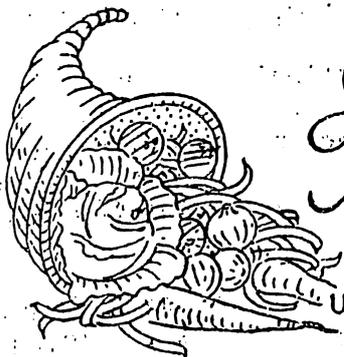


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Commercial Truck Crops

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
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COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET TRUCK CROP NEWS - OCTOBER 1, 1951

On October 1 and 2 a tropical storm with extremely heavy rainfall severely damaged commercial truck crops in the southern half of Florida, but elsewhere in the Nation truck crops for fall harvest have generally made favorable progress since mid-September, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. Killing frosts occurred in many northern producing areas during the last week of September, but harvest of most tender crops had already been completed. In most southern areas other than in Florida, weather was favorable for continued planting and development of fall and winter crops. In Texas, however, planting is somewhat behind the usual schedule.

Dry weather and light frosts during the last week of September in Pennsylvania and parts of New Jersey and killing frosts in New England and most areas of New York hastened the end of the season for most late summer vegetables. In New Jersey, however, peppers continue in heavy volume and supplies of such fall crops as lettuce, cabbage, and cauliflowers are increasing. In New England, moisture supplies have continued adequate and fall crops have made excellent progress. Harvest of late summer vegetables is mostly completed in the North Central States. Frosts in this area did not generally occur until the last few days of September and damage was not severe.

In the South Atlantic States moisture supplies on October 1 ranged from very short in the northern part of the region to excessive in Florida. The early October storm passed over the southern half of Florida with rainfall ranging from 7 to 10 inches in the Fort Myers, Immokalee, Everglades, and Okeechobee areas. The Pompano, West Palm Beach areas on the lower East Coast reported about 4 inches for the two-day period. The full extent of damage has not yet been determined, but there is adequate time before fall harvest to replant most of the completely lost acreage.

In Texas, favorable weather has materially improved prospects for fall and winter crops. The fall acreages of beans, eggplant, peppers, and squash are a little later than usual, but tomatoes in several areas are well advanced. In Louisiana, conditions during the last half of September were favorable for all vegetables other than cucumbers which were damaged by heavy rains.

In Washington, dry weather prevailed in some areas during the last half of September, but irrigation has been generally sufficient to bring on most crops. Timely showers in the Willamette Valley of Oregon have benefited the fall cabbage, carrot, and cauliflower crops. In California, conditions during the last half of September were generally favorable. Harvest of California summer crops is mostly completed, but harvest has started, or will get under way during the first half of October, for such fall crops as tomatoes, lettuce, carrots, and celery.

ARTICHOKES: Winter, 1952 Season (Calif.) Harvest is continuing in Monterey, San Cruz and San Mateo Counties but the volume of production has been at a low level. Some increase is expected in October but the volume is not large during the fall months. In addition to supplies being moved to local markets occasional shipments are being made in mixed cars to out-of-state points.

LIMA BEANS: Summer (N.C., Md., N.J., N.Y.) Daily movement continues to decline. New Jersey and only light supplies are available, mostly in Cedarville section.

Fall: (Va.) The fall Fordhook crop in Virginia is needing rain and growth is slow at this time. Set of beans on vines in early planted fields is below average due to a dry September. Picking will start around the middle of October.

Winter, 1952 Season (Fla.) Planting of the early crop in the Pompano-Delray section was very light during September due to the drouth conditions. However, planting is expected to become active during early October in that that area has good soil moisture.

SNAP BEANS: Early Fall (N.J., Md., Va., N.C., S.C., Miss., La., Calif.) The fall crop will be light this year as extremely dry weather sharply reduced production in the important Burlington county. The Cumberland county crop is in better condition but only fair yields are expected. Harvest in Virginia is now general. Due to exceptionally light rainfall during the last two weeks, growth has been slow and the quality has been only average. Heaviest picking will occur during the month of October with the end of the harvest season coming about November 15. Condition of the fall crop in North Carolina is good. Stands are fair but rather spotted due to dry weather at planting time. The crop is about two weeks later than normal. Picking is under way but due to the prolonged planting season, no market peak is expected. Quality of beans is good. The heaviest movement is expected during the second week of October. Some plantings are just coming up and may be caught by frost. Fall beans in South Carolina are in very good condition and are being harvested under favorable weather conditions. Peak movement is expected by mid-October. The greater portion of the Louisiana fall crop was planted late as a result of the extreme drouth during the latter part of August and the first part of September. Late plantings are reported to be in fair to good condition. There are light express shipments at the present time and carlot movement should begin between October 10 and 15. In California supplies are originating in San Diego, Los Angeles and San Jose districts and are going principally to local markets. Fields in the San Joaquin Valley are just coming into production and this area will supply a small volume during October.

Late Fall: (Fla., Tex.) In North and Central Florida, plantings were materially reduced from that of last fall. It is expected that the heavy rains in the McIntosh and Sanford sections have caused considerable loss of acreage and materially reduced the yield prospects on the crops which survived. Scattered picking was expected to start in the McIntosh section in early October. In the Sanford section, the earliest fields were expected to be ready for picking to start around October 10 to 20, but the outcome of this crop is still very much in doubt and harvesting of the acreage which survives will no doubt be delayed. In the important Everglades section, where the rainfall was extremely heavy, active planting had been in progress for about two weeks. Early reports indicate that losses to this crop will be extensive and heavy replanting will be necessary. This area is well equipped with pumps for taking the water from the field and if no further heavy rains occur, active planting will be resumed within a very short time. Earlier indications were

SNAP BEANS: Late Fall (Cont'd.) for a slight reduction in acreage in this important area, but it is not known at this time just what effect the recent losses will have on the final fall acreage. In the Pompano section, the prolonged period of dry weather prevented growers from carrying out any plans they may have had for a real early crop. Some early plantings were made but the extent of this acreage is relatively small. Early reports are to the effect that the recent heavy rains caused a relatively minor damage. Now that soil moisture conditions have been improved, active planting is expected to get under way in early October. The pole bean crop in the Manatee-Ruskin section has had numerous setbacks from unfavorable weather and considerable replanting has been necessary. The most recent heavy rains did further damage and early reports indicate that a good portion of the crop will have to be replanted, although some fields came through in relatively good shape. In Texas, most of the fall crop acreage planted for fresh markets is usually in the east end of the Lower Valley, where plantings this year are very light and somewhat later than usual. Part of the reduction in this area is offset by some increase in the Eagle Pass and Laredo sections, and a fair-sized acreage in the San Antonio area which is well advanced. A light harvest is expected to begin at San Antonio by the latter part of October, and all sections will be in production by the early part of November.

BEETS: Summer (N.J., Pa., N.Eng.) In New Jersey, moderate volumes of bunched beets will continue to be available in the northeast market ^{garden} sections until frost, after which time topped supplies will be offered. Both bunched and topped beets continue to move in steady volume from the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania. Most irrigated fields of late beets look good. Yields may be less than in recent years especially in non-irrigated fields. The condition of the late crop in New England is excellent and supplies are plentiful. Marketings are expected to remain steady or show a slight increase during the first half of October.

Winter, 1952 Season: (Texas) Prospects for early supplies are limited to a small acreage in the Winter Garden and San Antonio sections of Texas. Early plantings in the important Lower Valley section are light and total plantings for the season are expected to show a material reduction from the usual level. Some of this reduction will be offset by plantings in the non-irrigated Coastal Band where moisture conditions are now favorable, and some acreage will be seeded as soon as growers can get into the fields.

BROCCOLI: Fall (Calif., N.Eng., Wash.) In California, supplies increased gradually during the past two weeks as additional acreage reached maturity. Production is originating in the Salinas, Castroville and Santa Maria districts and should increase substantially late in October when the heaviest harvest period is expected to begin on the fall acreage. Many freezers will start receiving supplies during this period. The peak harvest of one of the best fall broccoli crops of recent years in New England is expected during the last half of October. In Washington, harvest continues at Monroe in Snohomish county. Additional fields in King, Pierce and Thurston Counties are making good yields.

CABBAGE: Summer (14 States) Harvest in the major Cook County area of Illinois continues in volume. Quality and yield are both good. Harvesting of North Carolina's late summer crop is drawing to a close. Dry weather throughout the growing season hastened maturity and by October 1 only a few late plantings remained. In Utah, harvest is progressing on the fresh market acreage in Salt Lake, Utah and Sanpete Counties. Yields are expected to be below average. Harvest is expected to continue until about November 1. About one-third of the acreage being grown for kraut in Morgan County has been cut. Both yields and quality are good.

CABBAGE: Summer (Cont'd.) Domestic type cabbage in Pennsylvania is about over in all areas and there are very few offerings available.

Early Fall, Domestic: (N.Y., N.J., Mich., Wis., Wash., N.Eng.) Volume supplies are available in scattered northern and central sections of New Jersey. The north Jersey crop is generally in good condition and yielding well, but production in central Jersey has been reduced by dry weather. Movement has been fairly good as the small heads appeal to the trade. The domestic crop in Michigan is nearing the end of harvest. In Wisconsin, most of the early fresh market cabbage has been harvested in the Racine-Kenosha district. Movement in that area for both fresh market and kraut cabbage continues at a slow pace. Harvest for kraut is well under way in the Brown-Outagamie district and so far the movement to market has been active. Quality of cabbage in all areas is very good. In Washington, harvest in King and Pierce counties has been very steady during the past two weeks. Several large fields in Pierce County will be cut for kraut in the next two weeks. Quality continues generally good in this area in spite of some reports of club root and aphid. In the Spokane district the late crop looks very good. Insect infestation has been negligible. Some sizes are running very large in the Puget Sound area. Most fields in New England, are in excellent condition but black rot is reported in a few scattered localities. Marketings will continue heavy throughout October.

Early Fall, Danish: (N.Y., Pa., Ohio, Ind., Mich., Wis., Minn., Colo.) Danish cabbage is moving rapidly in Pennsylvania. Rains about mid-month in the Waterford (Erie County) area came too late to be of much benefit. Crop in low spots are fair but on high ground heads are poor due to lack of moisture. Aphid are very troublesome. In other western areas Danish cabbage is not heading well but some late fields are green and may come later on if they receive more moisture. In a few eastern localities recent light rains helped develop quality and weight of late crops. The Danish crop in Ohio was damaged by dry weather earlier in the season, but it has made fairly good growth during the past two weeks. Harvesting will continue until mid-November. The Danish crop in Michigan is being harvested and yields are good. In Wisconsin, condition of Danish cabbage is good although quality is not expected to reach the high standards this year's domestic crop. Good yields are in prospect for the late crop. Harvest should be under way in most areas in about two weeks. The major part of the Minnesota crop has been cut in the Hollandale and Minneapolis-St. Paul areas. Favorable weather in these areas speeded growth so the marketing period will be shorter than usual. Tonnage from now on will consist mainly of late seeded acreages, recuttings, and kraut cabbage. Progress of storage cabbage in Carlton county continues unfavorable because of excessive rains and cool weather. A poor crop is expected and some fields will probably be abandoned.

Late Fall: (Oreg., Va., N.C., S.C.) Because of the drouth in Oregon sizes of heads already cut in that State were relatively small, but compact and of good quality. Recent rains were in time to add more tonnage to the late fall crop. Indications point to an adequate supply for local markets until the first of next year. Growth of Virginia fall cabbage has been retarded because of inadequate rainfall. However, the crop has not suffered a serious setback and if rains come in early October, average yields may still be realized. Cutting will start around mid-October. Condition of North Carolina's late fall crop is good. Moisture supplies are adequate and heads are making good growth. The crop is about two to three weeks late, and movement prior to November 1 is expected to be very light. Some cutworm infestations are reported but damage to date has been very light. Growers are concerned over the lateness of the crop, and fear part of the later plantings may be lost prior to harvest. There is a definite movement toward Danish varieties this year, with upward of 60 percent of the acreage set with Danish cabbage and the balance in flat Dutch. In South Carolina, the fall crop improved during the last

CABBAGE: Late Fall (Cont'd.) two weeks and is now considered in good condition. With ample soil moisture and plenty of sunshine, the crop should continue to make good progress. Harvest is expected to begin around October 25.

Winter, 1952 Season: (Calif., Ariz., Tex., Fla.) In Texas, the usually important Lower Valley area has only a very small acreage transplanted and plant supplies for later acreages are much lighter than usual. Prospects point to a small acreage for December harvest and an uncertainty of total acreage for the season. Conditions in the Valley are now favorable and a heavy acreage could be seeded direct, but this is doubtful because of the limited supply of local help and growers' plans for another large acreage of early summer field crops. Present plans indicate that most of this season's cabbage crop in the Valley will be for mid-winter harvest. There is a small acreage in the Laredo, Winter Garden and San Antonio irrigated areas that is in good condition, and a light cutting should start the latter part of November. Most of this production will be taken by nearby markets. Conditions are favorable for planting cabbage in the non-irrigated Coastal Bend. Additional rains followed those that broke the long drought and only a small acreage was planted the latter part of September. Planting in the Coastal Bend is expected to start the early part of October but the increased acreage in this area will not offset the expected decrease in the Lower Valley. Prior to the recent heavy rains in Florida planting of seed beds for early setting was fairly heavy. Weather conditions during September had not been favorable and considerable trouble had been experienced in growing plants. Losses from the recent storm are expected to be rather heavy and much replanting will be necessary. In the important Hastings section, many beds were reported to be covered by water, but a satisfactory appraisal of the situation in this area is not available at this time; At Sanford, it is not expected that many beds were lost outright, but the plants were damaged by the heavy rains. In the Everglades, the extent of the damage is undeterminable at this time, but from early reports it is reasonable to assume that the loss to early seedings will be extensive. Seeding of early acreage in this section was much heavier than usual.

CANTALOUPE: Summer (24 States) Harvesting of the mid-summer crop in California is practically completed although a few late fields will provide some cars during the coming week. Quality has been very good throughout the season. Casaba melons which have been in light supply during September should move in fair volume during October if there is a market for this type of melon. Supplies will come from Turlock and the Sacramento Valley area. The bulk of the Illinois crop has been harvested but a few fields, mainly in the Cook County area, are still producing quite heavily. Harvest is expected to be completed by October 12th on Utah's only commercial carlot shipping deal at Greenriver. Yield and quality are very good. Harvest of the Hearts-O-Gold crop in the Spokane Valley of Washington is rapidly approaching completion. Quality continues very good, but the total crop will be considerably below previous years in production. Scattered supplies are still available at Opportunity, Washington. Frost on September 25 and 26 will hasten completion of harvest.

CARROTS: Summer (4 States) Most present and future supplies in New Jersey will originate in the northeast market garden sections. Both topped and bunched carrots are at present available. Harvesting of good quality carrots in Ohio will continue active throughout October and early November with some storage for winter sales.

CARROTS: Fall (Calif., Oreg., Wash., Utah, N.Mex., Minn., Ill., Mich., Pa., N.Y., N.Eng.) Carrot shipments from California have shown some increase during the past two weeks and heavier shipments are expected during the next two weeks as production declines in competing areas and an increasing acreage becomes available in California. Somewhat heavier supplies are available than are indicated in daily shipment figures, since a little volume is being moved in mixed cars, primarily with lettuce. Quality of roots being piled at the present time ranges from fair to good. Most fields are being harvested for bunching, while topped stock is in light supply. In Oregon, warm showers of the past week followed by soaking rains as the month closed were in time to add more tonnage to the late fall carrot crop. Indications point to an adequate supply for local markets until the first of next year. Supplies from King and Pierce Counties in Washington continue very steady. Quality is generally good. Minor supplies of late carrots remaining in the Walla Walla district are making good progress. Supplies from the Spokane district will hit the late market about October 15. With ample storage space marketings will continue to move through early Spring. Scattered plantings in the Yakima Valley may not be harvested until late October. In Utah, harvest will be completed in Sevier County by October 15 if favorable weather holds. Weather has been ideal for harvesting to date. In Iron County harvest is nearly completed. Yield per acre for both Sevier and Iron counties will be below average. Acreage is also below average so crop will be small. Harvest of the Illinois crop continues. Volume pulling has been under way since the first part of September. Harvest in Michigan is gaining momentum and should reach volume proportions very soon. Prospects for fall carrots in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania continue fair to good. Light supplies from early fields are being marketed. Leaf blight damage has become quite severe in some areas, especially in southern New England, but non-blighted fields have made excellent growth. Supplies of cut-off carrots during the first half of October are expected to be heavier than in recent years. Good quality bunched carrots will continue to be available in moderate volume.

Winter, 1952 Season: (Calif., Ariz., Tex., La.) There is considerable early-planted carrot acreage in the Winter Garden of Texas but this area does not plan to have the usual acreage for late season harvest. Present plans are to have most of the carrot acreage for the season harvested by late March or early April, or about two months earlier than usual. Plantings in the Lower Valley for early season harvest are very light and the acreage for later season harvest is expected to be reduced materially. The area around San Antonio will have some production by mid-November and will continue in production throughout the mid-winter season. A light acreage is expected in the Coastal Bend since conditions in that area are now favorable, but production in this area will not be an important part of the State total.

CAULIFLOWER: Summer (N.J., N.Y., Colo.) In New Jersey, movement is slowly increasing in central areas where most of the late crop is grown. The dry weather has resulted in very slow growth and therefore peak supplies for the late crop are not expected until late this month. Recent cooler weather has been very beneficial but the crop needs rain badly.

Fall: (N.Y., Mich., Oreg., N.Eng.) Harvest continues in both the southeast and southwest areas of Michigan. Quality is very good. In Oregon drought has reduced sizes of heads but quality is good. Recent rains were in time to add more tonnage to the late fall crop and an adequate supply for local markets is expected during the rest of the year. In New England harvest of an excellent crop is approaching the peak with heavy marketings expected throughout October.

CAULIFLOWER: Winter, 1952 Season (Calif., Ariz., Tex., Fla.) Although a small volume of early California cauliflower has been moving out-of-state from the Santa Maria district most of the production to date has been utilized in local markets. California will not be a factor in the cauliflower deal until about October 15 when cutting of Snowball gets under way in the Bassett-Puente area of Los Angeles County. Plantings made for fall and winter harvest are in good condition in all sections. Several freezers will start processing Snowball cauliflower from the Southern California district during the next two weeks. In Texas, most of this year's cauliflower crop will come from the Winter Garden, Eagle Pass and San Antonio sections. Plantings in the Valley are very light and very little acreage for later harvest is expected. Most of this year's crop will be for harvest during December and January. Up to the time of the recent heavy rains, seed beds in the Manatee-Ruskin and Sanford-Winter Garden sections of Florida were generally in fair condition. No definite reports covering the damage have been received to date, but it is reasonable to assume that the heavy rains caused some damage and delay.

CELERY: Early Fall: (N.Y., Pa., Ohio, Mich., Colo., Utah, Wash., N.Eng.) Celery in the central counties of Pennsylvania is in good condition but sizes are generally small due to the dry season. Quality is very good. Light supplies from widely scattered acreages will move to market through October, with an increase to relatively heavy marketings expected by early November. Supplies in Ohio will decline after mid-October, but a limited and declining volume will be available until late December. The celery deal in the Muskegon area of Michigan is now over except for a few small fields. Late harvest in the Hudsonville, Decatur, and the Inlay City areas of the State continues in volume. In Utah weather to date has been ideal for harvest and no frost damage has occurred. The Sanpete county crop was struck with black heart and tip burn in mid-August, and abandonment will be heavy. Harvest should be completed on green celery by October 15. In Utah County harvest will continue until October 20, weather permitting. Some acreage is quite late and might get caught by frost. Trenching of Utah's bleached celery, approximately 100 acres will start about the third week of October. Marketing will be mostly for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. In Washington scattered fields at Spokane are in very good condition. Harvest will begin about October 15 and continue until frost. Storage facilities will be utilized for steady winter marketings. Harvest in the Puget Sound district continues rapidly, but movement is very slow. Quality is good to excellent. Some local cuttings will continue until November 15, weather permitting. The New England crop shows very good conditions in all areas. Moderately heavy marketings are indicated throughout October, normally the period of heaviest movement for the fall crop.

Late Fall: (Calif., N.J.) Harvest in California started in a small way in the San Jose and Salinas districts during the past week, and is continuing in the Santa Maria-Oceano district. There will be an increase in supplies moving from California during the next two weeks and heavy shipments are expected during the last half of October as the Delta district comes into production. Quality is generally good although some production is being lost due to various defects. Moderate but increasing supplies are available in scattered northern sections of New Jersey.

Winter, 1952 Season: (Fla., Calif., Ariz.) Most Florida celery farms are equipped with excellent irrigation and drainage facilities. The Everglades, Sarasota, Sanford, and Zellwood sections have all been subjected to recent heavy rains with the Everglades receiving the greater amount, but no definite reports are available on the extent of the damage. It is reasonable to assume that some losses were incurred, but they are not expected to be of major importance. Some replanting will probably be necessary and a shortage of plants could occur. The plant situation at Sanford was tight prior to these heavy rains.

SWEET CORN: Summer (N.J., N.Y., Pa., N.Eng., Wash) Movement is over in New Jersey except for very light supplies from scattered late plantings throughout north Jersey. In Pennsylvania late sweet corn from sprayed fields is of good quality. Movement of the crop will be over about mid-October. In New England frost on September 29 in all but a few localities virtually ended the sweet corn season. Harvest is progressing very rapidly in western counties of Washington. Most growers report good crops in King, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston and Whatcom counties.

Fall: (Fla.) In Florida most of the early acreage was located in the Everglades. Planting had been in progress since early September. It is reasonable to assume from early reports that considerable damage resulted from the recent heavy rains, but there is still sufficient time to replant for fall harvest.

CUCUMBERS: Early Fall (La., Ga., S.C.) The Louisiana crop as a whole has been very poor with a large portion of the crop lost as a result of rains and plant disease. Shipments have passed the peak with only a small portion of the crop left to be marketed. In South Carolina, reports indicate some poor stands of fall cucumbers, but as a whole the crop is in good condition and harvesting is well under way. Peak movement is expected during the week of October 8.

Late Fall: (Fla.) Prior to the recent heavy rains, prospects were good in the early producing Wauchula, Webster, and Winter Garden sections of Florida. It is not expected that there will be much outright loss of acreage as a result of the storm in these sections, but it is very probable that yields will be materially reduced. Harvesting is under way at Wauchula, with the peak movement expected to develop around the middle of October. Harvesting is expected to start in the Webster-Winter Garden area around October 5, with volume production expected by October 15 to 20. Early reports from the Manatee-Ruskin section indicate damage from the recent rains will cause some replanting although some fields came through in relatively fair condition. There is quite a wide range in the age of the crops in this section with the earliest harvest expected in late October, while the bulk of the crop will move in November and early December. At Fort Myers, early reports indicate very severe damage with extensive loss of acreage. Most of the crop in this area was comparatively young with harvest expected to begin about the first of November. Most of this acreage will probably have to be replanted. Early reports from Immokalee indicate that losses were very high on the small acreage planted to date. Seeding is expected to be active in this section during the next two or three weeks. In the Fort Pierce-Indiantown area, the acreage planted prior to October 1 was very light and the losses are not expected to be serious. Additional acreage will be planted in October. Small plantings have been made at Pompano and about the usual acreage is expected in this section.

EGGPLANT: Summer (La., N.J.) Moderate supplies are available in many sections of New Jersey, with heavy movement occurring only in the Vineland section of the State, where the Highbush variety is featured.

Fall: (Fla., Tex.) In Florida early indications were for a slightly increased acreage over that harvested last fall, but the recent heavy rains will no doubt change this situation due to the expected losses in the Fort Myers area. The acreage in North Florida, mainly around McIntosh, is slightly larger but the excessive rains have damaged prospects. A light harvest is now in progress. The Wauchula section has a reduced acreage with the earliest harvesting expected around mid-October. A slight increase over last year is indicated in the Manatee-Ruskin section. Most of this acreage is young and while some damage is anticipated, the

EGGPLANT: Fall (Continued) . . . crop could recover with favorable weather. Plantings at Fort Myers showed a slight reduction and most of the acreage had been set prior to the recent heavy rains. It is reasonable to assume that considerable damage was done to the crop both from acreage lost and delay to that which survived. Seeding was slightly heavier than normal in the Pompano section, but the extremely dry weather during September caused poor germination and considerable loss in seed beds. Setting to the field has been light, but a few fields which were transplanted early are making fair to good progress. Texas eggplant, which is usually available starting the early part of October, is not expected to be available until after the middle of the month and not in volume until early November. Most of this year's crop will come from the Laredo and Winter Garden sections. Plantings in the Valley have been very light, and no additional plantings are expected at this late date.

ESCAROLE: Winter, 1952 Season (Fla.) Seeding of escarole was fairly active during the second half of September in all of the major producing sections of Florida. The earliest acreage is on the muck at Zellwood. Transplanting was in progress at Sanford at the time of the recent heavy rains and seeding had been active in the Everglades since late September. No definite reports are available on the condition of these crops at this time. Some losses are expected in the Everglades where the water was not pumped off immediately, but no extensive losses are expected.

HONEY DEW MELONS: Summer (Ariz., Calif.) Shipments of California honeydews are declining and a further decrease in daily volume is expected during the first half of October. The bulk of the production during the next two weeks will come from the Sacramento Valley. Several late planted fields will come into production in the lower San Joaquin Valley about mid-month but shipments from that area should not offset the decline from present volume.

LETTUCE: Fall (Calif., Oreg., Wash., Ida., Utah, N.Mex., N.J., N.Eng.) Daily shipments of California lettuce increased moderately during the past week. Sizes are currently running proportionately heavy to five dozens. Improvement both in quality and sizes is expected during the next two weeks as younger fields become available for cutting. Cutting, packing, and shipping of the Malheur County, Oregon crop, got under way during late September. Moderate daily supplies are expected until mid-November. In Washington, generally cooler weather and rain have been very beneficial and cutting will continue steady until frost. Peak harvest on many late fields will be reached about October 15. In the Walla Walla district harvest will start about October 10. Most fields look very good, but some tipburn has been caused by generally warm dry weather. In Utah favorable weather during September has offset some of the damage done by early August rains. Harvesting will continue up to first heavy freeze which is usually about mid-October. No serious frost damage has occurred yet. In New Jersey moderate volumes of Boston, Romaine and Iceberg lettuce are available in the northeastern market garden sections and in monmouth county. Moderate volumes of Romaine will be available throughout most of October in the Cedarville section. The important Cedarville Iceberg deal is just getting under way with volume supplies expected about the 15th of October and with peak movement about November first. Lettuce is in fairly good condition throughout the State and quality is improving daily as a result of cooler nights. The fall lettuce crop in southern New England is progressing satisfactorily, although many fields would benefit from additional moisture. Marketings of Iceberg type lettuce will be very light during the first half of October, but Boston type lettuce supplies should continue adequate for trade needs.

LETTUCE: Winter, 1952 Season (Ariz., Calif., Fla., Tex.) In Texas, present prospects point to a reduced acreage of lettuce in the Lower Valley. Plantings for early season harvest, which usually starts in early December, are very light and should any change from present plans develop, the bulk of the plantings would be for January harvest. Most growers want their land available by mid-February for planting early summer field crops. A fair-sized acreage is now growing in the Laredo and Winter Garden sections, and crops are making good progress. Growers in these areas now plan for distinct early and late season harvests to avoid the usual mid-winter low temperatures, and plantings for late season harvest this year may exceed those of a year ago. Increased plantings in the Winter Garden and at Laredo probably will not offset the expected decrease in the Lower Valley.

ONIONS: Late Summer (Mass., N.Y., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mich., Wis., Minn., Ia., Kans., Colo., Utah, Nev., Calif., Ida., Oreg., Wash., Ariz.) Harvesting has been completed in Ohio. In spite of the dry weather during the growing season the crop turned out well and the quality is excellent. A few late fields remain to be pulled in Illinois but for all practical purposes harvest is complete. Harvest is now complete in all Michigan areas. The onion harvest is nearing completion in the Racine-Kenosha District of Wisconsin. Digging is well under way in other areas of the State and has proceeded without too much delay in spite of the wet weather. Proper curing, however, has been a problem. Damage from neck rot and mildew is widespread this year. Nearly all of the Minnesota crop has been topped but movement to market and storage has been slow because of constantly recurring rains. Quality and yields vary greatly in the important Hollandale area but are generally well below average. The crop in the Moorhead section, however, is well above average. Pulling is in progress in most Utah areas and onions are drying in the fields. Very little marketing has occurred and most of the crop will go into storage to be marketed throughout the fall and winter. Harvesting of the California late-summer crop is rapidly being completed with only a small acreage remaining. A fair volume is being shipped from all producing districts, and quite a volume of good quality onions are moving into storage. Much of the present shipments are Australian Browns from the Salinas area destined for export. Harvest of the western Oregon crop was completed under almost ideal conditions for curing and storing. Topping is now under way. A small part of the Malheur county crop remains for harvest, but should be complete in the next 7-10 days. Harvest weather was also very good in this area. The late onion deal is moving along rapidly in the Moses Lake district of Washington. Quality is very good and only little rot has been reported. Sizes are grading heavy to 3-inch and many jumbos causing somewhat of a short run on mediums. Harvest is expected to end about October 20. Harvest in the Yakima Valley is nearing completion. Quality is good, but sizes in this locality are running heavy to mediums.

Early Spring, 1952 Season: (Tex.) Moisture conditions are favorable in all Texas sections, particularly in non-irrigated areas all of which now have splendid sub-soil reserves, when compared with conditions which resulted in practically a complete failure last season. Seed bed plantings in the irrigated sections would provide plants for an increased acreage and most seed beds are in good condition. Many growers in the Coastal Bend expect to start planting around the middle of October. Growers in the Raymondville section, where much of the acreage is not irrigated, now show much less interest than usual in onions. Planting of the Raymondville acreage could be as late as mid-November without any serious delay in harvest and developments from here on could change materially. Most irrigated sections are expected to plant at least up to last year's level.

GREEN PEAS: Early Fall (Calif.) Harvesting of early-fall peas in California is about at a peak in the San Jose-Gilroy-Hollister section but volume supplies are expected to continue to be available for the next two weeks. Scattered plantings located principally in Ventura, Los Angeles and Tulare Counties will provide light supplies for local markets during October and November. There will be no significant carlot supplies of peas available from California during late October and early November because of the very small acreage of this crop planted in Kern County.

GREEN PEPPERS: Late Summer (N.J., Calif., N.Eng.) Very heavy volumes continue to be available in all production areas of New Jersey. The important Vineland-Landisville section continues to move heavy supplies of Long Hot, Cherry, California Wonder, Bullnose, White Cap and Cheese peppers. The Cedarville section has equally heavy volumes of the California Wonder variety and Gloucester county is supplying heavy volumes of the World Beater variety. Green, mixed and red supplies are available. The heavy movement will continue until frost ends the deal. In California a small volume of bell peppers are now being shipped from the San Jose section and shipments are expected to continue from this district until frost. Some peppers will also be available from the Santa Maria and Oxnard districts during October. Frost on September 29 killed or partially killed the New England pepper crop in all areas, except for a few very favorably located fields. Marketings, which had remained heavy throughout September will now taper off very rapidly as soon as supplies on hand have been moved to market. In some fields, where plants were only partially killed, additional pickings may be made during the first half of October if market conditions are favorable.

Fall: (Va., Fla., Tex.) Dry weather during the last half of September was unfavorable for the Virginia fall pepper crop. Shipments have started and harvesting will increase rapidly with the heaviest movement coming October 10 to November 10. Florida growers have had considerable difficulty in growing pepper plants this fall in the Manatee, Wauchula, and Fort Myers sections. The shortage of plants combined with some damage from heavy October 1 and 2 rains will probably result in a considerably smaller early acreage than previously intended in these areas. No definite reports are yet available on the important Fort Myers section, but it is reasonable to assume that a good portion of this acreage was severely damaged by the heavy rains with some crops being lost outright. In the important winter section around Pompano, growers planted an unusually large amount of seed, but the extremely dry hot weather during August and September prevented these seedings, both in the bed and in the field, from making satisfactory progress. Growers in this area were generally making a special effort to get their crops in and growing earlier than they have been able to do for several seasons. Early reports indicate that no serious damage resulted from the recent rains. This section should start harvesting from a limited acreage in early November. In Texas a small early acreage is planted in the Lower Valley with considerable additional plantings being made the latter part of September, but the total acreage in the Valley will be less than usual. Plantings at Laredo, and the Winter Garden are also lowered some and are a little later than usual. Crops in these later areas are in good condition and are expected to furnish a light harvest soon after the middle of October, or about two weeks later than usual.

COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES: Winter, 1952 Season (Tex., Fla.) Planting of the Texas crop is well advanced. Acreage shows a further reduction from the small acreage of last season and production will not be important at any period of the season. Planting of the early winter acreage in the Florida Everglades was delayed by the inability to get seed potatoes at the desired time. However, most of the crop is now in the ground but some

POTATOES: Winter, 1952 Season (Cont'd.) planting will continue well into October. No definite report is available at this time as to what damage might have occurred to the newly planted acreage from the recent heavy rains. It is reasonable to assume that some seed rotting will take place resulting in irregular stands and possibly some complete loss of acreage. Planting in the Fort Myers section is expected to start shortly after the first of October. In Dade County, very little land had been prepared for planting on October 1 due to the extremely dry conditions which prevailed. The recent rains should improve soil moisture conditions in this area.

SHALLOTS: Winter (La.) In Louisiana moisture has been sufficient to produce a good stand of shallots. Cool nights the last half of September have also been favorable for growth of the crop. Express shipments are expected to begin around October 15 and carlot shipments about the 22nd of the month.

SPINACH: Summer (N.Y., Colo., Wash.) Harvest for processing is in full swing in the Walla Walla district of Washington. Most fields look very good in spite of dry weather. Mildew has ^{not} been serious this year. Movement has not been as rapid as many growers had anticipated. Quality is good with few seed stalks being reported. Cutting has now reached its peak and will continue heavy during the next week. Harvest will probably wind up by October 15 on the majority of the processor crop. Many early cuttings are moving into fresh market channels in the Seattle area. Most fields are about 15-20 days later than the Walla Walla deal. Heavy cuttings for processing will be moving at peak volume by October 15. Growing conditions remain very favorable in King County.

Early Fall: (Md., N.J., Pa., Ill., Mo.) In New Jersey moderate but increasing supplies are becoming available in Monmouth and north Jersey counties. North Jersey growers have had extreme difficulty in obtaining stands. Recent cooler nights have been beneficial and quality is improving every day. Spinach in the Bucks-Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania is later than usual. Movement is increasing slowly. Quality is good but yields are light. The New England fall spinach crop has made very good growth. Liberal supplies are available but due to poor market conditions, current offerings are only moderate in volume. The peak of harvest is indicated by mid-October.

Late Fall: (Va., Ark., Okla.) The Virginia fall crop is later than usual and is in need of rain. Light harvest will start about October 25.

Winter, 1952 Season: (Tex., La., Calif.) Conditions in most sections of Texas are favorable for planting spinach, especially the non-irrigated areas of the Coastal Bend and at Raymondville where very little spinach was produced last season. Planting is expected to be fairly general in the Coastal Bend but most of the acreage will be for early and mid-winter harvest as growers want their land to be available for other crops by late February. The Raymondville section expects to have a fairly large early acreage, but total plantings for the season will be less than usual for this area. The Eagle Pass and Winter Garden irrigated sections started planting soon after the middle of September and both sections had fairly good local rains during the latter part of the month. The water supply in the Winter Garden, both from wells and local stream is insufficient at this time to plan extensive acreages and final plantings will depend upon later developments in the supply of water for irrigating. Present prospects point to about the usual acreage in the important Eagle Pass section.

SQUASH: Fall (Fla., N. Eng.) In the important Ocala-McIntosh area of North Florida, the crop has made generally good progress up to the time of recent rains. The prospective production has now been reduced materially. Light harvesting is in progress and a fair volume should develop from this section by mid-October. The early acreage in Central and South Florida is widely scattered and is mostly intended for local market. Some damage occurred from the recent rains. Planting in the South Florida areas is expected to increase materially during the next few weeks as growers begin to plant their principal acreage for late November and December harvest. In New England Blue Hubbard squash production is unusually large this year and the butternut squash crop is only moderately smaller than the very large 1950 crop. Practically all fields were harvested prior to the killing frost of September 29. Turban squash remains in plentiful supply, although most of the crop has already been marketed.

STRAWBERRIES: 1952 Season (Fla., La.) Transplanting of strawberries became active in Florida during the latter part of September. The recent heavy rains have slowed setting somewhat, but work will be resumed in a few days and continue active until after the middle of October. Plants seem to be in ample supply at this time although the quality is not as good as generally desired. Some of the larger growers are limiting plantings because of an anticipated labor shortage. Condition of plant beds in Louisiana is reported to be very poor with many of the plants dying during the hot dry weather of late August and early September. Even though weather conditions during the past two weeks have been favorable for the development of plants, a critical shortage of plants is expected. Should it so happen that fall is late this year, growers will probably transplant later than usual with hopes of securing more plants from their beds.

TOMATOES: Late Summer (N.J., Wash., Pa., Ohio, Ind., Ill., Iowa, N.Y., Mich., Colo., Utah, Oreg., Ala., N. Eng.) Movement of tomatoes is declining rapidly in New Jersey, but moderate supplies are expected in central and northern sections until frost. The hot sun and foggy mornings during the middle of September caused vines to deteriorate rapidly and therefore tomatoes ripened sooner than expected. Harvest of late plantings in the Yakima Valley of Washington has now reached the peak. A somewhat extended season is expected on canning tomatoes due to short supplies. In the Spokane district most tomatoes have moved into fresh market channels. Frost on September 25 and 26 damaged late fields considerably and will probably shorten the season considerably. In King and Pierce Counties movement may continue very steady for two weeks. Most growers report good crops and generally excellent quality. In a few eastern areas of Pennsylvania tomatoes were hit by late blight. In the northeastern green tomato area crops made good growth since the rains in early September but supplies are now declining. Fair volume is expected to move during early October. In Ohio the season is practically over although light supplies will remain available until frost. A combination of excessive moisture and light frosts have just about ended the harvest in Illinois. Late blight in addition to frost and moisture caused some damage. In Utah harvest on the green wrap deal at Honeyville is tapering off and will be completed this week. Recent heavy rains in Oregon have just about closed the season for local tomatoes. In New England, frost on September 29 terminated growth of tomatoes in practically all sections, but light offerings from supplies now on hand and from the few fields that escaped the killing frost will continue to be available during the first half of October.

Early Fall: (California) Fall tomatoes are currently being shipped from all producing districts in California except Kern County and this area should be providing supplies by mid-month. Producing sections in the northern San Joaquin Valley and in the Sacramento River district should reach peak production during the next two weeks. Volume is increasing at Goleta, Carpinteria, Oxnard and San Diego County but will not be heavy until after mid-October. Cool, foggy weather in these districts has tended to retard an increase in shipments. Barring unfavorable weather, continued heavy shipments can be maintained from Northern producing districts during the next two weeks and as Southern producing districts come into heavier production there should be a substantial increase in the carlot volume of tomatoes moving from California. Heavy shipments of packed tomatoes are going forward both by rail and truck and in addition there is a considerable volume of bulk pack tomatoes being moved by truck for repacking at out-of-state points. Puffiness has been a general defect of tomatoes from the first picking in the northern San Joaquin Valley and Sacramento River district this year. Some shippers have had to cull rather heavily to maintain an 85 percent U.S. #1 grade. Although related to weather conditions and cultural practices, the exact cause of puffiness is uncertain.

Late Fall: (Texas, Florida) Crops in all sections of Texas were improved materially by the general rains and cooler temperatures the second half of September. The cooler weather was needed for the set to hold. Considerable acreage in the Laredo section was holding the set starting the latter part of the month in fields that were set out early, and many later plantings were starting to bloom. A small acreage at Laredo may furnish some production by late October, with the main crop expected to be in production the early part of November. Crops in the Winter Garden and Bagle Pass sections are a little later than usual. These areas usually have a light harvest starting around mid-October but do not expect much production this year before November 1. Most Valley crops are later than usual, and plantings in the Valley are materially below usual acreage for this area. A few growers in the Valley were planning some additional acreage the latter part of September but favorable weather through December will be necessary for these plantings to furnish production in any volume. Heavy rains in Florida on October 1 and 2 have

TOMATOES: Late Fall (Continued) materially dimmed the prospects for the fall tomato crop. Early reports from the Immokalee-Fort Myers area, where a fall acreage of approximately 2,400 acres was growing, indicate that losses have been extremely heavy. Many dikes are reported to have broken, resulting in flooded fields. Rainfall during the storm has been reported at approximately 10 inches. This followed several inches of rainfall a few days earlier. In the important For Pierce area, where approximately 6,500 acres of fall tomatoes were growing, reports show from 3 to 5 inches of rain during the storm period in the Fort Pierce-Vero Beach sections, with little or no losses from flooding, but growers are apprehensive that rust will develop unless weather conditions during the next few days are exceptionally favorable. That portion of the Fort Pierce deal located west of Okeechobee was subjected to very heavy rains, unofficially reported at 12 inches during the storm period, and losses were extremely heavy. Some acreage is a complete loss and apparently will not be replanted. In the Manatee-Ruskin section, the approximately 2,500 acre crop for fall harvest was generally delayed by heavy rains in mid-September which caused some loss of acreage and necessitated considerable replanting. The recent heavy rains caused no reported loss of acreage, but some loss in the production is expected as the general progress of the crop has been retarded. Expectations for Florida now are for only a very light harvest of tomatoes during late October, and only a light volume during the first half of November. The bulk of the crop should begin to move around the middle of November and continue throughout December. The extremely dry weather which has prevailed during August and September delayed operations on the rock land in Dade County. Exceptionally heavy rains have not been reported in this area. Rainfall which did occur probably will be beneficial and enable growers to begin active transplanting.

LATE REPORT FROM NEW YORK

GENERAL: Frost on the morning of September 30 killed foliage on tender crops in most areas of upstate New York. The frost was heavier in the central and eastern areas of the State, extending through most of the Hudson Valley. Important vegetable areas which escaped this frost were limited to narrow strips protected by Lake Erie and Lake Ontario and all of Long Island. Damage to vegetable crops was generally light as harvest of tender crops was nearly completed in all areas affected. Two weeks of warm, sunny weather from September 9 through September 22 were beneficial for rapid development of late plantings of snap beans, sweet corn and cucumbers, for ripening of cannery tomatoes and for curing of onions in crates in the field. Light rainfall during the last half of September was favorable for harvesting potatoes and other fall crops. Late cabbage in the Lake Ontario area responded well to rainfall of more than an inch around mid-September but now needs more rain to continue good growth. On Long Island rainfall continued very light throughout September. Irrigation has maintained most fields of fall cauliflower in good condition.

LIMA BEANS - Summer: Marketing of Long Island lima beans is nearing the end but late plantings will furnish light supplies to October 15-20 if frost holds off.

SNAP BEANS - Late Summer: Marketing from most upstate areas was ended by killing frost on September 30. A few small plantings escaped the frost in local-market areas near Buffalo and Rochester.

CABBAGE - Early Fall: Domestic type cabbage in truckload lots continued in steady volume from commercial sections of upstate New York through the last half of September. Cabbage in many fields are now getting too large for market and will be left for kraut. Most kraut plants are now operating but many growers are busy with harvest of other crops. Harvest of Danish type cabbage is getting under way in the early sections of central New York and will become active

LATE REPORT FROM NEW YORK, (Cont'd.)

CABBAGE - Early Fall: (Continued) early in October. Yield prospects are relatively better in this area than in western New York but reduced acreage will limit supplies. In the late storage section along Lake Ontario most of the Danish fields were set later than usual and harvest will not become active until late October. Mid-September rains totalling more than an inch in this area were the first of any consequence since transplanting and more rain was needed by the end of the month. The dry season has limited yield prospects but will result in desirable small to medium sized heads.

CARROTS - Fall: Harvesting of muckland carrots is active in all areas of central and western New York. Most of the fall acreage is moving to local and out-of-state processors but demand for the Nantes variety for marketing as topped carrots is better than usual. In the upland section of Ontario County where carrots are grown for processing, very little of this year's small acreage has been harvested to date.

CAULIFLOWER - Summer: Cool weather throughout the summer slowed development of late plantings in the Catskill section resulting in heavier marketings than were planned for late September. Temperatures dropped to the low 20's in some areas of the Catskill section on September 30, but the extent of damage to cauliflower has not been determined. Marketing of fall cauliflower from the local-market sections of upstate New York became active in late September and will continue in steady volume through October.

CAULIFLOWER - Fall: Marketing of Long Island fall cauliflower started somewhat later than last season and volume ran much lighter than last year through the first three weeks of September. However, in the last ten days of the month marketings through the Long Island auctions increased rapidly with daily totals larger than a year ago by the end of the month. Steady supplies will be available in good volume through October with the probable peak in marketings during the first half of November. Overall quality has improved.

CELERY - Early Fall: Harvest of fall celery in Wayne County and nearby areas has progressed as rapidly as fields became ready. However, demand for Golden celery began to slow toward the end of September. Marketing will continue active through the first three weeks of October if freezing weather holds off. Yields per acre and quality are good but volume is light due to reduced acreage.

SWEET CORN - Summer: Cool weather throughout the summer slowed development of late plantings resulting in unusually heavy marketings throughout September. Frost on September 30 ended the season in most sections except for scattered areas of the lower Hudson Valley and small acreages in local-market sections near Buffalo and Rochester.

CUCUMBERS - Late Summer: Picking was finished on most fields of upstate cucumbers when frost ended the season on September 30. Marketings of Long Island cucumbers continued in good volume through most of September but most of the late fields were out of production by the end of the month. Scab caused heavy losses on the late plantings harvested during September.

ONIONS - Late Summer: Warm, sunny weather from September 9 through September 22 was favorable for finishing harvest in the later sections and curing crops in crates in the fields. Orange County onions are being marketed as fast as market conditions permit as most crops are showing considerable shrinkage from decay. Some crops of set onions in the Canastota section are also developing decay while other crops show good condition for storage. On the east muck in the

LATE REPORT FROM NEW YORK, (Cont'd.)

ONIONS - Late Summer: (Continued) Elba section practically all crops went down normally and have cured to excellent keeping quality.

TOMATOES - Late Summer: Late blight had taken most fields of late tomatoes in the Hudson Valley out of production before the frost on September 30. Many fields in the important tomato areas close to Lake Erie and Lake Ontario escaped frost damage but picking of green tomatoes for market was practically finished by the end of September.

POTATOES: The average of growers' reports shows 97 percent of the 1951 Cobbler crop on Long Island harvested by October 1 compared with 86 percent reported as harvested to the same date a year ago. For other varieties the percentages reported as harvested to October 1 are as follows, with percentages for the 1950 season in parenthesis: Green Mountains 57 percent (25 percent), Katahdins 73 (52 percent), Chippewas 96 percent (72 percent), all varieties 78 percent (59 percent). In upstate New York September weather was generally favorable for harvesting but shortage of labor slowed progress in many areas. In the dry areas of Erie, Genesee and Wyoming Counties where the vines died prematurely harvest is more advanced than usual. Fields in some muckland areas, also many commercial fields on upland soil in central New York, are showing heavy losses from blight rot on the tubers with some acreage abandoned. Oversized tubers are not a problem in most areas this year.