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COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET TRUCK CROP NEWS - SEPTEMBER 1, 1951

Commercial truck crops for fall harvest continued to make satisfactory progress in most areas during the last half of August, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. Periods of warm weather were beneficial in the North Central and Northeastern States, while rains improved prospects in the Middle and South Atlantic States and alleviated the drought situation in the Pacific Northwest.

Most New England vegetable crops made good growth during late August and market supplies are seasonally heavy. Conditions vary widely in New York, with some injury from dry weather showing up particularly in western areas of the State. Many Pennsylvania crops have also been adversely affected by dry weather. Late August rains improved prospects for fall vegetables in numerous producing areas in the South Atlantic States, but came too late to aid many summer crops which had been injured by earlier dry weather.

Early planted fall crops made fair progress in Texas, but planting of seed beds and field preparations for winter crops have been retarded. Hot, dry weather and heavy labor demands by other crops has interfered with planting of these winter crops. Fall crops in the Winter Garden and Eagle Pass sections have light stands, while plantings in the Lower Valley are much later than usual. Most irrigated onion seed beds are planted, but preparation for direct seeding in non-irrigated sections is being delayed by lack of moisture.

Near normal temperatures and general showers during the last half of August aided Colorado vegetable crops. Marketings from the State increased seasonally to peak levels during this period and are expected to decline moderately during early September. In the Pacific Northwest rains during the last week of August ended the extended summer drought.

In California harvesting of summer crops is nearing completion and it will be late September before fall crops are in heavy production. Recent cool weather has retarded maturity of some crops, but rains during the last week of the month were generally beneficial to crops in Southern California and Desert areas. Planting of broccolli and cauliflower for fall and early winter harvest has been completed but planting for late winter and spring harvest will continue throughout the fall. All peas are being planted in the Desert areas and lettuce and carrots will be seeded during early September. Planting of winter celery is under way.

ARTICHOKES: Winter, (1952 Season (California)) Production is increasing slowly in the Castroville and San Mateo districts.

Several mixed cars have been loaded for out-of-state shipment from the Castroville district. Production from San Mateo County is moving largely to Bay area markets but the daily volume is not large. Although supplies will increase during September, heavier supplies can be expected during October and November. Buds show good color and generally are free of worm damage, but show considerable spread which is a common defect during the summer months.

LIMA BEANS: Summer (N.C., Md., N.J., N.Y.) In New Jersey, moderate supplies continue to be available in the Cedarville section and light supplies in the Beverly section. Marketings through the Southold auction of Long Island are running about one-half of the volume a year ago. Marketings are expected to increase somewhat from the current level by September 10-15 but will not be heavy at any time during the season as a result of reduced acreage for market.

Fall: (Va.) The Virginia crop shows generally good stands but is needing rain. Soil moisture deficiency is not immediately serious but rain will be needed soon. Fields have been well cultivated during the past two weeks.

SNAP BEANS: Early Summer (Md., Del., N.J., N.Y., La. Is., Pa., Ill.) Light supplies from New Jersey's summer crop continue to be available in the Cedarville and Vineland sections and from Monmouth county. The small acreage of late plantings in Pennsylvania have been adversely affected by dry weather. Marketings will be comparatively light and end about mid-September. Condition of the Illinois crop is considerably below normal due to dry weather. The lack of moisture is also limiting fall plantings in the Union County area.

Late Summer: (Ala., Ga., N.C., Va., N.Y., Mich., Colo., Tenn., N. Eng.) Continued hot dry weather in the mountain counties of North Carolina during the latter half of August caused further damage to the late summer crop. Late plantings have failed to make proper growth and quality is poor. Insect damage has been heavy during the past three weeks. Harvest in Southwest Virginia is rapidly declining and will end by September 10. Dry weather during the last half of August reduced yields and hastened the end of the harvest season. Snap beans in central New York furnished fairly good volume during the last half of August. However, late plantings that have not been picked show the effects of the heavy rainfall in July and are yielding very light with poor quality. Some labor crews are already leaving the area and marketings are expected to drop off faster than usual in September. In Michigan, harvest of the early crop is nearly over in all areas and pickers are starting on the later plantings. Yields and quality have been good. Colorado continues to supply a moderate quantity of good quality snap beans. Weather conditions in Johnson County, Tennessee continue favorable and yields and quality are good. Pickings are at the peak. In the Cumberland Plateau area, the crop held up fairly well during dry weather in August and local showers have benefited some fields. Beans are expected to be available until frost in Johnson County and also on the Cumberland Plateau if rains come in time. Most plantings in New England are in excellent condition. Excessive moisture in some fields, however, has facilitated the spread of disease. Offerings will remain adequate for trade needs until frost.

Early Fall: (N.J., Md., Va., N.C., S.C., Miss., La., Calif.) In New Jersey, recent rains have been very beneficial in Cumberland county. However, the equally important Burlington area continues to be very dry and only irrigated beans are making satisfactory progress. On the Eastern Shore of Maryland a few early planted fields are blossoming. Around Baltimore snap beans are slowly coming up and should be blossoming about the week of September 10th. Rain is needed to insure good germination and growth. In the Virginia Eastern Shore and Norfolk Sections the

SNAP BEANS: Early Fall (Cont'd.) crop is needing additional rain for best growth, but had suffered no serious set-back to September 1. Most of the crop has been planted and a few early fields were being picked during the last few days of August. Weather has permitted satisfactory cultivation. By September 1, most of North Carolina's crop had been planted. Some of the earlier plantings are beginning to put out runners and will start blooming the first week of September. Generally stands are good and the crop is growing well. Soil moisture supplies are adequate. Planting continues in South Carolina, especially in the Lake City area where very few fields have been planted to date. Earlier plantings are in good condition but need additional moisture. In California, production continues in volume from San Diego County, the Los Angeles area and the San Francisco Bay area. Supplies are expected to decline during the next two weeks as harvest is completed on much of the acreage planted for earlier summer harvest. Acreage in the San Joaquin Valley for harvest during October is lighter than in past years due both to increased plantings of other crops this year, and the poor market conditions of last year.

BEEETS: Summer (N.J., Pa., N.Eng.) Moderate supplies (mostly bunched) continue to be available in the northeast market garden section of New Jersey. The late irrigated acreage in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania is making good progress. Light but fairly steady supplies are expected to be available through September. In New England, marketings of bunched beets will be in moderate volume during the first half of September. The condition of the growing crop remains very good.

BROCCOLI: Summer and Fall (Calif., Pa., N.Eng.) In California, supplies continue to be available from the Castroville and Santa Maria districts with most carlot supplies moving from Castroville. Production during the next two weeks may show some increase but it will not be until the fall acreages reach maturity that a substantial increase will occur. Quality generally has been good. Present supplies of broccoli are light in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania but will increase through September as harvesting of late plantings get under way. Fields are in fair to good condition. The fall broccoli crop in New England is making excellent growth. Supplies should build up to moderate volume by mid-September and heavy marketings are expected by October 1.

CABBAGE: Early Summer (6 States) The Illinois crop is in very good condition.

Late Summer: (Colo., Utah, N.Mex., Minn., Ohio, Pa., Va., S.W., N.C., N.Eng.) The bulk of Colorado cabbage continues to move in trucks although straight car loadings are increasing moderately. The main domestic deal is well over the peak. In Utah, harvest of Kraut cabbage in Morgan county started about August 30 and will run to the end of October. Yield is expected to be about average. Acreage in Salt Lake, Utah, and Snapets counties is intended mostly for fresh market but a sizable percent of it may go to Kraut factories if prices for fresh market cabbage are unfavorable. Crop in these three counties is not good, as a result of poor seed and rains in late July and early August. Quality is good but heads are small. Harvest will continue to the end of October. Harvesting of the Minnesota crop has been completed. Much of it was left in the field unharvested due to low prices. Continued dry weather in Ohio during the last half of August has practically held growth at a standstill and resulted in reduced yields per acre. Supplies are declining in all areas of Pennsylvania. Dry weather reduced yields in most western areas. Rains in the Smyth-Mythe County area of Virginia improved yields. However, in the nearby Carroll County area, dry weather during most of August retarded growth and yields are below earlier expectations. Harvest was in full swing on September 1 in most of the producing areas of western North Carolina. Although continued hot, dry weather had damaged the crop and retarded growth, the

CABBAGE: Late Summer (Cont'd.) condition on September 1 was fair. In Watauga County grasshoppers are causing some damage and reports of plant lice and worms are rather general over the producing area. With favorable weather conditions, the New England crop continued to make excellent growth during the last half of August. The current supply is adequate for trade needs and is expected to show little change during the first half of September.

Early Fall, Domestic: (N.Y., N.J., Mich., Wis., Wash.) Truckload demand for market cabbage, has been light to date in the early area of central New York and in Ontario County. Most growers are leaving the early fields for more tonnage. Most main-crop fields in the kraut sections continued in fairly good condition to September 1 but needed rain badly at that time. In New Jersey, moderate supplies continue to be available in the Budd Lake area. Late plantings are becoming available in Monmouth county and will be ready in other sections of central and south Jersey about mid-September. Growers in the Capoe-Berville area of southeast Michigan report a good crop. In other areas too much rain has retarded growth. Fresh market cutting is in full swing in the southeastern part of Wisconsin and well under way in the Brown-Outagamie region. Some cabbage has been cut for kraut in the Racine-Kenosha area. Although quality is generally good, many growers have reported cracked heads due to heavy rainfall. Supplies in Washington continue to be about steady as older plantings are still being marketed. Local truckings appear to be very variable in quality, with a wide range in size. The late crop is making very good progress. In Spokane heads are just forming in many fields. Some growers expect harvest to begin around September 20.

Early Fall, Danish: (N.Y., Pa., Ohio, Ind., Mich., Wis., Minn., Colo.) In New York, dry weather since mid-July has reduced prospects in the important late area along Lake Ontario. Damage from dry soil has been particularly severe this year, since in many fields soil conditions were unfavorable at transplanting time and the root systems are poor. Aphids and worms have been more active than usual during the dry weather. In central New York most fields have had adequate soil moisture to date and good yields are expected. Harvest in Pennsylvania will get started in the Waterford (Erie County) area during early September but supplies will be less than last year because of the decrease in acreage. Dry weather during most of August caused some fields to mature early and heads are not sizing well. In the west and southwest areas of the State Danish cabbage made little progress during the past month. Crops in the Ringtown Valley (Schuylkill County) area are a little late and growth has been slow. Early fields in the eastern areas are being cut. The crop in Ohio has suffered heavy damage from the continued lack of moisture during the last half of August. Danish cabbage is progressing very well in all areas of Michigan. The late storage crop continues to look good in Wisconsin. Some black rot is reported and cabbage worms are particularly severe this year. Harvesting of the Hollandale crop in Minnesota began about the middle of August and cutting is now in full swing. Yields are good with quality very good. Over abundant rains have delayed cutting and resulted in some oversizing. The Carlton County crop is still 2 to 3 weeks later than usual. Some of the crop has been flooded and insect damage is quite heavy. The Danish crop, together with some late domestic cabbage, has started moving out of Northern Colorado and the San Luis Valley. September is usually the month of heaviest marketings, but volume moved this month will be determined largely by market conditions. Demand was slow all through August despite the excellent quality of the cabbage available.

Late Fall: (Oreg., Va., N.C., S.C.) North Carolina's late fall crop, grown in the northeastern part of the State is about two weeks later than normal. Dry weather around mid-August retarded growth and cut stands in some of the older plantings. Recent rains have been very beneficial, however, and the crop

CABBAGE; Late Fall (Cont'd.) is now making satisfactory growth. Thinning is nearing completion in most sections. There has been a considerable shift from Flat Dutch to the later maturing Holland variety this year. The Holland cabbage is expected to be ready for cutting in November and December. The small crop of fall cabbage in South Carolina is in only fair condition and getting off to a rather poor start.

Winter, 1952 Season; (Calif., Ariz., Tex., Fla.) In Texas, non-irrigated sections have insufficient moisture to start preparing land for planting. Seed bed plantings in the Lower Valley are lighter than usual because of the uncertainty of a dependable water supply, and preparation of land is being delayed because of unfavorable conditions and the demand for help for other field crops. Should good rains occur, considerable acreage could be seeded direct to the fields in all areas, but present prospects point to a very light acreage for early season harvest.

CANTALOUPS; Mid-Summer (Calif., Wash., N. Mex., Tex., Okla., Ark., N.C., Md., Del., Ind., Ill., Iowa) In California, harvest has been completed in the mid-season acreage and current production is originating from fields planted for late-season harvest. The late season acreage is rather small and daily carlot loadings during the balance of this season will not approach the high levels of August. Present volume probably can be maintained for about ten days, then will decline during the balance of the season. Quality continues to be very good. Persian melons are continuing to move in volume from the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. Production in the San Joaquin Valley will decline during the next two weeks as harvest is completed. The bulk of supplies will originate from the Yuba City area during the next two weeks, which is just now coming into heavy production. Quality has been generally good this season. In Washington harvest has passed its peak in the Yakima Valley. Supplies have been generally short in most areas. The Hearts-O-Gold crop in Spokane Valley is now coming into production. Harvest of a few Pearl Meats during the week of September 3rd will about wind up the season for Maryland and Delaware cantaloups. Blight has lowered the condition of the Illinois crop and yields have been reduced.

Late Summer; (Oreg., Utah, Colo., Kans., Mich., Ohio, N.J., N.Y.) In Oregon, cantaloups from the Dillard area appeared on the market about the middle of August and brought a premium over the larger-sized spear melons which have been on the market since about August 1. In Utah, harvest started August 20 in Box Elder county. Marketing from market garden acreage in Davis county is in full swing. Harvest on the carlot shipping deal at Green River started September 3 and will run to October 1 with peak about September 20. Quality is excellent and yield per acre is good. Colorado cantaloups are now moving in carlot volume and will continue in moderate supply through September. However, the 1951 crop is the smallest of record and marketings will be relatively light. Present shipments are originating in the Arkansas Valley and on the Western Slope. Harvest will become general in Northern Colorado about mid-September. Some fields south of Brighton were damaged by hail August 31. Cool, wet weather in August retarded normal progress of the Michigan crop but hot weather the last three days of the month should help this situation. Continued dry weather in Ohio reduced the size of cantaloups. Quality of most of the medium and larger sized melons is good. In New Jersey, peak movement is past but a moderate volume continues to be available in Atlantic, Gloucester, Burlington and Monmouth counties. Due to the relatively dry weather, sugar content and quality have been very good. In New York, supplies of local muskmelons have increased slowly to date as a result of cool weather. Marketing will be most active during the first half of September but local supplies will be relatively short throughout the season. Some fields in the Albany area are a total loss from blight but melons in other areas continued in fairly good condition to September 1.

CARROTS: Summer. (N.J., N.Y., Ohio, Colo.) A moderate volume of bunched and topped carrots continues to be available in the northeast market garden sections of New Jersey and light supplies of topped carrots are also available in the Great Meadows area. Marketing of topped carrots continues active in Orange County, New York where less than 20 percent of the acreage remains to be harvested. In Ohio growth has been retarded by the continued hot dry weather, but quality is generally good. While Colorado is expected to ship a few straight cars during September, the bulk of the crop will continue to move in mixed cars and trucks. Quality is excellent.

Fall: (Calif., Oreg., Wash., Utah, N.Mex., Minn., Ill., Mich., Pa., N.Y., N.Eng.) California carrot production is at a seasonally low point at the present time but the level of shipments is expected to increase during the next two weeks as more acreage becomes available for pulling. A small volume of topped carrots moved from the Salinas district during August. Quality is generally good. Harvest will start September 4 in Sevier and Iron counties Utah, the only commercial producing areas in the State. Practically all movement will be by rail with the peak of carrot movement expected about September 20. In Sevier county some acreage was lost from a flood in early August. Stands in Iron county are good but the crop is late and susceptible to injury by an early frost. In Washington volume continues to increase on the Seattle market. Most growers have been harvesting good crops in spite of the long drought. Quality continues to be very good. Late carrots show good growth in most areas. The Illinois crop is in very good condition. Harvest has started in a limited way in the Grant area of Michigan with fair to good yields being reported. Harvest in the Inlay City area continues at an even pace with good quality reported. Most areas will hold off until onion harvest is out of the way. Carrot fields in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania are in fair condition but growth was slowed by the dry, hot weather of late August. Even the irrigated fields are developing slowly. Marketings will be very light through September and October. Marketing of topped carrots continues in light volume from the muckland sections of central and western New York. A light volume is also moving to out-of-state processors. Fall carrots on upland soil in western New York need rain badly. The condition of the crop continues generally excellent in New England but leaf blight has appeared in some fields. Moderate supplies of both bunched and topped stock are expected during the next several weeks.

CAULIFLOWER: Late Spring (Wash.) Supplies of cauliflower continue steady in Washington. The late crop is expected to put on very good weight with generally favorable growing conditions. Early cauliflower was light due to extreme heat and early maturity. Most of the late crop has been contracted for processing.

Summer: (N.J., N.Y., Colo.) In New Jersey recent scattered showers were very beneficial to the late acreage most of which lies in the Hightstown section of central Jersey. Several fields should be ready for harvest in late September, with peak movement probably occurring the first half of October. Cool weather through most of the last half of August delayed development of cauliflower in the Catskill sections of New York. Quality has been good but by the end of August rain was needed in most sections for good quality to continue. With the delayed development to date, marketing will be heavier during September. Colorado shipments are now at the peak. Carrot billings should decline moderately during the first half of September and drop faster thereafter until the deal is ended in October. The principal late-shipping area in Costilla County is two to three weeks later than usual and growers are beginning to doubt if some of this acreage will mature before a hard freeze ends the season. Late August rains proved quite beneficial to late acreage.

CAULIFLOWER: Fall (N.Y., Mich., Oreg., N.Eng.) Cool weather has been favorable for holding back development of early cauliflower fields on Long Island, New York. A few light cuttings were made in the last week of August but important volume is not expected until September 10-15. Compared with last year, marketings are expected to be much lighter in September and heavier in November. This will be a return to the normal pattern after the unusually heavy September volume in 1950. In Michigan marketings have been made from both the Berville-Capac area on the East side and the South Haven area on the West side. Quality looks very good. Growing conditions have been very favorable for the New England fall cauliflower crop. Light supplies will become available during the first half of September.

Winter, 1952 Season: (Calif., Ariz., Tex., Fla.) Planting of Snowball and November-December strains of cauliflower has been practically completed in the principal producing districts of Central California. Growers in Los Angeles County have set the bulk of their Snowball acreage and some growers have started to transplant the Pearl variety. Some Snowball is being harvested for local markets, primarily in the Santa Maria area, but there will be no active shipping deal until October when the Southern California crop comes into production. Most cauliflower is in good condition and doing well under present weather conditions.

CELERY: Summer (N.Y., N.J., Ohio, Mich., Oreg., Calif.) In New Jersey both the Paramus and Great Meadows summer deals are nearing completion, although light volumes can still be obtained. Harvesting of the summer crop of California celery has been completed in all producing sections.

Early Fall: (N.Y., Pa., Ohio, Mich., Colo., Utah, Wash., N.Eng.) After the first three weeks of harvest in the early sections, shipments of western New York celery began to drop off during the last week of August. With the drastic reductions in acreage in the later sections, shipments will continue relatively light through the rest of the season. In spite of the continued dry weather, prospects in Ohio are fairly good since many growers are equipped to irrigate. The major part of the crop will be marketed by mid-October; however, celery will be available until in December. A continuation of the good quality that was produced during the summer season is expected in all Michigan areas. The cool, moist weather has been especially beneficial to this crop. Quality is good in Colorado but straight car billings are expected to continue light throughout the remainder of the season, with the bulk of the crop moving in mixed cars and trucks. In Utah harvest started on a limited scale August 29 in Utah county and got into full swing by September 5. The crop is a week to 10 days late this year and some concern is felt about completing harvest before frost. Stands are good to excellent. The Sanpete county crop was struck with black heart and tip burn about mid-August following a period of several days of excessive heat with inadequate irrigation water. Carlot shipments which will originate only from Utah and Sanpete counties this year with peak about September 28 and will end about October 20 if frost holds off that long. Part of the crop in Box Elder, Weber, and Salt Lake counties is bleached and will be harvested for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday trade. Harvest of green celery in these 3 counties started last week and will continue to mid-October. Celery fields appear in good condition in all Washington districts. No large scale shipments are being made at this time. Supplies are expected to remain steady through the middle of October. Marketings of New England celery tapered off to moderate volume during the last week of August. Supplies during the first half of September are expected to hold steady or increase slightly. Quality of the crop is excellent.

CELERY: Late Fall (Calif., N.J.) The bulk of California celery supplies are originating in the Santa Maria-Guadalupe-Oceano and Salinas areas. Shipments from these early fields should continue at about present levels during the next two weeks. Daily volume will increase near the end of September as additional acreages in these districts and at San Jose become available for harvest. The bulk of the fall celery acreage is planted for harvest from the 15th of October to the 1st of December. Celery is generally in good condition in all areas with only a small amount of black heart and aster yellows. Although sizes have been small in the Oceano-Santa Maria area, larger sizes are now available. The fall deal in the Clifton (Passaic County) area of New Jersey is coming into production. In other north Jersey areas around Asbury, Budd Lake, Pinebrook and northeastern market garden sections harvest will start about mid-September.

SWEET CORN: Summer (N.J., N.Y., Pa., N.Eng.) Practically all New Jersey supplies are now originating in scattered north Jersey areas. The deal is becoming very small although light supplies will be available in scattered areas of the State until frost. Supplies of sweet corn in the local-market sections of upstate New York began to decline during the last half of August. Only a few late fields are still in production on Long Island. Marketings from main-crop acreage in the Hudson Valley continue in steady volume considerably heavier than a year ago. With delayed development due to cool weather during August marketings from the Hudson Valley will continue heavier than was planned during September. Marketing of high quality pre-cooled sweet corn from Ontario County started August 23. Peak of the early Pennsylvania crop is past since dry weather has reduced supplies in all areas. Although late crops are suffering severely from dry weather, especially in the western localities, a heavy volume will be available during early September, but quality has declined due to dry weather. In New England excellent quality sweet corn will continue to be available in heavy volume during the first half of September. Control measures have been effective for corn borers and ear worms.

CUCUMBERS: Early Summer (Va., Md., Del., N.J., Ill.) Movement is practically over in New Jersey, although scattered light supplies are available from northern areas. The remainder of the Illinois crop is reported to be in good condition.

Late Summer: (N.Y., Pa., Mich., N.Eng.) Marketings of Long Island New York cucumbers continued in heavy volume through the last half of August with volume nearly double a year ago for this period. The season peak in Long Island shipments is expected during the first half of September. Fields have held in good condition in spite of the dry weather. Shipments of upstate cucumbers through the last half of August were also heavier than a year ago. By September 1 dry weather and disease were beginning to take fields out of production in western New York. Pennsylvania supplies will continue in decreasing volume through early September, ending by about mid-month. Blight has been reported in all Michigan areas. The condition of New England cucumbers declined measurably during the last half of August due to anthracnose and other diseases. Supplies should taper off slightly during the first half of September.

Early Fall: (La., Ga., S.C.) South Carolina's early fall cucumbers are in fair to good condition. About one-half of the crop was planted during the first half of August, and the balance during the last half. Soil moisture continued deficient in most areas of the State and some replanting has been necessary.

EGGPLANT; Summer (La., N.J.) - A heavy volume of the Black Beauty variety is available in Gloucester county New Jersey, while a heavy volume of the Highbush variety is available in the Vineland-Landisville section. A moderate to heavy volume of both of these varieties is also available in Monmouth, Burlington and northeastern counties of the State.

HONEY DEW MELONS; Summer (Ariz., Calif.) Harvest in the San Joaquin Valley of California passed its peak about September 1 and shipments from that area are beginning to decline. A substantial volume is still moving and is expected to continue during September from Turlock, Los Banos and Tipton. The southern Sacramento Valley is coming into production and this increase in volume will partially offset the decline in the San Joaquin Valley area. Quality continues very good.

LETTUCE; Summer (Calif., Colo., N.Y.) Colorado lettuce shipments are now in the peak as harvest continues general in the San Luis Valley and in Routt and Grand Counties in the Northwest. Carlot billings are expected to decline moderately during the first half of September, dropping sharply thereafter until the season ends about the first of October. Marketings of New York lettuce, mostly from Oswego County, continued in good volume through the last half of August. This movement will continue with some decline in volume through the first half of September. An increased acreage of second-crop Boston lettuce has started to move from the Chester section of Orange County.

Fall; (Calif., Oreg., Wash., Ida., Utah, N.Mex., N.J.) In California cool weather, with overcast and foggy mornings, slowed the maturity of lettuce during the first part of August in the Salinas Valley. Slightly higher temperatures with sunny afternoons prevailing the last half of August hastened maturity and caused some bunching of fields available for harvest, which resulted in increased shipments. Shipments have declined from the volume reached on August 28 and should continue at about the present level during the next two weeks. Fields on lighter soils in the Salinas Valley are showing some slime and tip burn due to weather conditions. In the Santa Maria area limited supplies have been available the past two weeks but the amount available for harvest during the next two weeks should increase somewhat as new acreages come into production and second cuttings are made on older fields. There has been a considerable range in quality of lettuce in all producing districts. Younger plantings made for late-fall harvest are generally in good condition although a few fields show spotty stands. Quality of Washington lettuce appears to have picked up very rapidly with cooler weather. Supplies have increased in volume during the past week. Late lettuce is making good progress. Fields are very clean and quality is good. Supplies should be available until killing frosts occur. Steady shipment is being made to Alaska by air express. There has been some Idaho fields with poor stands plowed up. The crop generally looks good, however, there are some fields with thin stands. Fields are clean and the crop is making good growth. Fall lettuce from Salt Lake county Utah is on local markets now and will continue in volume until mid-October. The crop has made a fairly good comeback from the damage done by heavy rains the first week of August. Recent scattered showers were very beneficial to late plantings in south and central New Jersey. Generally speaking, fields are in good condition throughout the State, although as usual, some stands are somewhat poor and weeds have been troublesome. Light harvesting will begin in northeast Jersey about September 10 to 15. However the major late lettuce deal which occurs in the Cedarville section will not start until about October 1, as most growers have seeded two to three weeks later than usual because of the unsatisfactory prices received for early fall plantings in recent years.

MINT FOR OIL: (Ind., Mich., Oreg., Wash.) Distillation is now in full swing in all areas of the Yakima Valley of eastern Washington. Growers in both Benton and Yakima counties report very favorable yields. Crop condition is generally good in all areas. In western Washington, distillation is nearing completion in Cowlitz county. Most growers in Wahkiakum county will complete harvest early in September. Seventy-five percent of the peppermint of Puget Island has been distilled. Crop condition is generally good in all areas. Most fields have been relatively weed free this season, and little rust infestation has been reported.

ONIONS: Early Summer (6 States) Most of the acreage has been harvested in Great Meadows, the last New Jersey area to come into production. Moderate supplies are available from storages on farms in this area.

Late Summer: (Mass., N.Y., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mich., Wis., Minn., Ia., Kan., Colo., Utah, Nev., Calif., Idaho, Oreg., Wash., Ariz.) Harvest of the seed onion crop in Orange County New York was practically completed by August 25 with generally satisfactory yields per acre. Most of the seed onions run small to medium in size and of poor keeping quality with considerable decay already showing up. Movement of Orange County set onions has been slow to date but began to pick up in the last week of August. Harvest of set onions in the Canastota section dragged out through a long period with wet fields and rank weed growth slowing harvest. Size is small but the onions have cured down better than was expected and growers are in no hurry to sell. Seed onions in the Canastota section vary widely with low yields in all fields and some abandonment. Most of the Oswego County onions were killed prematurely by mildew and blast early in August resulting in small size and lack of maturity. Harvest was practically completed by September 1, much earlier than usual. Most crops in Wayne County suffered the same fate as in Oswego County. In the east muck area at Elba yields and quality have held up to earlier expectations. Most fields went down normally and dry weather throughout August has produced exceptionally fine quality of medium size. On the west muck at Elba most fields died standing up, with small size and variable quality. Onions in the Prattsburg section of Steuben County show the effects of heavy rainfall earlier in the season. Yields per acre are considerably below the high level of recent years and most crops are lacking in maturity. Continued dry weather has reduced the size of onions, in Ohio. Harvest is in various stages of completion and topping will continue in some areas through September. Movement, so far, has been light. The bulk of the Illinois crop has been harvested, and the fields that remain are in good condition. Quality is good. Mildew continues to effect prospective yields of Michigan onions. Topping has begun in all areas and most of the early crop has been already harvested. The north end of Gun Marsh has noticeably benefited from a drainage project begun but not completed this season. Generally Wisconsin onions have gone backward since August first. Excessive moisture has resulted in severe cases of mildew and lack of nitrogen. Harvest has begun but continues at a rather slow pace. Harvesting has begun in Minnesota with fair crop prospects in the Moorhead area but a crop varying from very poor to fair in the Freeborn County area. Adverse onion weather which has prevailed nearly all season in most growing areas, continued during the last half of August. This has been responsible for almost steady reduction of yield prospects since spring began due to light stands, flooding insect damage, failure to bulb, and spiking. Most fields on peat soil in the Freeborn County area are yielding poorly with quality below average. Onions on other soils, however, have done much better and fair yields of normal quality are expected. Favorable weather is badly needed. August shipments from Colorado were the smallest since 1940 because of the lateness of the crop in the early-producing Arkansas Valley. In addition to being late, total production in this important area will be below average, due in part to the reduced acreage, but largely to the

ONIONS: Late Summer (Cont'd.) lowest yield prospect in many years. A combination of diseases terminated growth prematurely in a large portion of the fields, and there is an unusually large percentage of small onions. Yield prospects are fair to good in Northern Colorado but are below average as purple blotch and other adverse factors are more prevalent than usual. Prospects on the Western Slope are near normal, although considerable thrip damage was reported in fields that have not been sprayed. Production will be moderately under last year. A limited harvest of early onions in Utah for roadside stand sales and on local markets is under way now but harvest of the main crop will not get under way until the last week of September. Stands are good in nearly all areas. Carlot shipments will start about September 20. Harvesting of late summer onions continues active in all producing sections of California with the majority of present loadings originating from the Salinas Valley. Most of the Australian brown onions are dug and windrowed in the Salinas Valley. Some onions will be placed in storage during September but this is dependent upon market conditions. Growing conditions generally were favorable and disease problems are not serious, although some pink root developed in scattered fields. The early onion harvest is slackening down in Idaho. Harvest of the later crop will get into full swing early in September. Sizes have been good. Pulling of western Oregon onions generally started about September 1. Harvesting operations are expected to last throughout the month, although if the present good curing weather holds out, a large part of the crop will be under cover by the middle of September. Harvesting of the early crop in Malheur County is well along and the late crop is also about ready to pull. Most of the early Walla Walla Washington deal has now been cleaned up. Late crop shipments began in small volume during the last week of August. Onion pulling is proceeding rapidly in the Moses Lake area. Sizes are generally above average.

GREEN PEAS: Early Fall (California) Harvest of early-fall peas in the Santa Clara Valley of California is expected to start early in September. Plantings have been spaced so that daily volume will never be large. Most of the shipments will originate from San Jose and Salinas. In these districts weather has been excellent for growth and the crop is in good condition. Current supplies are originating from acreages planted along the Coast, primarily in Mendocino and San Mateo Counties, but these are moving into local markets.

GREEN PEPPERS: Late Summer (N.J., Calif., New Eng.) A heavy volume continues to be available in all production areas of New Jersey. Gloucester County features the World Beater variety, the Cedarville area the California Wonder variety, and the Vineland-Landisville section many varieties including White Cap, Long Hot, Cherry, Cheese, Bullnose and California Wonder. Moderate volumes of most of these varieties are also available in Monmouth and northeast Counties, while the Budd Lake section is moving moderate volumes of California Wonders. Movement would be even greater except for the fact that prices have been disappointing to growers and picking has therefore been delayed. Light supplies of red peppers are becoming available in Cumberland and Gloucester Counties as well as green and mixed peppers. In New England the pepper crop is in above average condition for this time of the year, but frequent cool and rainy weather during August has resulted in a rather poor set in some fields. Supplies are currently at about peak level with volume moderately heavy. Offerings may taper off slightly during the next two weeks, but plentiful supplies from southern New England are indicated throughout September unless curtailed earlier than usual by frost.

COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES: Summer (8 States) Weather during the second half of August was generally favorable for harvesting the New Jersey crop. Demand strengthened slightly towards the end of August and most growers experienced little difficulty in moving their supplies as the quality of potatoes marketed this season has been excellent. A marketing agreement that is in effect this year permits shipment of U. S. commercials of not less than 85 percent U.S. No. 1 quality, and not less than two-inch minimum size. However, practically all commercial shipments this season have been U.S. No. 1, size A, two-inch minimum. This has reduced quantities available to the trade considerably and large quantities of low-grade potatoes are being sold for livestock feed or dumped.

OTHER EARLY AREAS: Growers report about 85 percent of the Long Island Cobbler crop harvested by September 1, compared with about 55 percent reported as harvested to the same date last year. Most fields of Katahdins and Green Mountains also died earlier than usual and harvest of Katahdins became active in most sections during the last half of August. Many growers are now slowing digging in hopes of some improvement in price. Harvest of early Russets in Idaho is still in full swing. Red and Rose harvest is in final stages. Yields are very good.

Winter, 1952 Season (Florida and Texas) Prospective acreage in Texas shows further reduction from the small acreage of last year. Most of this crop is planted in the eastern end of the Lower Valley from native seed held over from the previous spring's crop. Growers were making plans to start taking seed out of storage the early part of September.

SPINACH: Early Fall (Md., N.J., Pa., Ill., Mo.) In Maryland the dry weather is hindering the germination of the fall planted seed. Only a few fields are up. The crop needs rain badly. Most present supplies come from the Budd Lake section of New Jersey, however, frequent heavy rains have drastically reduced production from that section this year. Much of the crop ready for harvest during August was battered by heavy rains which also crusted the ground and prevented new seedlings from coming through. Some growers have seeded as many as three times and still have unsatisfactory stands. Late seedings in Monmouth County appear to be in good condition. Fall spinach in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania has been slow germinating, especially where not irrigated. Dry, hot weather has hampered preparation of fields for late seeding. Present supplies from summer plantings are light and spinach is small. Volume supplies from the fall acreage will not be available until October. Due to the lack of moisture, particularly in southern Illinois, the late crop is in rather poor condition. With favorable weather in New England the fall spinach crop is in excellent condition.

SQUASH: The condition of fall and winter squash in New England is generally above average. Due to slow development of vines during the first half of the season, much of the crop, especially blue hubbard, set later than usual. Production is expected to be unusually heavy, but an early frost could terminate growth in some fields before maturity of late set squash. Turban and butternut squash will be available during the first half of September in heavier volume than usual for the period.

TOMATOES: Early Summer (Calif., Ark., Tenn., N.C., Va., Ky., Ill., Mo., Ohio, Md., Del.) Early-summer tomatoes are still available from San Diego County, California but supplies from this area will decline during the next two weeks. Recent rains were quite beneficial to the crop there. Most of the Virginia tomato crop had been harvested by September 1. All shipments are going to canneries and the harvesting season will end by mid-September. Movement of the fresh market crop in Maryland and Delaware is slowing up.

Late Summer (N. Eng., N.J., Wash., Pa., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Iowa, N.Y., Mich., Colo., Utah, Ore., Ala.) The condition of the New England tomato crop declined moderately during the last half of August, but most fields planted for the late crop are in excellent condition. Many of the earlier fields have been damaged somewhat by early blight. Late blight is present but damage is not generally serious to date. Peak movement, in exceptionally heavy volume, occurred August 13-24. Seasonally heavy movement is expected until frost. Most of the important southern New Jersey counties have completed their fresh market deal and remaining supplies are going to canners. A heavy fresh market movement however is under way in Burlington and Monmouth Counties of central Jersey and from scattered sections of north Jersey, especially the Budd Lake and northeastern areas. Movement is declining daily but some late plantings were made throughout the State and supplies will be available until frost. The supply of Washington tomatoes is generally good. Yakima Valley production will taper off very sharply during the first week of September, but local supplies will supplement the Yakima crop and assure a large volume until the middle of September. Production has been considerably above average for the current year. However, quality is not exceptional with many off-shapes being marketed. Pennsylvania tomatoes continued to ripen slowly in most areas but quality and size of early crops has been very good. There is a large supply of green tomatoes for the auctions in Luzerne County. The western counties have been experiencing a long period of dry weather and yields of both market and processing crops will be reduced considerably. Crops in the south and east are generally good due to some light scattered showers during August. Continued hot dry

TOMATOES: Late Summer (Continued) weather in Ohio has been unfavorable for tomato development. Marketing will continue until frost with the major part of the movement completed in September. Harvest is well under way in the Cook County area of Illinois. Condition of the crop is reported to be good. With most of the early fields out of production, supplies of ripe tomatoes in the local-market sections of New York were past the seasonal peak by September 1. Marketing of green and turning tomatoes from the Hudson Valley is also past the peak. Late planted acreage protected from blight will furnish limited volume through September. Dry weather has cut yield prospects for both canning and green tomatoes in most sections of western New York with the most severe damage to canning tomatoes in Chautauqua and southern Erie Counties. Tomatoes are ripening with small size, Blossom-end rot is prevalent, and the late set is very light. Blight has taken out several fields in the southwest area of Benton Harbor, Michigan. Also the hail of the middle of the month took out some acreage. Colorado is expected to ship a light volume of green wraps through September. Harvest of green wraps at Honeyville, Utah started August 29. Shipments will peak the last week of September and are expected to continue until about mid-October. Fresh tomatoes from market garden acreage are on local markets in volume now and will continue plentiful until frost. The western Oregon tomato crop for fresh local consumption is now being harvested in considerable volume. Warm weather during the growing season has resulted in good quality and large-sized tomatoes. Harvesting of the Milton-Freewater, Oregon crop is about complete. In California production of early-fall tomatoes is restricted to the Watsonville-Soledad area at the present time. The volume moving from these two districts is not large because of a light set. Most of the shipments to date have been made by truck. Several other sections throughout the State are producing tomatoes for local market consumption but the fall shipping deal has not really started. During the next two weeks there will be a substantial increase in the quantity of tomatoes available from market planting and cannery fields, in Central and Northern California. Growers are active poling a small acreage in Tulare County which will be available for harvest in October.

Late Fall: (Texas and Florida) Transplanting started in the Laredo, Winter Garden and Eagle Pass sections of Texas at about the usual time. Field work in the Lower Valley is much behind the usual schedule, seed bed plantings were lighter, and unless growers in this area get plants from other sections the acreage will be lowered materially. Crops in the Laredo section are in good condition despite the excessive heat. Most fields have had intensive care--such as irrigating, fertilizing and cultivating--and plants have made very good growth. The Laredo section is more uniformly advanced than any other area. Many fields that are being held in the Winter Garden and Eagle Pass sections have poorer stands and some acreage has already been abandoned. The earliest supplies from the fall crop acreage usually come from the Eagle Pass area and from around LaPryor in the Winter Garden. Unless growing conditions are improved soon these areas are not expected to be in production as early as usual. Cooler weather is needed in all sections before plants can bloom and hold a set.

WATERMELONS: Early Summer (Calif., Ariz., Texas, La., Miss., Ala., Ga., S.C., N.C., Ark., Okla., Mo.) In California the harvest season for watermelons is about over although supplies are still available in several producing sections. Supplies will decline further during the next two weeks although a small number of rail cars will be loaded as quality and market conditions warrant. Melons are being harvested from a small acreage at Rosamond at the present time, but they are moving to Southern California markets. Small quantities of watermelons are still available in the Chesterfield area of South Carolina but for all practical purposes the season is over.

WATERMELONS: (Continued) Late Summer (Va., Md., Del., N.J., Ind., Ill., Iowa, Ore., Wash., Colo.) Harvest of the Maryland and Delaware crop is about completed. It should be finished by September 10. This has become a very small deal in New Jersey. Very light and scattered supplies will become available in Cumberland, Gloucester, Burlington and Monmouth Counties during the last half of September. Harvest has passed the peak in the White County area of Illinois and is well under way in other areas. Quality is very good, but due to disease, yield prospects have decreased somewhat. The Washington melon deal is now in full swing in the Wapato area of the Yakima Valley. Peak harvest will be reached during the first days of September.