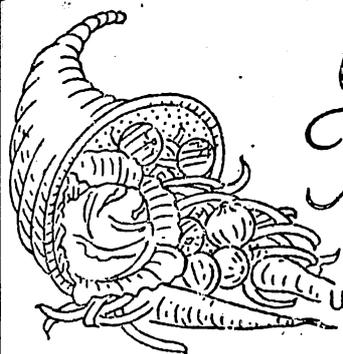


TC-51: 801

# Commercial Truck Crops

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Washington, D. C.

BAE

August 7, 1951

## TRUCK CROP NEWS AUGUST 1, 1951

In general, commercial truck crops progressed satisfactorily during the last half of July, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. Vegetable shipments continue to decline in southern producing areas but locally-produced supplies are increasing in central and northern areas.

Most vegetable crops in the New England States are in good to excellent condition. Soil moisture ranges from barely adequate to plentiful. A heavy production of sweet corn and tomatoes is expected during August and adequate supplies of other summer crops are in prospect. In New York growing conditions during late July varied from excessive rain in some upstate localities to continued dry weather in eastern Long Island and in some western New York areas. Most Pennsylvania crops are developing rapidly. In New Jersey, while moisture is ample in the northern third of the State, showers late in the month were not enough to relieve the drought in central and southern areas. A recent storm resulted in severe flood injury in the Great Meadows areas in northern New Jersey.

About normal temperatures and generally adequate rains have led to rapid growth of crops in Maryland and Delaware. By August 1, eastern Virginia areas were becoming critically dry while moisture was adequate in most other Virginia areas. The season is practically over in eastern North Carolina and in South Carolina.

Recent weather has been favorable for vegetables in most producing areas in the North Central States. The summer vegetable season is about over in most South Central States. In Texas, harvest of commercial vegetables, such as cantaloups, onions, potatoes, and watermelons, continued active during the last half of July. Lack of rain is beginning to lower yield prospects for some late summer crops. Considerable acreage of fall crops has been transplanted in the Laredo, Winter Garden, and Eagle Pass areas. Planting in the Lower Valley is being delayed by moisture uncertainty, and conditions have been unfavorable for land preparation in the Coastal Bend.

In Colorado recent hot weather severely injured green peas in the San Luis Valley, but conditions were generally favorable in other areas in the State. A moderate to heavy movement of all Colorado vegetables is expected during August with cabbage and lettuce shipments being particularly heavy. In most other western areas, crops are progressing satisfactorily although dry weather still continues in western Washington and Oregon. California vegetable supplies, which are now at a mid-summer peak, will decline during August and no material increase is expected before late September.

LIMA BEANS: Summer (N.C., Md., N.J., N.Y.) The main harvest of fordhooks in the Salisbury and Baltimore areas of Maryland is over and only a limited supply will be available for market until the end of August. In New Jersey, fairly heavy supplies continue to be available in Cumberland and Burlington counties and a scattered movement continues from Cape May, Atlantic and Monmouth counties. Supplies are declining but a light movement should continue in most of these areas throughout the summer. On Long Island, New York lima beans continue to make fairly good progress in spite of the dry weather and yield prospects are generally good. Picking started the last few days of July and volume is expected to build up more rapidly than usual during the first half of August. Reduced acreage will hold marketings below last year throughout the season.

SNAP BEANS: Early Summer (Md., Del., N.J., N.Y., Long Island, Pa., Ill.) On the Del-Mar peninsula of Maryland and Delaware the last harvest was completed a month ago. In the Baltimore area harvest continues and supplies will be available both for market and for processing until frost. Present supplies are light and scattered through southern and central areas of New Jersey. The Cedarville area, however, continues to furnish the heaviest movement from any single shipping point. Lack of rainfall has injured some fields and growers with irrigating facilities have been applying water frequently. Beetles have been very troublesome in some fields. Marketing of snap beans on Long Island, New York dropped off sharply during the last half of July as dry weather reduced yields and quality. Considerable production has been left unpicked. In Pennsylvania, peak harvest of early plantings is past in the southern areas and well under way in the northern areas where cool weather had been holding crops back. Successive later plantings in the Bucks-Philadelphia area, where irrigated, are furnishing steady supplies but non-irrigated fields were showing the effects of three weeks of dry weather. In some western localities late beans on low ground suffered from too much rain. The bulk of the early Illinois crop has been harvested. In areas out side of the major Union County area, condition of the crop is reported to be good.

Late Summer: (Ala., Ga., N.C., Va., N.Y., Mich., Colo., N.J., Tenn.) Harvest of North Carolina's late summer crop, grown principally in West Jefferson and Hendersonville areas, reached peak during the last week of July. Dry, hot weather caused some damage, but in most areas drouth conditions had been relieved by August 1. Quality is generally good. Prices were weakening somewhat toward the end of the month and canneries were taking a large percentage of offerings. In the southwest Virginia areas of Carroll and Floyd counties, rainfall was ample during the last half of July and snap beans made good growth. Picking was rapidly increasing as July ended and movement will be general during August. Local supplies continued in excess of demand on most upstate New York markets during the last half of July but will decrease considerably in early August. Heavy rains in central New York July 18-19 damaged snap beans in all stages of growth. Some acreage on low land was lost by flooding and hilly fields were damaged by washing of topsoil. This damage reduced marketings during the last half of July from earlier expectations and reduced yield prospects on the later plantings. Many of these show stunting and yellow color and some fields are very weedy where wet soil interrupted cultivating. Marketings should show some increase early in August and then hold fairly steady volume through the month. Harvest in Michigan has reached volume proportions. Quality looks good. In Colorado, good quality snap beans are being harvested around Pueblo and the Denver-Brighton section. Marketings are not expected to reach straight car volume. The early crop in Johnson County, Tennessee was badly affected by root rot but the crop now being picked appears to be in better condition. Tendergreen continues to be the predominant variety but Top Crop is increasing in importance. There has been sufficient rain on the Cumberland Plateau to keep the snap bean crop in good condition. Condition of the New England snap bean crop is generally excellent. With moisture supplies adequate, most fields are yielding very

SNAP BEANS: Late Summer (Cont'd.) well. Marketings will continue in moderately heavy volume during the first half of August.

Early Fall: (N.J., Md., Va., N.C., S.C., Miss., La., Calif., Ark.) Production in California passed through its seasonal peak during July but is still heavy. Supplies will be plentiful during the next two weeks. The bulk of the snap beans being produced at the present time are originating from the San Francisco Bay and the Los Angeles areas with minor quantities being harvested in San Diego and San Luis Obispo Counties. Yields and quality of this crop have generally been very satisfactory. Fall crop beans in northwest and west central Arkansas will probably start moving to market late in September. Harvest of this crop usually lasts until frost.

BEETS: Summer (N.J., Pa., N.Eng.) In New Jersey, the northeast market garden sections and Monmouth County continue to supply fairly heavy volumes of both bunched and topped beets. Marketings which now are mostly topped beets are expected to continue in steady volume from the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania during the month of August. Late beets, except where irrigated, made slow growth due to the dry spell. The bunched beet crop in New England is in excellent condition and liberal supplies will be available for marketing during August.

BROCCOLI: Summer (Calif.) Summer broccoli being grown in the Castroville section of California was slow to reach maturity due to cool weather in June and early July but active harvesting finally began on July 23. Shipments are being made at the rate of about one car a day at the present time. Somewhat heavier loadings are expected during August but daily shipments are not likely to exceed two or three cars during the next two weeks.

CABBAGE: Early Summer (N.J., N.Y., Long Is., Ga., Ind., Ill., Iowa, N.Eng.) Fields in the important Budd Lake area of New Jersey were badly washed by heavy rains on July 27 and 28. However, damage was not extensive and excellent quality is available in this area. Volume supplies are also available in Central and northeastern counties. Marketings of Long Island, New York cabbage were relatively light during the last half of July and will continue at about the same level through August. Condition of the Illinois crop is good and yields have been considerably above average. Most cabbage fields in New England show clean, healthy growth, especially in areas north of Boston where moisture supplies have been adequate. Some tapering off of marketings is indicated during the first half of August, but offerings should continue seasonably heavy.

Late Summer: (Colo., Utah, N.Mex., Minn., Ohio., Pa., Va., N.C.) The market situation is limiting carlot loadings in Colorado but truck movement is heavy. Quality is good to excellent and carlot billings will increase substantially through the first half of August if the market improves. Cabbage is making excellent progress in all areas of Utah. The early crop is being out now in some areas for local supplies. The Minnesota crop made fair progress during the last half of July. Moisture supplies were plentiful with some low fields damaged by flooding. Harvesting of the main crop has started in Freeborn County with peak outtings expected during the first half of August. In Clay County most of the crop has been marketed. With the hot dry weather in Ohio during the last half of July, growth was less rapid than earlier in the season. Marketing will continue until November. Early plantings in Pennsylvania grew well in most areas during the past few weeks and market supplies in all except the southeast are heavy. Later plantings also made good progress but in the southeast dry weather had slowed growth in some localities. In the southwest Virginia counties of Smyth and Wythe the weather since

CABBAGE: Late Summer (Cont'd.) mid-July has been too dry for good growth and yields are not up to earlier expectations. In Carrol and Floyd counties rainfall has been ample and the crop is growing rapidly, and heading out well. Shipments will continue into late September. The condition of North Carolina's late summer crop is quite variable. In Henderson County, harvest of the main crop is virtually complete. Yields were good but the early price was unsatisfactory and only two cuttings were made by most growers. In the other producing areas light cutting is under way, with peak movement of the earlier plantings expected about August 20. Supplies will be available until late fall. Root maggot has caused extensive damage in Watauga and Avery counties, and plant lice are causing some damage in scattered localities. The crop is later than usual due to continued dry weather.

Early Fall, Domestic: (N.Y., N.J., Mich., Wis., Wash.) In New York, light local supplies from early acreage were on some upstate markets during the last ten days of July. Larger acreages are now coming into production in the Hudson Valley and in the early commercial sections of central and western New York. Early transplanted acreage for market in Ontario County is less than usual but some fields could be cut over by August 15-20. Main-crop acreage for kraut which was set in June, got off to a good start and shows good prospects at this time. Some late fields which were set after rains packed the soil in early July have made slow and uneven growth to date. Planting of late fields in New Jersey has been completed. Those in northern sections of the State are in excellent condition but more rainfall is needed in some of the central and southern counties. A good quality crop is being marketed from all producing areas in Michigan. Some growers have started to cut for market in the southeastern region of Wisconsin. Very scattered cuttings for fresh market are reported in the Brown-Outagamie region and kraut packing operations will probably start in that area sometime next week. All producing areas report damage from cabbage worms and maggots. In Washington, local markets are receiving a light supply of early-planted fall cabbage in the Puget Sound area. Quality is good, but sizes are highly variable. In the Spokane district, the crop is doing fairly well in spite of the hot, dry weather.

Early Fall, Danish: (N.Y., Pa., Ohio., Ind., Mich., Wis., Minn., Colo.) Danish-type cabbage in central New York continues to make good progress. In the late area along Lake Ontario transplanting continued as late as July 20 and many growers did not finish the acreage they had planned. On the heavier soils it was difficult to get fields in good condition for transplanting after the heavy rains and the late set fields are making a poor start. Most growers have been busy with haying and wheat harvest and have a tendency to give cabbage a minimum of attention after the discouraging "low-price" experience last year. In Pennsylvania, late Danish cabbage made normal progress in all areas and prospects look good except in the Ringtown Valley area of Schuylkill county where heavy club-root and some "yellows" infection has appeared. Wisconsin's late storage crop has made excellent progress during the past two weeks. However, growers in the Racine-Kenosha county area report some damage from club root infestation. Minnesota fields are spotty due to excessive rains causing flooding, especially in the Twin Cities area. The Freeborn County crop is in good condition although there has been flooding in some fields. Cabbage worms have caused more than the usual amount of damage this year.

CANTALOUPS: Early Summer (Nev., Ga., S.C., Ariz.) The Moapa Valley deal in Nevada is greatly reduced this year. Carlot shipments started about July 17 and will continue through first week of August. Quality is very good. The summer deal in Arizona closed on July 26. The crop did not quite fully recover from the late start, and yields during the latter part of the season were a little lower than expected earlier.

**CANTALOUPS:** Mid-Summer (Calif., Wash., N. Mex., Tex., Okla., Ark., N. C., Md., Del., Ind., Ill., Iowa) High temperatures prevailed in the San Joaquin Valley of California during the last half of July, and production was heavy. The relatively high level of current shipments is expected to continue during the first seven to ten days of August. A decline is expected after August 10. The mid-season acreage is light this year, and the early acreage has been coming off on schedule to date. Quality is excellent. The Persian melon crop in Imperial Valley has been cleaned up. Harvest just getting under way on a small early acreage at Huron in the San Joaquin Valley should increase during the next two weeks. Harvest should begin on early fields in the Turlock area and in the Yuba City-Live Oak area of the Sacramento Valley in early August. A fair volume of Persians should be moving from the State during the last half of August. In Washington, harvest has begun in the Yakima Valley, and will increase rapidly in the next two weeks. Most early pickings have been of medium sizes, with 24 and 32-packs predominating. Market conditions to date have been favorable. The later Hearts-O-Gold crop in Spokane County is developing well. In Texas, supplies have been plentiful for local and nearby markets but there was a lighter than usual movement by rail to distant markets during the past two weeks. Most of the recent production has been from non-irrigated sections over a widely scattered area. A light harvest of the Pecos irrigated crop started the latter part of July and supplies from that area are expected to be available through most of August. Yields on most of the late non-irrigated plantings have been lowered by dry weather. Shipments are nearing completion in southwest Arkansas, are about at the peak in West Central counties, and will soon get under way in the northeast area of the State. The crop as a whole is good. In the Laurinburg area of North Carolina harvest was over by August 1. Dry, hot weather caused the crop to ripen prematurely and quality was poor. In the Ridgeway area, yields and quality are quite good. Peak movement in this area was reached around August 1. For Maryland and Delaware, harvest is approaching its peak in the Salisbury area and supplies from this section will be heaviest during the week of August 6. Fields in Sussex County and in the Hurlock area are just being picked over the first time, and peak volume of Hales is expected about August 15. Because of reduced acreage and a light, early set volume this season will not approach previous years. Vine development has been generally good in all sections and no vine disease has been reported at this date. The crop in Anne Arundel County is now moving to Baltimore in considerable volume. In Illinois harvest has begun in a small way in the White County area. Considerable sun burning of the vines has occurred in this area and also around Lawrenceville. Growers in the other major areas report the crop to be in good condition.

Late Summer: (Oreg., Utah, Colo., Kans., Mich., Ohio, N.J., N.Y.) In Oregon, prospects for the eastern Oregon and Dillard cantaloup crops are generally good and picking is expected to get under way <sup>during</sup> August. There is a poor crop in Box Elder County, Utah, as a result of the cold weather right after planting. The main commercial deal at Greenriver in Emery County is doing very well, a good yield is anticipated and carlot shipments will start about September 1. There will probably not be any rail movement from any other shipping point in Utah this year. Cantaloups from Washington County, Utah's Dixieland, are on local markets in small quantities. Hot weather during the last week pushed the Michigan crop considerably. Colorado cantaloups made favorable progress through the last half of July. However, the crop is later than usual and very few melons will be ready for pulling before mid-August. A moderate carlot movement should develop after August 20. The Ohio crop developed normally during the last two weeks of July. Volume of marketing is still small but will increase rapidly during the first half of August. In New Jersey, movement has started in scattered sections of southern and central Jersey, and volume supplies are expected by August 10. Rains over the week-end were very beneficial as many fields were being damaged by dry weather. Some southern areas however continue to be very dry. In New York vine

CANTALOUPS: Late Summer (Cont'd.) growth was rapid during the hot weather of late July but development of most fields is not up to normal for this date. The Erie County crop is beginning to suffer from lack of soil moisture.

CARROTS: Spring (Calif., Ariz.) The carlot deal in California is confined almost exclusively to the Salinas Valley at the present time. A few carrots have been available from the Santa Maria area but only an occasional car has been moved from there. Salinas production has remained at relatively low levels during the past two weeks and there appears to be no prospects of heavier loadings during August. Quality is excellent.

Summer: (N.J., N.Y., Ohio, Colo.) An extremely heavy rainfall (5-1/2 inches) in New Jersey on July 27 and 28 caused heavy flood damage to Great Meadows, especially the lower area where most of the crop is grown. Harvesting was just getting under way in this area and production has been reduced drastically. Volume supplies of both bunched and topped carrots continue to be available from the northeastern market garden sections. Marketing of topped carrots from Orange County muckland in New York continues active and a larger percentage of the acreage has been harvested to date than usual. With more favorable markets than in recent years growers have taken time to harvest carrots through the active period of onion harvest. Prospects continue good in Ohio and market supplies will increase during August. Supplies of good quality carrots are increasing in Colorado but are not expected to reach appreciable carlot volume before late August or early September.

Fall: (Calif., Oreg., Wash., Utah, N.Mex., Minn., Ill., Mich., Pa., N.Y., N.Eng.) Plantings in California have made good progress to date. Extended drouth in western Oregon has made it difficult to establish stands on dryland plantings and insects have been especially troublesome. Condition of irrigated fields is generally good. Harvest is increasing gradually in western counties of Washington. Quality continues very good. In Utah, the main deal in Sevier County is not doing well. An extreme shortage of irrigation water has made it necessary to water only up to the plants with no flooding. As a result, deposited alkali could not be washed away. "Damping off" disease and some alkali burning has occurred. The commercial deal in Iron County is making fair progress but water is short. Carlot shipments will start about September 1. The Minnesota crop looks good but some acreage will be lost due to flooding. The Illinois carrot crop is in very good condition. Fields are looking very good in Michigan. In Pennsylvania, few early carrots are available for local marketing in the southeast. Late acreage in the Bucks-Philadelphia area, except irrigated, made rather slow progress during late July but tops are a healthy green color and appear to be in good condition despite three weeks of dry weather. Rains late in July were timely. A few carrots are being marketed from muckland sections of central and western New York and volume will increase if market requirements continue good. A small tonnage has been harvested for processing in the Elba section but most processors do not want carrots until mid-September or later. Many of the carrots grown on upland soil in Ontario County were planted late and show uneven growth to date. Carrots have made excellent growth in all areas of New England. Marketings in moderately heavy or heavy volume are indicated through August. Quality is excellent.

CAULIFLOWER: Summer (N.J., N.Y., Colo.) Recent hot weather has pushed development of early cauliflower in the Catskill section of New York resulting in fluctuating supplies from day to day and some loss in quality. Volume has been relatively light but should increase steadily during the first half of August as better fields come into production. In Colorado low temperatures and damaging winds earlier in the season delayed the crop in the principal San Luis Valley district. Hot July weather accelerated growth but the deal is still later

**CAULIFLOWER: Summer (Cont'd.)** than usual although on a par with last year. Carlot loadings should build up substantially during the first half of August, becoming heavy the last half of the month, if the market warrants a full harvest. The irrigation water situation is becoming increasingly critical and growers are apprehensive that some late acreage not under pumps may have to be abandoned.

**Fall: (N.Y., Mich., Oreg.)** In Michigan the fall cauliflower crop is growing very well and light volume harvesting is expected to begin early in September. Because of the extended drouth in western Oregon, it has been difficult to establish dryland stands of late cauliflower. Insects have also been especially troublesome. Overhead or sprinkler irrigation systems are being used to a greater extent than in the past and condition of irrigated crops is generally good.

**CELERY: Spring (Fla., Calif.)** The spring celery deal in Southern California, is nearly over. Very little celery is expected to be shipped during August but supplies are sufficient to keep Southern California markets well supplied.

**Summer: (N.Y., N.J., Ohio, Mich., Ind., Oreg., Calif., N. Eng.)** Marketings of Orange County New York celery began to drop off toward the end of July with many of the smaller growers finishing harvest. Several of the larger wash houses will continue through the first three weeks of August and late acreage of Pascal will furnish a steady volume well into September. In New Jersey, severe storms which brought 5-1/2 inches of moisture within a 24 hour period starting July 27, flooded and severely damaged celery in the important Great Meadows area, especially in the lower section. It is difficult to estimate the actual damage but some fields of celery were covered with water for several hours. It is believed that over one-third of the crop has been destroyed. The important Paramus area received fairly heavy rainfall but damage was small and the crop is generally in good condition and of good quality. Harvesting of good quality celery is under way in all producing areas of Ohio. Marketing will continue through August. In Michigan quality is very good on both golden and pascal types. Volume shipments will continue from the Muskegon, Hudsonville, Kalamazoo, Hamilton and Decatur areas throughout August. California growers have been delaying harvest on summer celery fields hoping for an improvement in market conditions and, as a result, carlot shipments from Central California have declined. However, fields in all districts are becoming overmature and it is now necessary for growers to step up harvesting operations. Daily loadings during the next two weeks will probably remain in the neighborhood of 25 to 30 cars. Quality of summer celery is now generally excellent as most of the fields in which seeders were a problem have been cut. Offerings of celery from New England are now tapering off gradually, but volume during August will be adequate for trade needs. Quality is excellent.

**Early Fall: (N.Y., Pa., Ohio, Ind., Mich., Colo., Utah, Wash.)** Early fall celery in Wayne County and other sections of western New York made excellent growth during the last half of July and should furnish good yields and quality. Wash houses in the early sections expected to open shortly after August 1 with harvesting becoming active during the week of August 6. Growers are inclined to hold early acreage as long as possible in hopes of some improvement in the market. In the late sections many growers ran out of plants resulting in further reduction from the small acreage planned. With ample soil moisture, most late fields are getting a good start. Light supplies of early celery are appearing on local markets in the central and southeastern counties of Pennsylvania. Late crops are growing well, especially where irrigation is available. The small acreage in the Bucks-Philadelphia area started off slowly due to dry weather and hot days of high humidity during late July. Planting is completed in Ohio, and growth has been satisfactory. Marketing will begin in September. Late plantings have been

CELERY? Early Fall (Cont'd.) completed in Michigan and are starting well. The bulk of Colorado's early celery has moved out by truck.

Supplies will be light until the principal fall deal comes into production after mid-August. In Utah the crop is in excellent condition in Utah County although about 10 days late. A very good yield is expected. In Salt Lake County the crop is in good condition. A large part of Salt Lake County acreage is bleached celery. In Sanpete County the crop is doing very well but water is critically short. First carlot movement should occur about August 28. In Washington supplies of good to excellent quality celery are increasing from early fields in King and Pierce Counties. Later plantings are generally growing well. Growers are supplying, needed through sprinkler irrigation systems and controlling aphids by a persistent spraying program.

SWEET CORN: Summer (N.J., N.Y., Pa., N.Eng., Oreg.) In New Jersey most supplies now originate in Monmouth and north Jersey counties, although volume supplies continue to be available in the Beverly and Hightstown section. Heavy rains over the week end were generally very beneficial as many fields had been hurt by dry weather. Blanks occurred in many cars of unirrigated fields. With ample moisture, quality of the North Jersey crop is now expected to improve daily. Marketings of sweet corn from small acreages in local-market sections of New York were heavy during the last half of July. Corn borer damage to early acreage was generally light this year and quality is good. Picking started about July 22 in the late main-crop section of Ulster County in the Hudson Valley and only a small percentage of the acreage had been picked by August 1. This area will furnish heavy supplies throughout August. Sweet corn in Pennsylvania started to market the last week of July from central and southern counties. Volume was light and quality was excellent. The hot and humid weather of late July brought rapid growth and supplies are expected to be very heavy during early August and again reach a secondary peak late in August and early September. Dry weather in some localities the past two or three weeks when crops were setting ears will cut yields, especially on upland crops in the western counties. Marketings of New England sweet corn were unusually heavy during the last week in July and currently are at the peak. Volume is expected to continue heavy through August. The crop is in excellent condition. Picking of sweet corn for market is under way in Oregon's Malheur county and Willamette Valley areas. Supplies are generally adequate for the local trade. Peak of the movement will be reached during this month but harvest will last until fall.

CUCUMBERS: Early Summer (Va., Md., Del., N.J., Ill.) The important Vineland-Landisville deal in New Jersey is practically over. Light volumes are available in scattered central and north Jersey sections. The harvest of cukes is about over in both Maryland and Delaware except for an occasional small field in western Maryland. Condition of the Illinois crop continues good.

Late Summer: (N.Y., Pa., Mich., N.Eng.) Hot weather in New York in late July brought on heavy supplies of cucumbers from early acreage in local-market sections. Movement of Long Island cucumbers was heavier than usual during the last half of July and will continue heavy through most of August. In the important pickle area west of Rochester only one or two grading stations were open by August 1 but movement will become active during the week of August 13. Many fields in this area show poor stands and stunting from excessive rainfall and some acreage is very weedy. In Pennsylvania, most acreage of cucumbers in the Bucks-Philadelphia area is irrigated. Production is now at peak and will continue through early August. Moisture conditions in the western areas of the State where they are grown commercially has been good but the crop was planted late. The pickle harvest in Armstrong county started July 30. Harvest of cucumbers in Michigan

**CUCUMBERS:** Late Summer (Cont'd.) began in mid July and quality is good. Growth has been rapid during the last two-week period. In New England marketings are at or near the peak with volume heavy and quality good. The crop made excellent growth during July, especially in Massachusetts. No serious disease damage has occurred to date.

**EGGPLANT:** Summer (La., N.J.) In New Jersey, eggplant is available in heavy volume in Gloucester county and in the Pedricktown and Vineland sections. The Burlington and Monmouth county deals are also starting to move. Recent rains <sup>have been</sup> very beneficial but some southern areas continue to be very dry.

**GARLIC:** Summer (Calif.) Early fields of garlic in California have been pulled, and growers and handlers are active, grading and moving the crop to commercial channels. The tops are going down on late garlic, and harvest will begin on this portion of the crop in August. Crop prospects are considered very good.

**HONEYDEW MELONS:** Summer (Ariz., Calif., Colo., Kan.) Peak production was passed soon after mid-July in Arizona but a fair volume is still moving. Supplies probably will be available until about the middle of August. The honeydew crop in California is out of the way but production in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys is expanding. Harvest has been active during the last few weeks on an early acreage in the southern San Joaquin Valley where shipments have been running around 8 to 10 cars daily. Due to cool weather early in July, the Sacramento Valley was about ten days late in getting into production and the first cars there were not loaded until July 29. Production should begin on early fields in the Turlock area within the next few days. Daily carlot shipments will increase during the next two weeks. Prospects for production and quality are considered excellent.

**LETTUCE:** Summer (Calif., Colo., N.Y., N.Eng.) Warmer weather in California around mid-July following the low temperatures of June and early July combined with a marked improvement in quality and yields resulting in a sudden and prolonged expansion in the production and shipment of lettuce from the Salinas-Atsonville area. During the third week in July quality fell off due to warmer weather and harvesting of fields returned to a normal schedule causing a marked decline in shipments late in the month. At the present time a high percentage of dozen sizes are being out with 4s in light supply. Although there is considerable variation in quality, some excellent lettuce is available. Since a somewhat heavier acreage was planted for August harvest than was available for cutting in July, production during the next two weeks stands a chance of increasing, provided quality does not deteriorate further. Daily movement will, of course, be influenced materially by weather. A few cars of lettuce will be shipped from Oxnard during August. Carlot movement from Colorado is increasing substantially as harvest becomes general in the important San Luis Valley. Early fields have suffered considerable tip burn caused by high temperatures and winds. However, quality is improving as harvest progresses. Shipments should increase steadily through the first half of August as harvest also gets under way in Routt and Grand Counties in the Northwest. In New York, the marketings of Iceberg lettuce in Orange County began to drop off during the last ten days of July and only a few scattered late fields were left by the end of the month. More late plantings were made in Orange County than usual but many of these late fields have a poor chance of making a crop. Oswego County fields were being harvested ahead of schedule, during the period of high prices, and the sharp drop in the market about July 19 slowed harvesting while fields were allowed to catch up. Oswego County Iceberg is in good condition and will furnish steady supplies through August, although volume will be lighter than usual due

LETTUCE: Summer (Cont'd.) to reduced acreage. Marketings of Maine Iceberg lettuce were unusually heavy during the last two weeks of July, but volume is expected to taper off rapidly after the first full week in August. Iceberg lettuce supplies from southern New England will be very light during August, but supplies of Boston type lettuce are expected to be heavier than usual.

Fall: (Calif., Oreg., Wash., Idaho, N.Mex., N.J.) Planting of fall lettuce got under way in Oregon and earliest seedings have been irrigated up with good stands obtained. Unusually hot weather in Washington around mid-July caused heavy damage to fields which are now being harvested. Slime and tipburn are prevalent, causing considerable loss. The prospect is for improved quality by August 15 as later fields come into production.

MINT FOR OIL: (Ind., Mich., Ohio, Calif., Oreg., Wash.) Distilling in Michigan has begun in most areas and a wide range in yields has been reported. On the whole, condition of Oregon peppermint is only fair. Initially, the stands were thin and weak and weeds have been especially troublesome. The extended drouth has required considerable water and sub-soil moisture of lower Columbia River drainage areas is going down rapidly. Some of these stands on the higher benches are showing lack of water. Insect damage has been about normal and rust, while generally evident, is not as serious as at this time last season. However, distillation to salvage oil in rust infected fields already has begun in the lower Columbia area. Most Washington growers anticipate good harvests with earlier maturity. Harvest will begin some two weeks earlier in most areas. The warm weather has brought on the crop more rapidly than normal, and also created a need for more irrigation water to maintain a good stand. Distilling has been started in the Mabton area and along the lower Columbia. Most fields are relatively weed free, with minor insect damage. However, rust infestation is again cutting yields in southwestern Washington.

**ONIONS: Early Summer** (N. Mex., Wash., Iowa, Okla., Va., N. J.) In Washington harvest of early summer onions is about three-fourths completed in the principal Walla Walla producing area. Quality of the crop is very good and sizes have been satisfactory. The Iowa crop has been severely injured by recurrent rains. The southern New Jersey deal is practically over with only very light supplies continuing to be available in the Cedarville and Glassboro sections. Although fields at Great Meadows were badly damaged by floods on July 27 and 28, damage was not as severe as to some other crops because the larger proportion of the onion acreage is grown in the upper section (Alphano). Volume harvesting was just getting under way when the flood hit and very few marketings have been made.

**Late Summer:** (Mass., N. Y., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mich., Wis., Minn., Iowa, Kans., Colo., Utah, Nev., Calif., Idaho, Ore., Wash., Ariz.) Harvest of the Massachusetts set onion crop is about three-fourths completed. Quality is excellent, but size of bulbs is rather small in some fields. In New York harvest of the large acreage of set onions in Orange County was finished by August 1 but movement has been slow to date. Most fields of sets produced good size and quality. Seed onions in Orange County were severely damaged by mildew which became widespread shortly after mid-July. The infection dried up in a few days but top growth was stopped in most fields and blast finished them off. This damage to the tops resulted in smaller size than was anticipated and in general lack of maturity. Harvest of seed onions became active during the week of July 23, a week to ten days earlier than usual. With the slow movement of set onions, some growers are short of crates to harvest the seed crop. Set onions in the Canastota section had gone down with size generally small, before the flooding rains July 18-19. The most serious damage to sets from the rains was the reduction in keeping quality. Weeds have now made rank growth, making it difficult to cure the crop in windrows. More growers than usual are topping directly into crates. Standing water, mildew and blast stopped top growth of most of the seed onions at Canastota with small size. Oswego County seed onions were holding their color fairly well to August 1 but several field-wide mildew infections showed up in late July, also considerable blast. Most onion fields in Wayne County show severe damage from mildew, blast and thrips. Most of the acreage on the east muck at Elba held condition fairly well to August 1, although there has been some blast damage in most fields. Mildew infection at Elba is mostly limited to small areas in a field. Most fields on the west muck were damaged by heavy rain on July 18 and top growth has been checked by blast with poor yield prospects. Prospects continue good in Ohio. Harvest is under way in all producing areas and will continue through August and September. Marketing has been slow but will increase during the next month. The Illinois onion crop is in good condition. Wide scale harvest was under way in the Cook County area during the third week of July, but has been hampered by occasional showers. Mildew has been causing considerable damage in Michigan. Harvest of sets began the third week of July. In Wisconsin onions are in good shape although the crop is approximately ten days behind normal. Several growers report damage from maggots. Harvesting will be under way by the latter part of August. Weather and moisture conditions have generally been favorable for the Minnesota onion crop although there is considerable variation in stands. Harvesting of the Clay County crop will start about mid-August. Stands are uneven and spotty in some areas but temperatures were favorable and moisture adequate in most localities. In Freeborn County, yields may be reduced by excessive moisture and damage from mildew. The Colorado onion outlook varies rather widely as the crop enters the usually crucial month of August. The crop is now making favorable progress in Northern Colorado and on the Western Slope. In the important Arkansas valley, the crop is about three weeks later than usual and most fields are just beginning to bulb. If the tops hold up through August a large portion of the acreage not damaged by hail and floods earlier in the season will show a fair yield.

ONIONS: Late Summer (Continued) but this depends largely upon the weather.

It is yet too early to determine to what extent pink root disease will be a factor. Purple blotch has not been as widespread thus far as in most recent years. Only light marketings off the seeded acreage are expected during August. A small acreage of transplants is now being harvested. Stands are good to excellent in Utah. There is some tip burning but insect damage for thrips and maggots is less than average. Water is plentiful in all onion growing areas. The first carlot movement is expected about September 15. Due to wet spring, maggot damage has been fairly extensive this year in Lyon and Washoe Counties, Nevada. Harvest will begin about the last week of September. The most active phase of the California late-summer onion deal is the harvesting of white onions for dehydrators. Harvest is going on at the present time in Kern County where much of the tonnage has already been moved from the fields. During August growers in the Salinas area will begin pulling and topping browns and harvest will continue on yellows in the Delta district. At the present time the movement of yellow onions into carlot channels is confined to a few cars of jumbos which are being loaded daily principally at Stockton and Sacramento. The shipping deal for late onions during August will be dependent upon market demand. The Idaho crop is in very good condition and is making very good growth. Quality at present is very good. There are variations in percentages of 3-inch and above sizes but a higher than normal percent of large onions is expected. Harvest of early onions is expected to begin around August 15th. In Oregon pulling of white onions has already begun and growers have started to dry up yellow onions for early shipments. However most of the onions now only forming bulbs and harvest will not become general until last week of the month. Thrip are troublesome in the Malheur area this season and keeping enough water on onions has been a problem in both Malheur and western Oregon areas. Prospects for size and quality of the crop appear very good. In Washington the late summer onion crop is making good growth in both the Yakima Valley and the Moses Lake district. Present indications are that sizes will run larger than usual this year.

GREEN PEAS: Summer (N. Y., Colo., Idaho) In Colorado this is turning out to

be one of the most disastrous green pea deals of record. After suffering repeated setbacks from freezes and winds earlier in the season, the hot July weather all but finished the crop in the all-important San Luis Valley. Many fields yielded only 15 to 30 bushels per acre and 100-bushel yields are rare. Unless good soaking rains fall very soon the late acreage will not do much better. Shipments should continue in moderate volume through August unless continued high temperatures and lack of moisture bring the season to an early end. Harvest in the Fort Hall area of Idaho has been completed and peas are not ready for harvest in the Ashton area.

GREEN PEPPERS: Early Summer (La., Miss., N. C.) In North Carolina, quality

and yields were generally quite good. However, prices were low and many growers left part or all of their crop in the field. Small supplies are still available, but the season is virtually over.

Late Summer: (N.J., Calif., N. Eng.) Heavy volumes continue to be available in Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland and Atlantic Counties of New Jersey.

Fields are also coming into heavy production in Burlington and Monmouth Counties. Yields from many fields have been reduced by dry weather, and the recent rains, where received, were very beneficial. Many sections of south Jersey continue to be very dry. Most growers report the crop to look only fair and some believe that the setting of fruit has been rather light. The condition of the New England crop continue to improve during the last half of July and good yields are indicated. The first set, however, is rather light in many fields. Marketings are increasing steadily but the period of heaviest movement is still several weeks away.

**COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES: Late Spring (11 States)** In California, the San Joaquin Valley crop has been cleaned up and harvest should be finished within a few days in the Chico and Porris Valley sections. The bulk of supplies originating in California during August will be from late fields in the Delta, Santa Maria, Saugus, Antelope Valley and Hesperia sections all of which are being harvested at the present time. Digging of Tennessee's small crop has continued under generally favorable conditions.

**Summer: (9 States)** Harvest of the crop in the Poconoke area on the Eastern Shore of Maryland was completed by August 1. About three-fourths of the Kentucky crop had been dug by August 1 but some movement should continue from this State for at least another two weeks. Digging has been adjusted to the volume the market will absorb without breaking too heavily. Yields are running good with quality also superior to the last several years. Conditions were favorable for active harvest of the Texas Panhandle crop during most of July. Shipments by rail were unusually active until delivery of some cars was delayed by floods. Harvest was suspended for a short period during the past month but most of the Triumphs had been harvested by the last of July. A light movement of other varieties will continue into the early part of August. The quality has been exceptionally good this season. Late July rains were very beneficial to some areas of central and southern New Jersey, however, many fields were missed by the scattered showers and continue dry. Some growers have irrigated as many as four times. Harvesting of Cobblers is winding up in central Jersey and a few Katahdins and Chippewas are beginning to move.

**Other Late Areas:** Vines were practically dead in nearly all fields of Cobblers on Long Island, New York by August 1 and digging continues active. The rains on western Long Island July 27-29 came too late to benefit the Cobbler crop which is yielding below earlier expectations. These rains will benefit the later varieties in Nassau County and in the western part of Suffolk County but the eastern end of the Island continues very dry. Non-irrigated fields of Katahdins and Green Mountains are beginning to dry up. Control of aphids has been difficult this year. The Delaware harvest was about 80 percent complete as July ended. Harvest of Bliss Triumphs in Malheur County, Oregon is about complete and digging of White Rose at the peak. Harvest of early Russets is expected to get under way during the first half of August. Yield and quality of the intermediate potato crop is very good this season. In Idaho, harvest continues but the market is very weak. Early Russets are about two weeks earlier than usual and good yields are expected. Some of these will be harvested the latter part of the week ending August 4.

**SPINACH: Summer (N. Y., Colo., Wash.)** Excellent quality Colorado spinach is facing a slow market. A fairly steady movement should continue through the first half of August if there is a demand for it.

**SQUASH: (New England)** In New England the movement of summer squash has passed the peak but continued heavy marketings are expected during the next two weeks. Most fields are producing heavy yields, but market conditions may limit movement. Most fields of fall and winter squash grew slowly during June and early July, but are now growing rapidly. Squash borers and wilt are causing some damage but production is expected to be unusually heavy.

**STRAWBERRIES: Mid-Spring (13 States)** Strawberry harvest continues active along the California coast from plantings made to University varieties which produce throughout the summer and fall. Carlot shipments declined during July reflecting a decrease in production. Limited loadings will continue to be made during the summer.

**TOMATOES: Early Summer** (Calif., Ark., Tenn., N. C., Va., Ky., Ill., Mo., Ohio, Md., Del.) In California harvesting of early-summer tomatoes for fresh market has been nearly completed in the San Joaquin Valley and during the balance of the season the bulk of the production from Merced, Fresno and Tulare Counties will be moving to cannery outlets. Yields on early tomatoes in San Diego County and in other Southern California sections have been light to date due to cool weather during the spring and early summer. Despite this fact, an expanded acreage has led to generous supplies of tomatoes for local market use and all markets in the Southern California district are loaded. Early fields in numerous localities in the State are now in production, keeping local markets well supplied. Production in Southern California will continue to increase during August and tomatoes will become more plentiful from local market garden plantings throughout the State. The shipping deal, which has been terminated, is not likely to be resumed until such time as the demand for greens improves. The Arkansas harvest is about over except in the northwestern part of the State and in the hill areas of west central counties, where the "green wrap" deal is just getting well under way, with peak movement expected about August 10. The crop as a whole is fairly good, although hurt some by excess rain. The green wrap season in west Tennessee is over. Some pinks and ripers are being sold for canning. Shipments of Virginia greens and pinks into fresh market channels had practically ended by August 1. Ripers are moving to canneries in increasing volume and, except for a few fresh market cars moving south during early August, processors are expected to take the remainder of the crop from Eastern Shore and Northern Neck areas. Picking will continue into September. In Kentucky production is well passed the peak around Paducah, is nearing heaviest picking in the Louisville area, and is just getting ready to start on the bulk of later crop farther upstate. Quality has continued fairly good with the change in the weather checking blight damage. Harvest of the early Illinois crop has passed the peak. Volume has been limited by market conditions. Hot dry weather ripened the Ohio crop rapidly. Growers report a larger number of "culls" than usual but the quality of the crop moving to market has been good. Harvest will be practically completed by mid-August. On the Eastern Shore of Maryland movement of green wraps lasted about two weeks longer than usual but now is about over. A fair volume moved out of the Worcester-Somerset Counties the last week in July. The red wraps of all sections of Maryland and Delaware are being picked and supplies will be available until frost.

**Late Summer:** (N.J., Wash., Pa., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Iowa, N. Y., Mich., Colo., Utah, Ore., Ala., N. Eng.) Recent rains were beneficial in New Jersey but were scattered and many southern and central areas continue to be very dry. Light blight has been found in scattered fields but the outbreaks are not considered severe. Present daily pickings are rather light but most growers expect good yields although blossoms in some fields were damaged by the dry, hot weather. Most canneries are open or expect to open this week. However, heavy volumes of fresh market tomatoes continue to be available throughout southern and central areas. Picking of tomatoes is increasing rapidly in the Yakima Valley of Washington. The yield outlook is generally favorable, despite blight damage in a few fields. The crop is in very good condition in western counties of the State, with most fields showing a heavy set of fruit. Picking will be somewhat limited until the latter part of August. Early market tomatoes started moving in light volume from nearly all Pennsylvania areas during late July. Blight is reported in widely scattered localities especially in those sections where moisture has been more than ample. Vine growth generally was rapid and plants fruited heavily. Hail in some localities of the green tomato section of Lackawanna-Wyoming counties in the northeast caused considerable damage. Green tomatoes for processing are moving from Lancaster County and the Washington Bore Cooperative continues to move turning ripers in good volume. Harvest of the processing crop will be in full swing August 13 in the southern and central counties. Hot dry weather during the last

**TOMATOES: Late Summer (Continued)** The first half of July ripened the Ohio crop rapidly and harvest is under way in all producing areas. Volume of marketings will increase during August. The late crop in Illinois is in good condition and harvest should be in full swing by August 5. Marketings of ripe tomatoes from local market sections of New York increased slowly during the last half of July. With ample soil moisture in most areas, the vines have continued to show good growth and setting of fruit while ripening has been rather slow. Marketing of green wraps from the Hudson Valley has been light to date but should build up rapidly during the first half of August. Movement of green tomatoes will get under way in western New York around mid-August. Fields in all Michigan areas are looking extremely good. First pickings show good quality. Colorado supplies will be light through the first half of August. Ripe tomatoes, which are on local Utah markets from market garden acreages near Salt Lake City, will continue increasing in volume during August and into September. Shipments from the commercial deal near Henryville in northern Utah are expected to start about August 26. In Oregon demand for Milton-Freewater green wrap tomatoes did not develop this year mainly because the crop did not size up. Currently there is a fair movement of ripe to truckers. Although many fields of tomatoes are maturing later than usual, the condition of the New England crop is excellent. Supplies are now moderately heavy and increasing rapidly. Peak movement in very heavy volume is indicated for the second half of August.

**Early Fall: (California)** Tomatoes planted for early-fall harvest have made excellent progress in most California sections. Transplanting of late fields has just been completed and harvest on the earliest fields is expected to start about mid-August. In coastal areas the early fields have produced vigorous vine growth, but fail to show a satisfactory set of fruit. This fact will, however, have little influence on the main fall shipping deal as volume shipping will not begin until September 15-20 and this fruit has not yet set. Except for dry farmed ground in the Goleta section moisture conditions are satisfactory.

**WATERMELONS: Early Summer (Calif., Ariz., Texas, La., Miss., Ala., Ga., S. C., N. C., Ark., Okla., Mo.)** In California harvest of early watermelons in Fresno and Tulare Counties is approaching completion but later sections in Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties are coming into production and offsetting the decline in the early districts. Watermelon supplies were quite generous during July despite some reduction in acreage this year. Quality has been generally excellent. Production during August will probably hold at near present levels. The Arizona watermelon season is about over. In Texas melons have continued to move actively by rail and truck from most midseason areas with very favorable harvesting weather. Harvest in most late areas of the State is getting started. Although yields and quality have been very good the open hot weather that favored active harvest in most sections was a disadvantage to some of the late crops. Crops in all areas need rain. With production at this period coming from such a wide area of the State there will continue to be fairly liberal supplies through most of August but yields will be lowered materially unless rains occur soon. With continued dry weather there will be very little production for early September harvest. In South Carolina, a few late fields of watermelons are yet to be harvested in the lower part of the State. Harvest is general in Perdew, Chesterfield, and Darlington Counties where supplies should be available until about September 1. Anthracnose has been less prevalent than usual, primarily as a result of the dry weather but also on account of the increased acreage of melons which are said to be more resistant to this disease. Watermelon harvest in

WATERMELONS: Early Summer (Continued) North Carolina will be practically completed by August 4. The dry weather that prevailed throughout most of the growing season caused the melons to be small, but quality has been very good. In Arkansas movement of a good watermelon crop is at the peak in the Hope area and is getting well under way in the Arkansas River Valley. Shipments will start soon in northeastern counties.

Late Summer: (Va., Md., Del., N. J., Ind., Ill., Iowa, Ore., Wash.) In the Smithfield-Ivor-Suffolk area of Virginia watermelon prospects continue fair to good. Reports from the Ivor section are that vine growth is good and prospects considerably better than last year. Rain was needed in most localities as July ended. The crop continued to size well in both Maryland and Delaware, and harvest in volume is expected by August 10 in the Salisbury area. South Delaware harvest will begin a day or so later and supplies from both sections will taper off by Labor Day. Harvest of the Illinois crop has just begun with growers in the White County area picking the first melons about July 20th. Volume movement isn't expected much before August 10 providing the weather is favorable. Vines in this area have been severely "sunburned" which will have a definite effect on the yield outlook. The crop elsewhere in the State is in good condition, but harvest will not be under way until mid-August. In the Boardman-Irrigon area of Oregon watermelons are approaching maturity and a few are being marketed daily at wayside stands. In Washington watermelons are in fair to good condition in the Yakima Valley and are in very good condition in Grant County. The main harvest period is expected early in September.