

VEGETABLES FRESH MARKET



Crop
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Board

Statistical Reporting
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ACREAGE AND ESTIMATED PRODUCTION SELECTED CROPS SEPTEMBER 9, 1976

ARTICHOKES: California 1976 production is placed at 763,000 cwt., 4 percent above the 1975 crop. Average yields are expected to be the same as last year, 72 cwt. per acre. Prospects for California's 1977 crop are excellent in the major producing Castroville area. Harvest volume is currently at a low level but will increase in October and November. Late fall and early winter harvest will be light until the spring peak in March, April and May.

ASPARAGUS: Production of asparagus in major States in 1976 is estimated at 2.2 million cwt., 10 percent above the 2.0 million cwt. produced in 1975. Estimated harvested acreage is down 9 percent from 1975 to 80,600 acres while yield is up 4 cwt. per acre from last year to 27 cwt. per acre. A late spring frost severely damaged Michigan's crop causing unusually high abandoned acreage.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS: The 1976 harvested acreage in California is expected to be 9 percent below 1975 to 5,300 acres. The California crop is making good progress. Harvest is just beginning in Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Mateo Counties. Harvest will increase in September and October but will start slowing down in November and December. Acreage is down this year due to a shortage of irrigation water.

ONIONS: Production estimate of spring and summer onions is placed at 33.9 million cwt., 8 percent above last year. The increase reflects a 37 percent increase in the final estimate of spring onion production and a 3 percent increase in summer onion production.

STRAWBERRIES: The 1976 final production estimate of strawberries in major producing States is placed at 5.1 million cwt., 6 percent above last year. Yield at 218 cwt. per acre compares with the 203 cwt. per acre yield of 1975.

SUMMER STORAGE ONIONS: Production is forecast at 16.6 million cwt., 18 percent above 1975. Harvested acreage at 46,480 is 8 percent above last year. Yields are expected to increase 29 cwt. to 357 cwt. per acre. California's summer onions, primarily for processing, is forecast at 6.5 million cwt., down 29 percent from the 1975 production.

AREA AND YIELD PER ACRE, 1974-76

CROP, SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	AREA						YIELD PER ACRE		
	PLANTED			HARVESTED					
	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976
	ACRES						CWT		
ARTICHOKES: 1/ WINTER CALIF	10,800	10,200	10,600	10,800	10,200	10,600	65	72	72
ASPARAGUS: 1/ SPRING									
CALIF	44,100	38,200	33,900	44,100	38,200	33,900	29	28	37
ILL	7,200	6,800	5,200	7,200	6,800	5,200	12	14	9
MICH	17,000	17,800	18,700	17,000	17,800	18,000	15	11	10
N J	6,800	4,600	3,300	6,800	4,600	3,300	13	14	13
WASH	23,400	21,000	20,200	23,400	21,000	20,200	29	27	33
SUBTOTAL	98,500	88,400	81,300	98,500	88,400	80,600	24	23	27
MINOR STATES 2/	13,370	13,670		13,270	13,470		15	10	
DISCONTINUED STATES 3/	720	700		720	700		22	17	
U S TOTAL	112,590	102,770		112,490	102,570		23	21	
ONIONS: 4/ SPRING									
ARIZ	2,000	1,400	1,800	2,000	1,400	1,800	410	490	400
CALIF 5/	5,400	4,600	6,400	5,400	4,600	5,900	335	345	280
TEX	21,500	18,000	25,000	21,000	17,000	24,000	170	175	200
GROUP TOTAL	28,900	24,000	33,200	28,400	23,000	31,700	218	228	226
STRAWBERRIES: 1/:									
WINTER FLA	1,300	1,200	1,400	1,300	1,200	1,400	135	165	150
SPRING									
CALIF	8,900	10,000	10,800	8,900	10,000	10,800	430	380	370
MICH	3,300	3,100	3,000	3,100	3,000	2,900	57	55	60
OREG	8,100	6,200	5,300	7,200	6,100	5,200	57	68	92
WASH	3,600	3,400	3,000	3,600	3,400	3,000	63	68	75
SUBTOTAL	23,900	22,700	22,100	22,800	22,500	21,900	204	205	223
MINOR STATES 2/	10,400	10,700		10,300	10,600		36	38	
DISCONTINUED STATES 3/	5,600	5,650		5,240	5,480		27	39	
GROUP TOTAL	39,900	39,050		38,340	38,580		134	135	
U S TOTAL	41,200	40,250		39,640	39,780		135	136	

ARTICHOKES 1/: PROSPECTIVE AREA FOR HARVEST

SEASON AND STATE	HARVESTED AREA				1977 AS A PERCENT OF	
	1975	1976	FOR HARVEST		1975	1976
			1977			
	ACRES				PERCENT	
WINTER CALIF	10,200	10,600	11,000		108	104

SEE FOOTNOTES ON PAGE 3.

PRODUCTION AND VALUE, 1974-76

CROP, SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	PRODUCTION			VALUE					
				PER CWT			TOTAL		
	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976
	1,000 CWT			DOLLARS			1,000 DOLLARS		
ARTICHOKES: 1/ WINTER CALIF	702	734	763	17.30	16.10	14.30	12,152	11,847	10,919
ASPARAGUS: 1/ SPRING									
CALIF	1,279	1,070	1,254	28.90	30.70	32.20	36,940	32,870	40,326
ILL	86	95	47	32.70	26.60	29.80	2,814	2,529	1,400
MICH	255	196	180	33.70	24.30	33.00	8,593	4,772	5,934
N J	88	64	43	33.40	36.30	44.00	2,943	2,320	1,890
WASH	679	567	667	24.90	25.40	28.70	16,890	14,379	19,141
SUBTOTAL	2,387	1,992	2,191	28.60	28.50	31.40	68,180	56,870	68,691
MINOR STATES 2/	201	137		27.20	29.60		5,471	4,055	
DISCONTINUED STATES 3/	16	12		39.10	42.60		626	511	
U S TOTAL	2,604	2,141		28.50	28.70		74,277	61,436	
ONIONS: 4/ SPRING									
ARIZ	820	686	720	3.91	9.23	4.75	3,208	6,332	3,420
CALIF 5/	1,809	1,587	1,652	4.84	11.70	4.76	8,756	18,568	7,864
TEX	3,570	2,975	4,800	5.01	12.10	6.90	17,868	35,998	33,120
GROUP TOTAL	6,199	5,248	7,172	4.81	11.60	6.19	29,832	60,898	44,404
STRAWBERRIES: 1/ WINTER									
FLA	176	198	210	38.10	42.30	42.20	6,706	8,375	8,862
SPRING									
CALIF	3,827	3,800	3,996	27.30	29.50	32.60	104,456	112,237	130,255
MICH	177	165	174	31.10	32.10	33.30	5,503	5,297	5,798
OREG	410	415	478	25.50	23.00	28.50	10,475	9,533	13,622
WASH	227	231	225	25.70	21.60	23.60	5,823	4,992	5,320
SUBTOTAL	4,641	4,611	4,873	27.20	28.60	31.80	126,257	132,059	154,995
MINOR STATES 2/	373	398		40.70	42.90		15,188	17,078	
DISCONTINUED STATES 3/	142	213		32.50	35.40		4,608	7,534	
GROUP TOTAL	5,156	5,222		28.30	30.00		146,053	156,671	
U S TOTAL	5,332	5,420		28.60	30.50		152,759	165,046	

1/ INCLUDES FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING.

2/ ASPARAGUS - DEL, IND, IOWA, MD, MINN, OREG, AND VA; STRAWBERRIES - ARK, LA, N J, N Y, N C, OHIO, PA, AND WIS.

3/ ASPARAGUS - MASS AND OHIO; STRAWBERRIES - ILL, IND, KY, MD, MASS, MO, OKLA, TENN, AND VA.

4/ PRIMARILY FRESH MARKET.

5/ DOES NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING QUANTITIES NOT HARVESTED OR MARKETING BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, 30,000 CWT.

AREA AND PRODUCTION REPORTED TO DATE

CROP, SEASON AND STATE	AREA		FOR HARVEST 1976	YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	HARVESTED			1974	1975	IND 1976	1974	1975	IND 1976
	1974	1975							
	ACRES			CWT			1,000 CWT		
BRUSSELS SPROUTS: 1/ CALIF	5,700	5,800	5,300	115	120		656	696	
ONIONS SPRING 2/	28,400	23,000	31,700	218	228	226	6,199	5,248	7,172
SUMMER 2/ NON-STORAGE TOTAL	10,800	9,450	11,850	283	286	308	3,061	2,704	3,646
STORAGE									
COLO 3/	5,100	5,300	6,400	290	310	330	1,479	1,643	2,112
IDAHO & E OREG	9,900	10,000	11,600	460	450	520	4,554	4,500	6,032
MICH	6,900	6,800	7,100	310	260	300	2,139	1,768	2,130
MINN	750	750	750	375	220	210	281	165	158
N Y	13,700	13,500	13,700	290	255	255	3,973	3,443	3,494
OHIO	480	580	430	285	375	330	137	218	142
OREG, W	2,100	2,100	2,100	520	520	500	1,092	1,092	1,050
UTAH	1,300	1,300	1,400	300	290	310	390	377	434
WASH	1,600	1,500	1,800	400	400	395	640	600	711
WIS	1,300	1,200	1,200	280	260	290	364	312	348
SUBTOTAL	43,130	43,030	46,480	349	328	357	15,049	14,118	16,611
CALIF 4/	26,400	27,000	18,500	325	340	350	8,580	9,180	6,475
DISCONTINUED STATE 5/	600	400		260	280		156	112	
TOTAL SUMMER	80,930	79,880	76,830	332	327	348	26,846	26,114	26,732
U S TOTAL	109,330	102,880	108,530	302	305	312	33,045	31,362	33,904

1/ INCLUDES FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING: 1976 PRODUCTION AVAILABLE DECEMBER 23RD. 2/ PRIMARILY FRESH MARKET. 3/ PLANTED ACREAGE WILL BE REVISED DECEMBER 23, 1976. 4/ PRIMARILY FOR PROCESSING. 5/ IND.

ONIONS CONTINUED:

In Western New York, recent heat has matured onions quickly and tops have gone down. Onions have not sized as expected in all areas, making a large percentage under two inches. In Orange County, Hurricane Belle's high winds blew the tops down, causing early maturity on late varieties. This reduced potential yields and increased the proportion of small onions.

In Michigan, onion harvest started in late August and volume movement is underway. Yield prospects have been reduced due to recent dry weather. Rain is needed to help size the crop in late planted fields. The Wisconsin onion crop needs additional moisture to develop good sizing.

In Minnesota, dry conditions have hurt yields. Onions are currently expected to be small but of good quality. In Colorado, quality and size of the onions harvested to date is good to excellent. Growing conditions have been very favorable all season except for the Arkansas Valley which has had some shortage of irrigation water. Set-onion harvest is underway. Harvest of seed onions will begin about mid-September. Western Slope prospects are very good with harvest expected to begin about mid-September.

Utah's onion crop is expected to be better than in 1975. Growers expect onions to be smaller than normal but of good quality. Cool August weather slowed growth. Most growers expect to begin harvest in middle or late September. Concern about the labor situation is causing an increase in mechanical harvesting. Washington's cooler than normal weather during July and August has slowed development of the crop with onions expected to average smaller than normal. Quality of the crop is generally good although disease problems are expected to reduce yields in some fields. Harvest is expected to begin one to two weeks late.

Oregon's cool weather has delayed crop harvest 10 days to 2 weeks. The onions need warm finishing weather. Expected sizes are variable. Digging of California's summer onion crop is active in the San Joaquin Valley and Central Coast district. Generally, excellent yields are expected.