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Conditions during the first half of May were favorable for vegetable crops in most producing areas, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. In many central and northern sections field work progressed rapidly and many growing crops are overcoming earlier delays. Dry weather is threatening crops in most South Central and Southeastern States, but injury to date has not been severe. In Texas, early spring crops are still later than usual, while mid-season and later areas are about on schedule. In California, conditions have been favorable, but shipments are not expanding as rapidly as usual because of earlier cool weather delays. In most other western States, prospects for vegetable crops improved during early May.

Most vegetable crops are making good progress in the New England and Middle Atlantic States. Most areas in these States had frost on May 14 but, with the exception of some damage to strawberries in a few localities, injury was negligible. Most areas have also received good rains, but warm, windy days immediately after mid-month were rapidly drying out surface moisture. In the South Atlantic States, field work is progressing satisfactorily, and harvest of spring crops is rapidly moving into the more northern areas. Rains are needed in most of these States and the lack of moisture is already injuring crops in the southern States of the group. The shipping season is nearing the end in South Florida and total vegetable shipments from the State are declining.

Crops have continued to improve in Texas and several areas have received beneficial rains. Development is still 3 to 4 weeks late in many early spring areas, but mid- and late- season areas are about on schedule. In the other South Central States, most crops have made good progress, but soils are getting dry and rains are needed to prevent injury.

Prospects improved during early May in Colorado and are good in all areas of the State except the San Luis Valley, where there is an acute shortage of irrigation water. Rains and warmer weather have been beneficial in Washington and Oregon, and prospects are favorable in Utah. Relatively cool weather in California has favored lettuce, but has resulted in slow growth of many summer crops. Total shipments from the State are increasing but not as rapidly as is normal for this season of the year.

ARTICHOSES: Winter (Calif.) Although the season is practically finished in California, limited supplies are still available and are moving both to local MARKETS and eastern outlets. During the last half of May most growers will begin to cut their vines and prepare the fields for the 1951 fall season.

ASPARAGUS: Early Spring (Calif., Oreg., Wash., S.C.) In California shipping was terminated late in April, but harvest for processing has continued active, and a substantial volume has been available for local fresh market outlets. The daily production of asparagus has been influenced greatly by prevailing temperatures and at times processors were only able to fill about 50 percent of their requirements. Temperatures during the past few days have been favorable for an increasing production of this crop. Asparagus cutting in Washington finally hit full stride around May 8 as warmer nights brought on normal growth. Fresh market requirements have not been large, and the bulk of current supplies is going to processors. Quality is good to excellent.

Late Springs: (Md., Del., N.J., Pa., Mass., Mich., Ill., Iowa, N.Y.) Cutting started April 26th in Delaware and Maryland, about a week earlier than the late start last year. A rather dry spring over the major asparagus areas of the two states has made cultivation easy but reduced production. The dry weather with cool nights has restricted growth, and volume has not been heavy. Peak volume will be moving to market during the last half of May. Asparagus beetles have been numerous, but weather conditions have permitted effective control. In New Jersey cool nights have retarded growth, but movement has increased as a result of this week's warm sunny days. A heavy volume continues to move over the Swedesboro and Pedricktown auctions and lighter quantities over the Vineland and Hightstown auctions. Approximately 85 percent of the State acreage for fresh market lies in Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland Counties. Last week's rain was very beneficial and most beds are in good condition. Peak movement could occur nearly any day and depends entirely upon the weather. Production of asparagus in Bucks county and other southern and eastern sections of Pennsylvania is holding up well in spite of the long period of dry weather. Volume of marketings is slowly increasing. In Erie county and in sections of the west present movement is light but quality is excellent. In Massachusetts a heavy frost on May 14th caused a temporary reduction in supplies, but beds are in good condition and good yields are indicated. In the important Hampshire County area soils are still too dry for best growth. First receipts in the Boston Produce Market were reported April 30, several days earlier than usual. Harvest has begun in Michigan and is fast reaching volume proportions. Quality is very good. Processors expect heavy receipts to continue for 2-1/2 to 3 weeks, followed by a gradual decrease until the end of the season a week or so later. Cutting is under way in all sections of Illinois. Harvest in the Cook County area was interrupted for several days by heavy rains during the past week. Quality remains good in most areas. The crop has suffered some from the lack of moisture in southern Illinois. At mid-May moderate to liberal supplies of asparagus were reaching local markets throughout New York, with the peak production expected late in the month.

LIMA BEANS: Spring (Fla., Ga., S.C.) Harvesting in the important Hawthorne section of Florida started around May 10 and should be in its peak from May 21 to June 9. Although stands are irregular the crop is generally in fair condition. Harvest of baby limas and butterbeans is active in the Plant City area. In South Carolina, lima beans are suffering from lack of moisture and are in only fair condition. Movement from the decreased acreage this year is expected to begin around June 10 and reach peak about June 20.

LIMA BEANS: Summer (N.C., Md., N.Y., N.J.) In Maryland weather during the first half of May was favorable for Fordhooks. Fields are in excellent condition and cultivation has progressed without interruption. Stands in the Wicomico-Somerset area of the Eastern Shore are very good in most fields, and replanted early fields are about up with the main planting. Plants have developed rapidly and are of good color. In New Jersey last week's rains were very beneficial but more moisture is needed in Cumberland and Cape May Counties. Stands are good but growth has been somewhat slow due to cool nights. Plants have grown to about 4 inches high in South Jersey.

SNAP BEANS: Early Spring (Tex., Fla.) Supplies are still available in the Lower Valley of Texas and a light movement has started in other early areas. Harvest in the later areas is expected to start late in the month. Conditions are generally favorable in all sections. In Florida harvesting of snap beans declined rapidly during the first half of the month and the active marketing season is practically over.

Mid-Springs: (Calif., La., Miss., Ala., Ga., S.C.) California production stepped up materially during the past two weeks with the bulk of current supplies originating in Coachella Valley. Supplies have also been coming from bush plantings in San Diego County and from a limited acreage of pole beans in Tulare County. An increasing volume will be harvested during the next two weeks in all districts as more acreage reaches maturity. Production from the Spring crop is lighter than usual due to cool weather which has held back harvest and cut yields. Volume movement of Louisiana beans began May 12 with peak movement expected about May 20. Quality is fair to good. A light harvest of Mississippi snap beans is now under way from the more advanced plantings. Movement should continue through most of June. The crop is beginning to suffer from lack of rain. Harvesting of snap beans is just beginning in south Georgia. Quality from first pickings was poor due to the cold late spring. The crop is in need of rain. Planting has started in north Georgia and is expected to become general in the next two weeks. In South Carolina, snap bean harvest is well under way but the crop has suffered heavy damage from the unusually dry weather. Sales are expected to be heaviest during the week of May 20.

Late Springs: (N.C., Ark., Va.) In Arkansas most fields are up to good stands and making satisfactory growth. Although the moisture supply is generally sufficient at present rain will be needed soon in most areas. The bean beetle was troublesome for a time in the Alma-Van Buren area but has suddenly disappeared. The crop is late and movement will probably start about June 11 in west central counties and about two weeks later in the northwest. Virginia snap beans are making good growth, but rain is needed at this time. The crop is being cultivated and is generally free of grass and weeds. Picking will start during the last week of May.

Early Summer: (Md., Del., N.J., N.Y., Pa., Ill.) Condition of the snap bean crop in the Somerset-Wicomico area of Maryland is good to excellent. Fields are clean, stands are good and color of plants is very good. Plants in earliest fields are 6 to 8 inches high. Harvest will start during the first week of June with good supplies available the 2nd week of the month. Plants are just coming through the ground in the Baltimore area of the State -- a few fields have plants 2 inches high. Last week's rains were very beneficial in New Jersey, but more moisture is now needed in Cumberland and Cape May Counties. Stands are good and growth has been rapid during the last few days of warm, sunny weather. Plants stand about 6 inches high in South Jersey and about 4 inches high in Burlington County. Planting started in the central New York region in early May, and substantial plantings were made in Chautauqua County and in the Hudson

SNAP BEANS: Early Summer (Cont'd.) Valley. Early plantings have been made in all sections of Pennsylvania. In the Bucks-Philadelphia area early snap beans, are from 4 to 5 inches high and have a nice stand. Where beans are up in other areas, they are generally in good shape, although growth has been retarded by cool weather. About four-fifths of the beans in southern Illinois have been planted with some up to a height of 2-4 inches.

BEETS: Spring (La., S.C., N.C., Va.) The heaviest movement of South Carolina beets is over, but a light volume will be available during the remainder of the month. Shipments of Virginia beets started during the second week of May and harvest of this crop will be at peak May 20 to June 10.

Summer: (N.J., Pa., N.Eng.) Stands are good in the Vineland section of New Jersey and rapid growth occurred during the past few days of warm sunny weather. Seeding continues in the Northeast Jersey market garden sections. Early beets are making fair growth in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania. Irrigated crops look good. In other areas of the State early planted garden crops are just above ground. Early seeded beets are above ground and stands are generally good in New England. The relatively small transplanted crop is also in good condition, but growth of all beets has been moderately slow. Light offerings of bunched beets from transplanted fields should become available before June 10.

BROCCOLI: (Calif., N.Eng.) Limited supplies of broccoli are still available in the Salinas and Santa Maria Districts of California but the season has nearly ended. In New England a substantial increase in broccoli acreage is indicated this year. Most fields are in excellent condition. The first marketings are expected during the first week of June.

CABBAGE: Winter (Calif., Ariz., Tex., Fla.) Cabbage is in plentiful supply in southern California. A fair volume continues to move into carlot channels principally from San Diego and Ventura Counties, but the bulk of the crop is being sold locally. Due to the rather sizeable late plantings, supplies are expected to remain at a high level for the next two weeks. A few cars a day continued to move out of the Salt River Valley area of Arizona during the first half of the month but this deal should be completed soon. Florida cabbage shipments declined rapidly during the first half of May and the active marketing season is practically over for this crop. Some late acreage is available in most of the important shipping sections and a light harvest could continue during the balance of the month if market conditions justify. Cutting at this time is mostly on orders.

Early Spring: (La., Miss., Ala., Ga., S.C.) Mississippi cabbage of good quality is now moving in volume. The crop averages later than usual, and movement should continue into early June. The crop is needing rain now. The south Georgia cabbage crop has been very disappointing from setting time through early harvesting. Through May 12, only 225 cars had moved by rail compared with 1,382 to the same date last year. In north Georgia cabbage is being set to the fields under favorable conditions. In South Carolina, the cabbage harvest is about over. Supplies will be available in the Charleston area until around June 1, but the quality harvested will depend upon market conditions.

Late Spring: (N.C., Va., Md., Tenn., Ky., Ohio, Mo., Wash.) Harvest of Virginia late spring cabbage started the week beginning May 14. Shipments are now light, but cutting is rapidly increasing and movement will be general from May 20 to June 15. In Maryland plants made good growth during the first half of May and fields are clean and in very good condition. Harvest will start the third week of May on the Eastern Shore, with increasing volume through June. In Western Maryland early planted cabbage is just commencing to head, while later cabbage has

CABBAGE, Late Spring (Cont'd.) just been set. Cabbage progress was fair in Tennessee during the first half of May but rain is needed for best growth. Cabbage in southeastern Ohio made good growth during the past two weeks. Some cabbage will be available soon after June 1, but it will be near mid-June before marketing becomes heavy. In Kentucky, plants are showing good progress, following the late start. Color is good but only a few are showing signs of heading. In Washington, most fields have responded well to the recent favorable weather. Frost-damaged plants are showing some new growth and a healthier color. More advanced plantings, which were less affected by the frost, and the young plants recently set out are in good condition.

Early Summer: (N.J., N.Y., Ga., Ind., Ill., Iowa, N.Eng.) Most New Jersey growers report good stands and color, although growth was somewhat slow until the recent warm sunny days. First plantings have been completed in all areas except the high ground sections around Budd Lake, where less than half of the intended acreage has been set. Last week's rains were very helpful. In New York early cabbage was transplanted in increasing volume during the first half of May in all market garden areas of the State and was making rapid growth on Long Island. About three-fourths of the plants have been set out in the Cook County area of Illinois. In the remainder of the State, about 75 percent have been set out in the Quincy and Peoria areas, and about 80 to 85 percent in the East St. Louis and Anna areas. Earliest plants are about 4 inches high. In New England an increase in early cabbage acreage over 1950 is indicated, and the crop generally shows good to excellent condition. A limited amount of bolting may occur in some of the earliest set fields in Connecticut, but production generally is expected to be heavy. Maggot Fly egg laying is reported to be quite heavy, but insecticide applications have generally been timely. Light marketings are expected by mid-June, but volume movement from the large acreage in Massachusetts is not indicated until the last week in June.

Late Summer: (Colo., Utah, N.Mex., Minn., Ohio, Pa., Va., N.C.) Colorado early cabbage in the Denver-Brighton area and around Canon City has shown much improvement since May 1 due to benefitting rains and higher temperatures. The later crop is now being planted around Greeley but transplanting has been delayed in the San Luis Valley because of extremely dry soil condition and a critical shortage of water for irrigation. In Utah all kraut cabbage is planted. In Utah County fresh market cabbage is about two-thirds planted and planting will be completed by June 1. In Sanpete County only one fourth of the acreage of fresh market cabbage is planted but planting will be completed by June 1. Recent light rains in Sanpete County have been very beneficial to plants already set out. Acreage will be reduced in northern Utah, perhaps a slight increase in Salt Lake and Utah counties and about the same as last year in Sanpete County. In Ohio weather during the past two weeks has been favorable and cabbage plants have made good growth. Some of the earlier fields will provide cabbage by mid-June, but production will not be heavy until after July 1. Most early cabbage has been set out in the southern areas of Pennsylvania and planting is well advanced in the northern areas. Crops have made a good start as the cooler weather has favored the early plantings.

Early Fall: (Ten States) Early planted cabbage in the southeast and southcentral sections of Michigan is doing nicely. Seed beds will be planted within the next ten days in the southwest.

CANTALOUPS; Spring (Calif., Fla., Ariz.) The first car of cantaloups was loaded in Imperial Valley of California on May 7 and shipments climbed to 16 cars on May 14th. Generally speaking the Imperial Valley crop is in good condition and it is expected to produce a somewhat larger volume than in 1950 and quality is expected to be superior. Due to cool weather, present supplies are not too well sized and the quality is not the best. Cantaloups at Blythe are making satisfactory progress and first fields should be picked shortly after May 20 but volume supplies are not expected until after June 1st. The volume of California cantaloups will increase steadily during the next two weeks. The extent of expansion will depend upon the temperatures prevailing during the period. Hot weather will bring on a lot of melons. Winds in the Desert areas about May 5 and May 12, as well as earlier winds, whipped cantaloup vines and caused some damage to late set melons but early season production is not expected to be affected greatly. Spring cantaloups are generally in fair condition in Florida. The recent high winds and prolonged dry weather have adversely affected the crop in the Oxford-Belleview-Ocala-Williston and Newberry area. A light harvest is in progress on scattered small acreages in south Florida and harvest is expected to start in the area around Ocala during late May, reaching its peak during the early part of June. Most of the acreage is planted to Hale's Best and shipments will mostly be made in bulk. Spring cantaloups are expected to start moving from the Yuma area of Arizona within the next few days.

Early Summer; (Nev., Ga., S.C., Ariz.) The stage of cantaloup growth, in South Carolina, ranges from small plants to bunching. Dry, cool and windy weather is retarding growth. Stripped cucumber beetles are also damaging cantaloup in the Allendale-Barnwell area. The early summer crop in the Salt River Valley of Arizona has been retarded to some extent by cold weather, but with warmer weather at hand, it is expected to make more rapid progress. Vines are in good condition and prospects are favorable. First shipments are not expected until about the second week of June.

Mid-Summer; (Calif., Wash., N.Mex., Tex., Okla., Ark., N.C., Md., Del., Ind., Ill., Iowa) Cantaloups in the San Joaquin of California have made only fair progress to date. Weather generally has been too cool for the best development. Stands are reported to be fair to good in the early fields but some replanting has been necessary in mid-season fields because of rains late in April. In Texas irrigated plantings in the Lower Valley, Winter Garden and Laredo sections have continued to make good progress, but harvest is expected to be a little later than usual. The Laredo section expects a light movement the latter part of May and volume production the early part of June. A few fields in the Winter Garden were expected to be in production around mid-May, but most of this crop and that in the Valley moves to nearby markets by truck. Conditions are generally favorable in the mid-season areas; which are practically all non-irrigated, and harvest of some of the earliest plantings is expected to start about the middle of June. Acreage in the Panhandle irrigated section is expected to be lowered materially this year and supplies from that area are not expected until around July 20. Conditions are favorable for planting in most other late areas, most of which are non-irrigated. In Arkansas most fields are up to good stands and making satisfactory growth. Commercial growers have about completed the planting of cantaloups in North Carolina. Some replanting is being done because of dry weather. In many fields beetles are attacking the portion of the crop that is up. In Maryland and Delaware cantaloups are in very good condition and stands are excellent in nearly all fields. Primary leaves are developing rapidly. Farmers have been dusting and spraying more than usual and weather conditions have made control measures effective. In Illinois early plantings are up except for producing sections in the northern third of the State.

CANTALOUPS: Late Summer (8 States) Planting of the commercial acreage in Box Elder County of Utah was completed May 11th. It is too early yet to see what effect the heavy storm that immediately followed planting, will have on this acreage. Planting of the market garden acreage in Davis County will be completed by June 1. Planting of the Greenriver and Moab acreages in eastern Utah got under way the first week of May. At Greenriver planting is half completed and will be finished by May 25. Planting of Colorado cantaloups is nearing completion. Conditions are now favorable for germination and growth in all areas. In Michigan as soon as the transplanting of tomatoes has been completed in the southwest, the cold frames will be used for cantaloups.

CARROTS: Winter (Calif., Ariz., Tex., La.) The volume of carrots moving from the Imperial Valley of California is somewhat smaller than usual. Carlot shipments are expected to drop off quite rapidly during the next two weeks with virtually no acreage expected to be available for pulling in June. While bunched carrots continue to dominate the deal, a heavy volume of topped stock, much of it going to canneries, has been shipped during the past two weeks.

Spring: (Calif., Ariz.) In California harvesting of some exceptionally early carrots in the Salinas Valley began about May 14. A few cars are expected to be loaded during the week of May 20 but it should be late in the month before more than token loadings are being made from the district. In Arizona shipments during the first two weeks of May moved at a heavier volume than a year ago. The peak of movement may be reached in a week or ten days, and volume should continue heavy until about the middle of June. Quality is excellent.

Summer: (N.J., N.Y., Ohio, Colo., N.Eng.) In New Jersey stands are good in the Vineland area and rapid growth has occurred during the past few days of warm sunny weather. Growth has been slow in the Great Meadows section due to continued frosts and shortage of moisture. In Ohio growth during the first half of May was satisfactory and marketing is expected to begin during the first half of July. Early fields in New England are making very good progress, although additional moisture is needed for best growth in most areas.

Fall: (Calif., Oreg., Wash., Utah, N.Mex., Minn., Ill., Mich., Pa., N.Y.) In Sevier County Utah plans now call for a planted acreage about equal to the acreage harvested last year. Planting is half completed and will be finished by June 7 if weather permits. No carrots will be planted in the Cedar City area of Iron County this year because of the shortage of irrigation water. In the Escalante desert area of Iron County planting is nearly completed and acreage will be slightly less than last year. No serious crusting has occurred to planted carrots to date. In Illinois about 90 percent of the crop is planted in the Cook County area which is the area of greatest production in the State. All Michigan areas have completed their plantings and early planted fields are up and looking good.

CAULIFLOWER: Early Spring (Calif., Oreg.) Cauliflower supplies are declining in California as the spring harvest season draws to a close and daily carlot volume is expected to show a further drop during the next two weeks. Quality, as is usual at this season of the year, is only fair.

Late Spring: (Wash.) In Washington early fields are in fair to poor condition. Some plants are forming "buttons" prematurely -- without adequate size and leaf development. Maggots have thinned the stands in a few fields, and there is a market lack of uniformity among plants in the same field. Very limited supplies of cauliflower should be available before June 1. Plants set out since May 1 have benefited from ideal growing weather and are in excellent condition.

CAULIFLOWER: Summer (N.J., N.Y., N.Eng., Colo.) Curds have formed on frame cauliflower in northeastern New Jersey and first cuttings are expected about May 25th. Both the frame and open field portions of the crop have good stands and are in good condition. Moisture supplies are excellent in North-east Jersey where most of the crop is grown. In New York most early planting has been completed in the Eden Valley section of Erie County with some progress elsewhere in the county. In the Catskill section, Delaware County growers had set from practically none, up to 75 percent of the plants, according to the locality. The condition of cauliflower is generally very good in all New England areas, but some of the earliest planted fields show only fair condition. Light offerings are indicated by mid-June. In Colorado early plantings around Denver and Canon City are now making favorable progress. Transplanting of the principal Colorado deal in the San Luis Valley is being delayed for lack of moisture. The soil in this area is very dry due to deficient precipitation during the past several months. Storage in irrigation reservoirs is much below average and summer flow of the Valley rivers is expected to be only about half the normal flow.

CELERY: Spring (Fla., Calif.) The Florida spring acreage remaining for harvest is generally in fair to good condition. A small percentage of the acreage is still showing some seeders and delayed harvesting has caused a few fields to become overripe. Shipments during the first half of May showed a slight decline from the previous period. Supplies during the balance of the season will come principally from the Everglades, Zellwood, and North Florida sections and, with favorable weather, harvesting is expected to continue well into June. In California spring celery harvest in Los Angeles County was stepped up materially during the first half of May. Heavy loadings are expected to continue during the next two weeks and it is possible that some increase in shipments may occur during that period. Growers in the Venice district report record yields of some of the best quality celery that has been produced in that deal. Production of spring celery has begun in a light way in the southern part of Los Angeles County and this district will be producing an increasing volume during May and through the month of June.

Summer: (N.Y., N.J., Ohio, Mich., Oreg., Calif., N.Eng.) The recent rains speeded up growth of celery in Orange County, New York. Last week's rain was very beneficial in the Paramus area of New Jersey and celery is growing well. Some spittle bug trouble, however, has occurred. A large percentage of the growers have removed the sash from their frames and have taken the cloth protection from their early field plantings. A rather heavy frost occurred on the morning of May 14 but damage does not appear to be significant. Great Meadows growers continue to plant. Stands look good, but this area received very little rain last week and fields are becoming very dry. A large percentage of these growers, however, have irrigation facilities. In Ohio celery has made good growth during the past two weeks and marketing is expected to begin around mid-June. In Michigan early celery which was put under paper has progressed very nicely. The paper will probably be taken off very soon. Later plantings are vigorous and were not hurt by the cool weather. New plantings were heavy during the last week. Only a minor part of the New England early celery crop has been transplanted to date.

Early Fall: (N.Y., Pa., Ohio, Mich., Colo., Utah, Wash.) Practically all of Utah's celery is grown in Salt Lake, Utah, and Sanpete counties. In Utah and Sanpete counties no celery had been planted by May 17, but will start by May 19 in both counties. This is about a week later than last year. The delayed planting is fortunate because of a frost that occurred in Utah County this week. In Washington a considerable acreage of celery has been transplanted to the field during the last two weeks. Conditions were favorable and most plants appear to be off to a good start.

SWEET CORN: Spring (Fla., Tex., Calif.) The volume of Florida sweet corn increased materially during the first half of May. The important Everglades section is well over its peak, but light supplies will continue during the second half of May and into early June. Active harvest is now in progress in the important Zellwood section and the peak movement from this acreage should occur during the period May 21 to June 10. Harvesting is well along in the Manatee and Plant City area. The Sanford-Winter Garden crop is generally in good condition and harvest is now active. Harvest in north Florida is expected to start during the week of May 21 with the bulk of this crop moving during the last week of May and first week in June. The first solid car of corn from the Lower Valley of Texas was loaded May 4, about 30 days later than usual, and movement since then has been light. Prospects improved materially following good rains during the second week in May. Although the acreage in that area is comparatively low, shipments are expected to increase during the second half of the month and continue fairly active into the early part of June. Conditions also have improved in the early areas outside of the Valley. These areas are expected to be in production starting the first week in June. Crops in the mid-season and late areas are also later than usual, but most Texas areas made fairly good progress during the past week. In California cool weather has retarded maturity in Coachella and Imperial Valleys. These areas, however, are now producing in volume. A further expansion in production is expected during the next two weeks, which will likely be the peak of the harvest season. However, heavy production is expected to continue into the first half of June. Sizes and quality in some fields are sub-standard but good quality and large sizes are available. Carlot shipments of sweet-corn may be made in volume during late May.

Summer: (N.J., N.Y., Pa.) In New Jersey some plantings are 8 inches high and stands are excellent in the important Beverly area. Growth was somewhat slow due to cool nights, but has improved as a result of this week's warm, sunny days. Moisture supplies are excellent. Early planted seed in the lower Hudson Valley of New York came up with excellent stands. Planting is general in areas around central and western New York local markets. In some intensive sandy areas as much as 90 percent was planted by May 15 while a good start was made elsewhere. From one-third to three-fourths the acreage had been planted before May 15 in the important Ulster-Dutchess areas. A few fields of early sweet corn are up in southeastern Pennsylvania while planting is continuing in this area. In other parts of the State a few crops are planted but most are not up yet.

CUCUMBERS: Early Spring (Fla., Tex.) The active shipping season for cucumbers in the Central and South Florida sections is just about over but harvest of some late fields will continue during most of the remainder of the month. Harvest of the acreage in the LaCrosse section of North Florida started around May 10 and is now at its peak. The recent strong winds and lack of moisture have materially affected the prospective yield on this acreage. Shipments from the State will decline rapidly during the second half of the month. In Texas, there is some improvement in the Riviera and Falfurrias sections which got good rains the second week in May. Only light, inadequate rains were received in the Ingleside section, and it is getting too late for much improvement to be expected. The first solid car of cucumbers was shipped from the Coastal Bend on May 15, which is at least 30 days later than the average shipping date. The marketing season of this year's crop is expected to be very short.

Late Spring: (La., Ala., Ga., S.C., N.C., Ark., Calif.) The crop in Louisiana is in fair condition but late. Some fields were replanted several times. A short crop is expected with volume movement expected about the second week of June. The Alabama crop has made satisfactory development since May 1, after getting off to a late start. Harvest is expected to begin this week, but

CUCUMBERS: Late Spring (Cont'd.) movement will be light until the last of the month. Outlook for cucumbers in Georgia is good, but rain is badly needed in most areas. Light harvesting is expected during late May or early June. In the Barnwell-Blackville and Lake City areas of South Carolina, cucumber growth is uneven and slow due to extremely dry weather and cool nights. Also, some damage is being caused by stripped beetles. Harvest is expected to begin about May 25 and reach peak around June 10. The crop is somewhat later than usual and growers are expecting a rather short season. The crop in North Carolina is generally in good condition. Stands, for the most part, are good. Growth is making fairly good progress, and some early planted fields have runners about a yard long. In Arkansas, cucumbers are up to good stands and growing nicely in the west central and southwest areas. In Bradley and Calhoun counties germination was poor and much replanting was necessary.

Early Summer: (Va., Md., Del., N.J., Ill.) The favorable growing conditions in Maryland and Delaware this spring have given the crop a good start. Fields are in very good condition and stand is excellent in nearly all fields. Primary leaves are developing rapidly. Farmers have been dusting and spraying more than usual and weather conditions have made control measures effective. Most of the crop has been planted in the southern third of Illinois with early plantings up to a height of 3 to 4 inches. Plants are in good condition, but need moisture.

EGGPLANT: Spring (Fla.) Shipments increased materially during the first half of May. Most of the volume at this time is coming from spring plantings in the Everglades and Pompano sections. The small acreage at Plant City is in poor to fair condition, but supplies from this crop should increase materially during the second half of the month with harvesting continuing into June. The small acreage in North Florida is in fair condition with the earliest harvesting expected after the first of June.

ESCAROLE: Winter (Fla.) The harvesting season for escarole and chicory is just about over except for the acreage at Zellwood and small scattered late plantings in the Everglades and North Florida muck sections. With favorable weather, light supplies should continue from the State during the remainder of the month.

HONEYDEWS: Spring (Calif.) So far the honeydew crop in Imperial Valley has made satisfactory progress and apparently has escaped serious injury from disease. A few melons may be available for picking during the week of May 20th, but no cantaloupes are expected from that deal until the last week in May. Blythe should have some early honeydews available for harvest about June 1st.

LETTUCE: Early Spring (Ariz., Calif., Ga., S.C., N.C.) The bulk of the Arizona deal is finished, but a few cars are still moving from a small acreage of late lettuce. In California, the warmer and moderate weather which prevailed in lettuce producing districts along the coast during the first half of May, resulted in a rapid increase in the production of this crop. Earlier cool weather had thrown harvests off schedule and fields had a tendency to bunch when temperatures rose. As a result, shipments increased substantially over a period of a few days and at the present time are running above 300 cars daily. In the Salinas-Watsonville area, a production adjustment program has been inaugurated by majority of the growers as a means of bringing existing supplies more in line with market demands. Movement is expected to continue in heavy volume during the next two weeks but day to day shipments will be influenced by this production adjustment program. Quality and size of California lettuce has shown a marked improvement during the past two weeks. The season is about over

LETTUCE: Early Spring (Cont'd.) in Georgia except for a few light cuttings in some fields. Yields have been very satisfactory this year. Harvest in South Carolina is nearing the end and is expected to be over during the week of May 20. Peak movement of Romaine and Big Boston lettuce was reached in North Carolina during the first week of May while heaviest movement of Iceberg occurred during the second week. At present, volume is falling fast, and harvest will be practically completed by May 23. Quality was very good until about May 14, when brown blight hit most fields of Iceberg.

Late Spring: (N.J., Pa., Ida., Oreg., Wash.) In New Jersey, Boston and Romaine lettuce, grown under glass, is moving from the northeast market areas and some "frame" Iceberg will become available next week. Open field Boston and Romaine is also beginning to move from the Vineland area and volume supplies are expected by the end of this week. First open field Iceberg is expected in the Vineland area next week. The major Cedarville area (practically all Iceberg) is expected to begin moving in heavy volume during the week of May 27. Some early fields, however, are expected to be ready next week. The Atlantic and Cape May County deals are expected to start during the week of May 27. Due to some very early plantings this year, a few fields in Northeast Jersey are also expected to be ready during the week of May 27. Last week's rain and this week's warmer weather have been very beneficial and most fields throughout the State show good color. However, the Great Meadows and Cape May areas need more rain. In Pennsylvania, transplanted lettuce set out in early May has progressed nicely in the western sections and in the eastern irrigated areas. Dry weather has slowed development of other crops particularly in the southeastern counties. There is practically no acreage planted for a spring crop in Idaho this year. A light but increasing volume of good quality lettuce is now being cut in western Washington fields. Heavy supplies are expected to be available in 10 days, as heads are now forming on a large acreage of early transplanted lettuce. Later plantings are making normal development at this time.

Summer: (Calif., Colo., N.Y., N.Eng.) Early Colorado lettuce is now making more satisfactory progress but the backward growing conditions during April delayed the crop until it now appears that it will be mid-June before Colorado will have any head lettuce on the market. Seeding of the important deal in the San Luis Valley has been delayed for lack of moisture. In New York, a little transplanted lettuce was nearly ready for market in some upstate market garden sections. On the mucklands, Orange County seeding of the first crop has been practically completed by May 5 and Steuben County was well along by mid-May as was Chautauqua. Sowings had also started nicely in Wayne, Oswego and other Areas. The condition of the Iceberg crop in New England is generally reported to be above average for this date. Acreage in the important Bristol County, Massachusetts area has been reduced, but production is expected to be fully adequate to meet demand. The crop in Cumberland County, Maine is generally in excellent condition. Earliest offerings of Iceberg lettuce are indicated for the first week of June. Light supplies of Boston type lettuce should be available about a week earlier.

ONIONS: Early Spring (Texas) Harvest of the south Texas crop is well along. Field work was interrupted a little during both the first and second week of May, but shipments continued active because of surplus shed stocks. Shipments from Laredo were active through May 15, but harvest was nearing completion. Supplies are expected from the Winter Garden and Eagle Pass sections into the early part of June. The quality has continued to be very good.

ONIONS (Cont'd.) Late Spring (Calif., Ariz., La., Tex., Ga.) In California, harvest of the late spring onion crop is most active in the Imperial Valley and in Kern County where the bulk of the present carlot shipments are originating. Imperial Valley production is expected to decline as harvest in many fields is completed during the next two weeks but a considerable expansion in shipments is looked for from the Kern County deal. Stockton has stepped into the deal with a few early fields but it will be June before any substantial volume is available. Shipments started from Arizona on May 10, but volume has been light. Warmer weather should result in heavier movement during the last half of the month. The crop is of excellent quality. Most north Texas onion areas continue to make very good progress. Moisture conditions are very favorable and crops have had two weeks of good growing weather. Young onions have made exceptionally good growth and show promise of fairly good yields. While a few scattered fields have poor stands and some hail damage was reported north of Dallas, the crop as a whole is in good condition. A light harvest from a few very early plantings may start the latter part of May, but the main acreage is not expected to be in production until about June 6. Georgia onions are being harvested under almost ideal weather conditions. Better than average yields are reported with good quality and size.

Early Summer: (N. Mex., Wash., Iowa, Okla., Va., N. J.) The Virginia onion crop is making near normal progress although rainfall during May has been too light for best onion growth. Prospects are for average yields with first shipments coming about June 15. In New Jersey, fields show excellent stands, color, and growth in both the South Jersey and Great Meadows areas. More moisture, however is needed in Great Meadows and in Cape May County.

Late Summer: (Mass., N. Y., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mich., Wis., Minn., Iowa, Kansas, Colo., Utah, Nev., Calif., Ida., Oreg., Wash., Ariz.) Acreage planted with sets in the Connecticut Valley area of Massachusetts has been increased from 1950 and is making excellent progress. Planting in all areas of New York was nearly finished during the first half of May. Early planted sets and seeds are up to generally good stands and growing well. Later planted seed onions in western New York were somewhat slow and irregular in growth. Most of the Ohio acreage was in the fields by May 1 and planting was completed by May 10. Weather conditions have been favorable with no damaging winds and onions are up to good stands and are growing rapidly. About 95 percent of the sets have been planted in Cook County Illinois, the area of major production in Illinois. Planting in all areas of Michigan was completed without serious delay or mishap. The sets have developed very nicely and seeded onions show very good growth. The rains of May 6-12 dispelled fear of wind damage for the present. Barley windbreaks in the more advanced fields will be taken out within the next few days. Dusting for maggot fly has already begun in those areas which regularly encounter this trouble. Colorado onions look promising in all areas. In the important Arkansas Valley growth has been accelerated by recent rains and warm temperatures. The Utah crop is making good progress in all areas. Beneficial rains have occurred, very little frost damage has been reported, and wind damage is negligible compared to last year at this date. The Idaho crop is being weeded. Recent rains have been very beneficial. Stands are spotted in many fields, due to dry weather at seeding time.

ONIONS FOR SETS: (Ill.) In Illinois, most of the seed for sets has been planted and some early seedings are up from 1 to 2 inches.

GREEN PEAS: Early Spring (Calif., Miss., S.C., N.C.) Most of the shipments from California during the last two weeks have been harvested from late fields in the Westside area near Huron and San Joaquin. However, at mid-month harvest began in the Sacramento River district and this area will provide the bulk of the carlot supplies from California during the next two weeks. A rapid expansion in shipments is expected in the River District.

Late Spring: (N.J., Idaho, Wash., N.Mex., Oreg.) The Idaho spring crop is making good growth. Rains during the past two weeks were very helpful. Stands generally are good. In Washington, early transplanted peas are not developing normally. Most of the plants are now in full bloom and some are beginning to develop pods, but the vines are undersized and weak. Yield outlook is poor. The seeded portion of the crop and the plants set out later in the season are making average progress.

Summer: (N.Y., Colo., Idaho) In New York, the unfavorable conditions for early planting delayed some seeding in upstate areas, but this operation was nearly ended by May 15. Early sowings have grown well. The principal Colorado deal in the San Luis Valley is facing a critical moisture deficiency. The ground is too dry for normal germination and there is very little water in storage for irrigation. The small early acreage around Pueblo and Denver is promising.

GREEN PEPPERS: Spring (Fla.) The volume of peppers continued to show a slight decline during the first half of May. Harvesting is nearing completion at Pompano, but this section and the Everglades should continue to ship until around the first of June. The important Plant City section is now in its peak harvest, but this crop has never fully recovered from the excessive rains in March and early April. The acreage around Webster is in fair to good condition and active harvest is now under way. The crops at Sanford and Samsula are in fair to good condition with harvesting just starting. The condition of the crop in the Gainesville area is only fair at this time. Earliest harvesting is expected in late May with the bulk of the crop harvesting in June.

Early Summer: (La., Miss., N.C.) The sweet pepper crop in Louisiana is late but is making good progress. No appreciable movement is expected before the second week of June. Mississippi green peppers got a late start and growth is not up to normal for mid-May. Unless rain comes soon growth will be further retarded. North Carolina's green pepper crop is progressing satisfactorily. Stands are generally good, but some fields are sooty due to cold weather at the time of transplanting. The crop is beginning to put on fruit -- some earlier set plants already have pods about two and one-half inches in diameter. Harvest is expected to begin around the middle of June.

COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES: Early Spring (Tex., Fla.) Weather conditions in the important Hastings section of Florida have continued favorable for harvesting. Peak shipments are over, but digging will continue at a declining rate throughout most of the remainder of the month. Harvesting is about completed at LaGrosse and a few late plantings in the Everglades are still being dug. Yields of most spring potato crops have been good.

Late Spring: (Calif., La., Miss., Ala., Ga., S.C., Tex., Okla., Ark., Tenn., N.C.) Harvesting in Kern County California has been expanded slowly due to existing market conditions and the anticipation of more favorable prices later in the season. About three-fourths of the acreage in the Edison district has been dug. Harvest is picking up in the Arvin district and a few fields in the northern part of Kern County are contributing a light volume to the deal. There will be a declining volume of potatoes moving out of Edison during the next two weeks but

COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES: Late Spring (Cont'd.) increases from other areas will more than offset this decrease. However, shipments during the next two weeks will be substantially lighter than in comparable weeks of recent years due to later planting and the reduced acreage. Potatoes in Kern County are generally of excellent quality and well matured. During the next two weeks harvest will begin in a small way in early fields of Tulare County and on a small early acreage in Fresno County. Digging of some early reds at Blythe began on May 12th and this deal will continue to provide a moderate volume during the next two weeks. Light movement, mostly by truck, continues from the New Roads area of Louisiana. Digging was delayed by rain and demand has been slow. Quality is good but yields light. Volume movement should be over by June 1. Harvest from the small Mississippi acreage is expected to start about May 22. Volume movement is under way from Baldwin and Mobile Counties, Alabama, and digging has started in Escambia County. Peak movement from the southwestern Alabama area is expected to be reached by May 18. In south Georgia, good to excellent growing conditions have prevailed to date, but this crop is beginning to show the effects of dry weather. Light harvest is under way with volume digging expected during the next two weeks. The potato crop in South Carolina is holding up reasonably well but needs rain. Continued dry weather has delayed development and harvest, though under way, is several days later than was expected earlier. Digging should be heavy during the next two weeks. Crops in practically all late spring areas of Texas continued to make good progress during the first half of May. The earliest areas are expected to start harvest soon after the middle of May and some central counties will be in production by May 25. Fairly good yields are in prospect in all areas. Arkansas potatoes are developing satisfactorily except in the White County area where it is too dry. The short Tennessee acreage is making reasonably good growth in the Franklin-Coffee County area. Planting of a drastically reduced acreage is about finished on the Cumberland Plateau. Dry weather is beginning to cause concern among commercial Irish potato growers in North Carolina. Growers throughout the early commercial areas feel that one more good rain will be necessary to assure a good crop. The crop is in good shape even though it has been retarded slightly by dry conditions. Earliest digging is expected in the lower Currituck area about May 25 and 26 and in Carteret about May 28. Heavy movement from these two areas should begin about June 4. In the Mt. Olive area, digging is expected to get under way around June 4 and become general during the week beginning on June 11. Light digging should start in Beaufort and Hyde counties about June 8 to 11 with volume about a week later.

Summer: (Va., Md., Ky., Mo., Kansas, Nebr., Texas., Ga., N.J.) Cultivation of Virginia's crop is going forward in the commercial early producing sections. Cool nights have been favorable for potato growth, and this crop has made good to excellent progress during the first half of May despite below normal rainfall. The weather and soil conditions on the Eastern Shore of Maryland have been very favorable for development of the potato crop. Vines are growing rapidly and plants in earliest fields have up to an eight inch spread. Stand is even in nearly all fields. Dry subsoil makes production of a good crop dependent on continued rainfall. Ground is quite dry on the Eastern Shore but the rainfall on the 11th and 12th provided good moisture for current needs. Most Kentucky fields are up to good stands and growing well. Plants are 5 to 6 inches high and many have been cultivated. Progress of the Texas Panhandle crop was very satisfactory through the middle of May. However, heavy rains in the Hereford and Plainview areas inundated many fields immediately after the middle of the month. It has not been determined what damage, if any, was caused by these rains. Practically all New Jersey fields show plants ^{above ground} with plants in earliest fields about 8 inches high. Plants are healthy and stands even. Rainfall last week was helpful, although some washing was noted in Central Jersey and more rain is needed in South Jersey.

COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES; (Continued)

Other Early Areas: Long Island New York potatoes are progressing satisfactorily. Early potatoes in Idaho are up with stands regular in most fields. The crop is a little later than usual, but it may make this up with favorable growing conditions.

RHUBARB; Spring (Pa.) In Pennsylvania warmer weather at mid-May has increased available supplies of field grown rhubarb in Bucks County. Quality of the crop now moving is excellent.

SPINACH; Spring (Wash., Va., Md., Mo., Ark., Okla., N.J., Pa., Ill.) In Maryland, cutting of fall planted spinach continued through the first half of May but lack of sufficient rainfall in some localities limited production. Harvest of spring spinach has started, but additional showers are needed in some areas for best development. While harvest is practically complete in the Arkansas River Valley of Arkansas the best spinach crop in years is being harvested in Mississippi County. Good yields and quality are being obtained from both winter and spring seedlings in New Jersey. Markets, however, are very discouraging to growers and some of this acreage, as well as a considerable portion of the wintered-over acreage, has been abandoned. Nearly all wintered-over crops in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania are finished and present supplies, except for a few early spring crops, are coming from winter planted acreage. Most spring plantings are late this season but appear in excellent condition, especially where irrigated. Spring sown spinach movement in good volume is expected about May 25. Condition of the crop in southern Illinois is good, but movement is light. In Washington, fresh market outlets are well supplied with good quality spinach, and processors will soon start canning and freezing operations. Yields are expected to be about normal except in those fields which were left in spotted condition by the late April freeze.

Summer: (N.Y., Colo., Wash., N.Eng.) In New York, local market garden spinach has become available and will continue to increase on upstate markets. Practically all the seeding on mucklands for market and processing uses was finished in early May. Local markets in Colorado are amply supplied with excellent quality spinach but a carlot deal is not expected for at least another month. In New England, growing conditions have been very favorable for spinach. Offerings from the wintered-over crops are now well past the peak, but volume marketings from the spring planted crop are just getting under way. Acreage is indicated to be somewhat larger than in 1950.

STRAWBERRIES: Early Spring (La., Ala., Texas, Calif.) Fresh market shipments from Louisiana ended about May 15. Berries are still plentiful and are of good quality, but processing plants are closed at present pending the outcome of negotiations over prices, with growers withholding their berries on account of low prices. The Alabama crop suffered from dry weather during the past two weeks. Picking is about complete in Chilton County and is expected to be finished in the Cullman area this week. Berries have been small but of good quality. Since May 1, most of the berries have gone to processors. In Southern California, the rains of late April caused extensive damage to maturing strawberries and a considerable portion of the crop was lost. Supplies during the first half of May were abnormally light as a result and daily receipts on the Los Angeles market are just now returning to levels normal for this season of the year. However, the peak of production in most Southern California districts has been passed and volume from this area will decline some.

Mid-Spring: (S. C., N. C., Tenn., Ark., Okla., Kans., Mo., Ill., Ky., Va., Md., Del., Calif.) In South Carolina, peak movement is over but there will be a few berries available in the Loris area until around May 25. Volume from North Carolina's crop is decreasing rapidly. Very light offerings are being received at Tabor City and Chadburn where heaviest harvesting occurred during the week beginning May 7. The season's peak was reached at Wallace May 14 with moderate amounts being marketed during the remainder of the week. Very light receipts are expected after May 21 unless dry weather conditions are relieved soon. Quality in all areas has been very good this season. The Tennessee season is about at the peak this week. Berries are moving in volume to the fresh market and to freezers. Rain is badly needed in Middle and West Tennessee. The dry weather will cause a short picking season if not soon relieved by rain. In Arkansas, hot, dry winds in the main White County area have reduced the size of berries and lowered production. Processors are getting most of the berries now being picked. A good quality crop has reached the peak in the Crawford-Sebastian area. The season is about over in the southwest. Volume movement is getting well under way in Searcy County and the harvest is just getting started in the northwest. Harvest has just started in the Villa Ridge, Anna and Cobden areas of Illinois. Movement was light prior to May 16 and big-scale picking will not begin until about May 19. Harvest in the Centralia-Irvington areas is expected to begin about May 24. The berries are ripening rapidly due to the warm weather and abundant sunshine, but size will be seriously affected if moisture isn't forthcoming within the week. The season in Kentucky is a little later than usual due to the cool, backward spring, but recent warm weather and sunshine has hastened ripening. Picking was under way in the southeastern counties Somerset area, on May 15 and is expected to get into full swing in the Bowling Green-Franklin area about May 18. Growers were harvesting Blakemores at mid-May in the important Paducah-Mayfield section of West Kentucky with Tennessee Beauties expected to be ready by May 21. Further upstate, picking will start around Louisville and Bedford early the week of May 21 and by the following week in the Cincinnati area. The Virginia crop ripened rapidly during May and picking is now general in Eastern Shore and Norfolk Counties. Yield per acre and quality of berries are reported to be the best in recent years. Although the crop is needing rain and growers indicate that berries now nearing maturity are sizing small because of the need for moisture, shipments will be heaviest May 20 to June 5. Weather conditions in Maryland and Delaware have been very favorable this spring for the start of the strawberry crop. A heavy set of fruit is rapidly coming into harvest on the Eastern Shore, but additional moisture will be needed for best sizing. A small supply moved to market beginning May 10 from Somerset County, and volume has increased some under favorable weather conditions. Peak supplies will be available during the last week in May. The crop is a week to 10 days earlier than last year. Rains in late April and early in May did considerable damage to mature and

STRAWBERRIES: Mid-Spring (Continued) near mature fruit in producing sections of Central California. Damage was most extensive to the crop in the San Joaquin Valley where the sets of mature fruit were the heaviest at the time of the rains; a considerable portion of the crop in this area was lost. In the Central Coast area only a light first set of fruit was lost. The heavy bloom, which is providing the present true first crop of berries, was not damaged. However, the production of strawberries in this section of California during the past two weeks has been quite light as the result of the damage caused by the rain. Production during the next two weeks in the Central Coast section is expected to increase substantially and the peak of the harvest season should be reached during the last week in May or the first week in June. So far, commercial freezers are taking only limited quantities of strawberries and they have shown little interest in acquiring additional supplies.

Late Spring: (N. J., Pa., Ohio, Ind., N. Y., Mich., Wis., Iowa, Utah, Wash., Ore., N. Eng.) Last week's rains and this week's warm sunny weather have been very beneficial and crop prospects continue to be excellent in all areas of New Jersey. First pickings are expected about May 20 in Cumberland and Atlantic Counties. The Cedarville auction, which features the Lupton variety, expects to open May 23-25, while the Hammonton auction, which features the Sparkle variety, is tentatively scheduled to open May 27. Movement is also expected to start at the Vineland and Landisville auctions at about this same time. Burlington and Monmouth Counties should enter the shipping picture soon after June 1. Strawberries in the southeastern areas of Pennsylvania have a heavy set and prospects look very good. In the northern and most western counties berries look good but are about ten days to two weeks late. A few berry patches in the southern counties may be ready to pick by the last few days of May. Strawberries in Ohio have progressed rapidly during the past two weeks. Frosts injured bloom in some areas, although not seriously. Marketing is expected to begin about June 1 in southern Ohio and about 10 days later in northern areas. Growth in all areas of Michigan has been good and prospects for a normal crop are good. Utah berry growers are looking forward to an excellent crop of strawberries this year. Frost damage has been negligible to date. Dixieland berries in Washington County are near peak of production now and picking will run into first week of June. Picking will start about June 1 in Utah County and about June 7 in Box Elder and Cache Counties. Bloom was excellent in heavy-producing Utah County but only moderately good in northern Utah. Prospects for the Washington crop have improved materially since May 1. Many of the first set of blossoms were killed by the freeze and yield prospects are still subnormal. However, the second and third fruit spurs are generally blossoming heavily. There is great variation in the vigor and foliage development of plants. Weeding, cultivation, and dusting activities are progressing on schedule. Yellows and other diseases are comparatively rare to date. The recent rains were very timely for strawberries. Picking is now expected to start around May 25 in southwestern counties and shortly after June 1 in the Puget Sound area. In New England, strawberries generally are blooming heavily, but a heavy frost on May 14 caused scattered damage in most areas. Some growers suffered heavy loss, but for the entire crop damage is indicated to be less than ten percent and probably not more than five percent. Some winter damage to plants is reported in northern New England, but in general the stand of plants is about average.

TOMATOES: Early Spring (Fla., Texas, Calif.) The comparatively dry weather which has prevailed in Florida since mid-April has been favorable for harvesting. The peak movement of spring shipments occurred during the first half of May in the important Fort Pierce, Manatee-Ruskin, and Central Florida areas.

TOMATOES: Early Spring (Continued) With favorable weather, a good volume is in prospect from this acreage throughout the remainder of the month. Light harvesting is also expected to continue throughout the remainder of the month in the Immokalee-Fort Myers area with scattered shipments from the lower East Coast. Harvesting has started at Webster. A crop of good quality is in prospect. On the higher lands, from Oxford to Ocala, the crop has suffered from lack of rain and prospective yields on this acreage will be cut considerably unless rains come very soon. Harvesting in the Ocala area should commence the week of May 21. The Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas finally got some good rains over the week-end of May 12, and more favorable growing weather prevailed during the second week in May. Many of the late plantings are expected to be helped, but with the season being four to five weeks later than usual, the overall production will be light. The first solid car was shipped May 15, whereas this area has shipped as early as the latter part of March in recent years, with fairly active movement during the early part of April. Although shipments will show a gradual increase, volume movement is not expected until around May 25. California production in the Desert areas has increased substantially during the past two weeks as more acreage became available for harvest and as fruit matured more rapidly due to warmer weather. Heavy production is expected to continue for the next two weeks and increases in daily shipments out of both districts are likely. While the major portion of the crop has been moving into local markets by truck, a few cars of green wrapped tomatoes are now being loaded in Imperial Valley each day. This movement is apt to show some increase during the next two weeks.

Late Spring (Texas, La., Miss., S. C., Ga., Ala.) Most late spring crops in Texas made very good progress during the first half of April. Prospective production is poor for the two usually earliest areas of production-Falfurrias and Ingleside-because of unfavorable weather early in the season. Crops in the Yoakum area also got a slow start and are a few days later than usual. This area has had favorable moisture and good growing weather during the past three weeks and, with the increased acreage this year, a good crop is in prospect. There is considerable acreage in the early sections of east Texas that hold a good early set and is expected to be in production the latter part of May. Prospects at mid-May pointed to a good crop in these early areas of east Texas. Conditions during the past two weeks have been favorable in the later areas of east Texas to set fruit and, although a little late, there will be some production the early part of June. Most of the crop in the Avery section, extreme northeastern area, has been set to the fields. Some resetting has been necessary. These crops have made slow growth but this area has a good moisture reserve and, with warmer weather, some of the delay may be overcome. Mississippi tomatoes got a late start and harvest will likely not begin until about mid-June. Soils are becoming too dry and rain is needed. The crop in South Carolina was in good condition on May 15. Green wrap movement is expected to get under way about June 1 and reach peak by mid-June. The Georgia crop is beginning to need rain as the vines are at the crucial stages where they need moisture to produce good quality tomatoes. Light harvesting is expected around the last of May. In Alabama recent weather has been favorable for development of the crop. Presence of fruit worms and blight have been reported but farmers have held damage to a minimum by dusting.

Early Summer (Calif., Ark., Tenn., N. C., Va., Ky., Ill., Mo., Ohio, Md., Del.) In Arkansas, tomatoes are making good progress in Bradley and Drew Counties and in the west central area. Field setting is under way in the northwest. Plants in the Tennessee commercial area have all been set. Stands are good but not much growth has been made due to the dry weather. Most of the Virginia commercial acreage has been set in eastern counties and transplanting in all sections will practically

TOMATOES: Early Summer (Continued) be completed by the last week in May. Plants in fields are growing slowly and rain is needed to get the young plants well started. About 80 percent of the plants have been set out in Union County area of Illinois. Condition of the plants is good, but moisture is seriously needed. In southeastern Ohio, transplanting to fields was practically finished by May 15, which is about the usual time. Progress of the transplanted acreage has been satisfactory. Setting of plants in the Fresh Market Green Wrap area of Maryland started early under generally favorable seed bed conditions. However, several sunny, windy days during the first half of May caused newly set plants to wilt down before getting rooted. Showers on the 11th and 12th greatly benefitted the crop in the Somerset-Wicomico area. Cut worms have been active and caused considerable damage. In the western part of the State, setting of plants is well along and plants are doing nicely although fields set the last couple of days during the high temperatures show considerable wilting. Unless hot, dry weather should persist, these recently set fields will recover satisfactorily, and the crop will be off to a good start.

Late Summer: (N. J., Wash., Pa., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Iowa, N. Y., Mich., Colo., Utah, Ore., Ala.) In Pennsylvania, market tomatoes set out in late April and early May are making good growth. Canning crops are now being planted in the central and northern areas. In the south they are still planting though many were planted May 10-15. About 20 percent of the plants have been set out in the late summer areas of Illinois. In Michigan, transplanting of plants to the field from cold frames has progressed rapidly in the southwest. Other areas report normal progress. Some early planted tomatoes in market-garden sections of New York suffered frost injury May 4, 13 and 14. However, only a small proportion of the plants had been set. Field setting, increasing after the rains of May 10-12, will be rapid during the second half of the month.

WATERMELONS: Late Spring (Calif., Fla.) A few watermelons have been picked from early acreage at Calipatria in California, but so far no carlots or truck lots have been loaded in the Imperial Valley. It is likely that the first car will be loaded during the week of May 20. While cool weather has been retarding development of the crop at Blythe, condition is excellent. Harvest is not expected to begin there until about June 1. In Florida, the crop in the area south of Gainesville has suffered considerably from lack of rain during the past month. Growth has been slow and is considerably behind normal. Harvest in the South Florida areas has been in progress since late April and early plantings at Leesburg started the week of May 7. However, the movement to date has been very light. Active harvesting should get under way in the Leesburg area the week of May 21 with heaviest production coming in early June. Harvesting is expected to begin in the McIntosh-Newberry-Trenton-Gainesville area around June 5-10. The Live Oak and West Florida sections should start the week of June 18 and be in peak production the last week in June and the first week of July.

Early Summer (Calif., Ariz., Texas, La., Miss., Ala., Ga., S. C., N. C., Ark., Okla., Mo.) Progress has been satisfactory in Arizona, although slowed slightly by the cool weather. Vines are in good condition but harvest is still about a month away. In Texas, considerable improvement is reported for many of the early and midseason areas as a result of fairly good rains and better growing weather. The Falfurrias section, usually the first area in production, lost some of their early acreage during the late April period of high winds. Remaining crops, however, have made good progress the past two weeks and considerable acreage is expected to be in production starting May 28-30. The Laredo irrigated section, and light plantings in the irrigated Winter Garden, should furnish a light harvest

WATERMELONS: Early Summer (Continued) starting late in May. Crops in most other early areas are somewhat later than usual. Moisture conditions in these other early areas were improved materially the past week and, with good growing weather the balance of May, there should be considerable acreage in production by June 7-10. Crops in central and eastern counties have continued to make good vine growth and show promise of production about the usual time-- starting late in June, with peak production early in July. Progress of the crop in most late areas has been satisfactory. The Georgia crop is needing rain in the main producing areas. Vine growth has been slow due to the late cold spring and dry weather, and harvesting is expected to run one to two weeks later than last year. In South Carolina, stands are uneven in most fields. Stages of growth range from just beginning to bunch to having short runners. Dry, cool and windy weather is retarding growth and rain is needed. Planting is about finished in North Carolina. The crop has not come up very well due to dry weather and considerable replanting has been necessary. Growth has been slow in Arkansas and bugs are numerous in the Hope area.

Late Summer (Va., Md., Del., N. J., Ind., Ill., Iowa, Ore., Wash., Colo.)
The favorable growing conditions in Maryland and Delaware this spring have given watermelons a good start. Fields are in very good condition and stand is excellent in nearly all fields. Primary leaves are developing rapidly. Farmers have been dusting and spraying more than usual and weather conditions have made control measures effective. Plantings have been made in all major producing areas of Illinois and earliest fields are up from 1 to 2 inches.

LATE REPORT FOR NORTH CAROLINA - SNAP BEANS: Late Spring North Carolina's late spring snap bean crop is now in full bloom in practically all areas and is beginning to put on young beans. Dry weather has come at a critical time and the crop will not develop properly unless rain is received soon. Light picking is expected during the last week of May with volume movement beginning the first week of June.

BEETS: Spring Shipments are still in progress from the small beet acreage, but volume has been reduced by dry weather. Harvest is expected to continue through May. Quality is good.

CABBAGE: Late Spring Harvesting of late spring cabbage is making strong headway at present. Cutting is about two-thirds completed in Carteret and about one-fourth completed in Pamlico and Beaufort Counties. Quality is good. Cutting has just begun in the Currituck and Weeksville areas with peak harvest expected about the last of May.