. There was moderate re-planting because of dry weather in mid-May; however, plenty of plants were available.
- Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York: Because of rainy weather during most of May, plant-setting schedules in New York and Pennsylvania were somewhat delayed. The plants that were set out have made good growth. In New Jersey more favorable conditions prevailed, however, and some growers had about finished planting by May 25. Moisture and weather conditions on June 1 were excellent.
- Ohio, Indiana and Illinois: Planting operations in this area were in full swing by June 1. Considerable resetting was necessary in some Indiana localities because of lack of moisture.
- Kentucky and Tennessee: Lack of rain in these States is delaying the setting of plants. Very limited acreage had been set out by June 1, and many growers were waiting for needed moisture before proceeding with their planting operations.
- Arkansas, Oklahoma and Missouri: Dry weather in these States was also interfering seriously with plant-setting schedules. The season is about 2 weeks late.
- Colorado and Utah: Progress of planting is about normal for this area. Some frost damage was experienced during May, requiring replacement of plants in some early fields. The moisture supply is ample at this time, for good growth.
- California: Transplanting of the cannery crop was largely accomplished before May 15. General condition and progress of the crop on June 1 was excellent.

SPINACH FOR PROCESSING
 ACREAGE AND INDICATED PRODUCTION
 1951, with Comparisons
 (Spring Crop)

(Truck Crops for Commercial Processing)

The 1951 production of spring-crop spinach for processing in four States was nearly half again as large as in 1950 and about one-third larger than the 10-year average, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Acreage harvested for commercial processing was smaller, this year than last, in Virginia and Maryland, but substantially larger than a year ago in Arkansas and Oklahoma. In Arkansas yield per acre on the processing crop was below average as a result of dry weather.

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	ACREAGE			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	10-year average 1940-49	1950	1951	10-year average 1940-49	1950	1951	10-year average 1940-49	1950	1951
		Acres			Tons			Tons	
Winter 1/2	14,410	12,340	14,600	3.08	3.68	4.44	44,760	45,400	64,800
Spring:									
Virginia	960	300	250	2.3	3.0	3.5	2,420	900	880
Maryland	530	530	500	2.1	2.0	2.5	1,140	1,060	1,250
Arkansas	3,770	3,500	5,000	1.7	1.6	1.4	6,410	5,600	7,000
Oklahoma	4,520	5,300	7,800	1.5	1.5	1.8	7,270	8,000	14,000
Group total	9,780	9,630	13,550	1.78	1.62	1.71	17,240	15,560	21,130
Sept. to date:	24,190	21,970	28,150	2.56	2.77	3.12	62,000	60,960	87,930
Nov. 2/	9,680	9,150	---	2.46	2.05	---	22,270	18,720	Due Nov. 9
ALL STATES	33,870	31,120	---	2.48	2.56	---	84,270	79,680	Due Nov. 9

Data from March 9 release. Includes Texas and California. Virginia, Maryland, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and New Jersey.