

# VEGETABLES FRESH MARKET



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## FALL QUARTER INTENTIONS AND PROSPECTIVE AREA FOR HARVEST IN MAJOR STATES

### Fall Fresh Market Vegetable Area Up 1 Percent

Prospective area of 14 fall fresh market vegetables for harvest during October, November and December 1976 is placed at 226,750 acres, 1 percent more than the 225,100 acres harvested during the fall quarter of 1975. Production for these 14 crops based on average yields per acre for recent years is projected at 43.5 million cwt. This is 3 percent more than last year's fall production of 42.2 million cwt.

Production from the 14 crops included in this group is expected to be higher for broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, sweet corn and green peppers. Decreases are indicated for snap beans, cauliflower, cucumbers, eggplant, escarole, lettuce, spinach and tomatoes.

Melon area for harvest in the fall quarter of 1976 is estimated at 5,400 acres, 41 percent more than last year's total of 3,820 acres. Based on average yields for recent years, potential production is indicated at 727,000 cwt., a 40 percent increase from the fall 1975 quarter.

The October 1 final onion production forecast for summer States with primarily storage type onions is estimated at 16.9 million cwt., 20 percent above last year, and 2 percent above the September forecast of 16.6 million cwt.

Texas spring onion growers intend to plant 21,300 acres for the spring of 1977, 15 percent less than in 1976.

This report contains results of a recent special survey of California tomato processors. Revised estimates of California acreage for harvest and production (including both contract and open market purchases) are published with the previous September estimates for other processing States carried forward. See page 7.

PROSPECTIVE AREA AND PRODUCTION, FALL QUARTER 1/, UNITED STATES  
(DOMESTIC UNITS)

CROP	AREA				PRODUCTION			
	HARVESTED			FOR	1974	1975		MAJOR STATES 1976 2/
	1974	1975		HARVEST		TOTAL	MAJOR STATES	
	TOTAL	TOTAL	MAJOR STATES	1976				
ACRES				1,000 CWT				
WINTER	196,100	172,580	169,600	182,100	34,811	33,715	33,495	34,327
SPRING	335,670	336,270	326,200	370,340	52,671	53,324	52,377	58,090
SUMMER	552,640	568,970	495,350	492,720	71,832	74,851	66,776	64,054
FALL								
SNAP BEANS	14,300	16,900	16,900	15,320	514	664	664	597
BROCCOLI 3/	14,750	14,150	13,800	16,200	1,171	987	966	1,183
CABBAGE 3/	29,570	28,440	26,750	28,800	8,143	7,699	7,111	7,459
CARROTS 3/	23,900	22,780	19,900	20,650	8,145	6,960	6,057	6,753
CAULIFLOWER 3/	14,470	15,600	14,500	13,200	1,465	1,614	1,540	1,452
CELERY 3/	8,600	8,000	7,750	9,240	4,629	4,093	3,977	4,842
SWEET CORN	15,200	15,300	15,300	15,200	1,118	959	959	1,079
CUCUMBERS	13,700	14,400	14,400	14,030	1,378	1,289	1,289	1,263
EGG PLANT	750	850	850	700	146	174	174	134
ESCAROLE	1,750	1,700	1,700	1,550	218	191	191	177
LETTUCE	54,600	55,400	55,400	55,500	11,888	12,700	12,700	12,488
GREEN PEPPERS 3/	11,100	12,300	12,300	12,200	1,706	1,498	1,498	1,501
SPINACH	2,760	2,750	2,750	2,340	149	139	139	124
TOMATOES	20,500	22,800	22,800	21,820	4,379	4,912	4,912	4,429
TOTAL 14 VEGETABLES	225,950	231,370	225,100	226,750	45,049	43,879	42,177	43,481
CANTALOUPS	3,100	2,900	2,900	4,300	360	317	317	495
HONEYDEW MELONS	700	920	920	1,100	130	204	204	232
TOTAL MELONS	3,800	3,820	3,820	5,400	490	521	521	727
TOTAL FALL	229,750	235,190	228,920	232,150	45,539	44,400	42,698	44,208

PROSPECTIVE AREA AND PRODUCTION, FALL QUARTER 1/, UNITED STATES  
(METRIC UNITS)

CROP	AREA				PRODUCTION			
	HARVESTED			FOR	1974	1975		MAJOR STATES 1976 2/
	1974	1975		HARVEST		TOTAL	MAJOR STATES	
	TOTAL	TOTAL	MAJOR STATES	1976				
HECTARES				METRIC TONS				
WINTER	79,360	69,840	68,640	73,690	1,578,990	1,529,280	1,519,300	1,557,040
SPRING	135,830	136,070	131,990	149,860	2,389,110	2,418,720	2,375,760	2,634,900
SUMMER	223,660	230,260	200,460	199,390	3,258,240	3,395,170	3,028,880	2,905,430
FALL								
SNAP BEANS	5,790	6,840	6,840	6,200	23,310	30,120	30,120	27,080
BROCCOLI	5,970	5,730	5,580	6,560	53,120	44,770	43,820	53,660
CABBAGE	11,970	11,510	10,830	11,660	369,360	349,220	322,550	338,330
CARROTS	9,670	9,220	8,050	8,360	369,450	315,700	274,740	306,310
CAULIFLOWER	5,860	6,310	5,870	5,340	66,450	73,210	69,850	65,860
CELERY	3,480	3,240	3,140	3,740	209,970	185,650	180,390	219,630
SWEET CORN	6,150	6,190	6,190	6,150	50,710	43,500	43,500	48,940
CUCUMBERS	5,540	5,830	5,830	5,680	62,500	58,470	58,470	57,290
EGGPLANT	300	340	340	280	6,620	7,890	7,890	6,080
ESCAROLE	710	690	690	630	9,890	8,660	8,660	8,030
LETTUCE	22,100	22,420	22,420	22,460	539,230	576,060	576,060	566,440
GREEN PEPPERS	4,490	4,980	4,980	4,940	77,380	67,950	67,950	68,080
SPINACH	1,120	1,110	1,110	950	6,760	6,300	6,300	5,620
TOMATOES	8,300	9,230	9,230	8,830	198,630	222,800	222,800	200,900
TOTAL 14 VEGETABLES	91,450	93,640	91,100	91,780	2,043,380	1,990,300	1,913,100	1,972,250
CANTALOUPS	1,250	1,170	1,170	1,740	16,330	14,380	14,380	22,450
HONEYDEW MELONS	280	370	370	450	5,900	9,250	9,250	10,520
TOTAL MELONS	1,530	1,540	1,540	2,190	22,230	23,630	23,630	32,970
TOTAL FALL	92,980	95,180	92,640	93,970	2,065,610	2,013,930	1,936,730	2,005,220

1/ OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. 2/ BASED ON AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE, 1973-75. 3/ FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING ARE BOTH INCLUDED IN ALL OF THESE TOTALS FOR THESE CROPS IN THIS REPORT.

AREA INTENTIONS BY SPECIFIED PLANTING PERIODS AND PROSPECTIVE AREA FOR HARVEST,  
FALL QUARTER, BY STATES

CROP AND STATE	AREA PLANTED AND TO BE PLANTED			FALL AREA			
	PLANTING PERIOD	YEAR OF PLANTING		HARVESTED		FOR	
		1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976
ACRES							
<b>CABBAGE: 1/</b>							
CALIF	JUN-AUG	1,700	1,700	1,800	1,700	1,700	1,800
COLO	APR-JUN	2,700	2,500	2,600	400	500	700
FLA	SEP-MAR	17,400	18,200	16,100	1,400	1,800	1,600
IND	MAR-JUN	1,710	1,600	1,500	210	200	200
MICH	APR-JUL	5,200	5,000	5,000	2,300	1,600	2,100
N J	MAR-AUG	4,900	5,000	5,500	1,500	1,500	1,600
N Y	APR-JUL	10,700	10,900	11,300	7,500	7,100	7,300
N C	JUL-AUG	2,200	2,600	2,800	1,900	2,200	2,700
OHIO	JUN-AUG	1,200	1,400	1,500	1,500	1,300	1,300
PA	APR-AUG	2,900	2,800	2,800	1,200	1,000	1,000
TEX	APR-JAN	17,300	20,200	20,000	4,800	5,400	5,500
VA	FEB-AUG	1,900	1,800	1,400	450	350	400
WIS	APR-JUN	6,000	5,800	5,600	2,700	2,100	2,600
SUBTOTAL		76,410	79,500	77,900	27,560	26,750	28,800
MINOR STATES 2/		1,730	1,460		1,610	1,360	
DISCONTINUED STATES 3/		2,000	1,420		400	330	
GRAND TOTAL		80,140	82,380		29,570	28,440	
<b>CANTALOUPS:</b>							
ARIZ	JUN-AUG	700	800	1,700	700	800	1,700
CALIF	JUL-AUG	2,400	2,100	2,600	2,400	2,100	2,600
GROUP TOTAL		3,100	2,900	4,300	3,100	2,900	4,300
<b>CELERY:</b>							
CALIF-S CST	JUL-APR	10,600	10,400	10,600	1,800	1,600	1,800
-C CST	JAN-SEP	8,600	8,150	8,900	4,100	4,300	4,900
FLA	AUG-APR	11,500	10,400	10,500	1,900	1,500	1,800
MICH	APR-JUL	2,500	2,400	2,500	400	200	600
N Y	APR-JUL	910	830	940	170	150	140
SUBTOTAL		34,110	32,180	33,440	8,370	7,750	9,240
MINOR STATES 2/		230	250		230	250	
GRAND TOTAL		34,340	32,430		8,600	8,000	
<b>ESCAROLE:</b>							
FLA	AUG-MAR	7,000	6,900	6,700	1,700	1,600	1,500
OHIO	APR-AUG	1,470	1,150	700	50	100	50
GROUP TOTAL		8,470	8,050	7,400	1,750	1,700	1,550
<b>HONEYDEW MELONS:</b>							
ARIZ	JUN-AUG	100	120	400	100	120	400
CALIF	JUL-AUG	600	800	700	600	800	700
GROUP TOTAL		700	920	1,100	700	920	1,100
<b>TOMATOES:</b>							
ALA	MAR-JUL	9,300	8,000	8,500	500	400	500
CALIF	FEB-JUL	26,700	28,800	27,700	9,900	11,800	10,400
FLA	JUL-APR	31,700	38,700	39,900	9,400	9,700	10,100
IND	MAY-JUN			1,700			320
TEX	JUL-SEP	900	900	600	700	900	500
GROUP TOTAL		68,600	76,400	78,400	20,500	22,800	21,820

1/ CABBAGE-OREG SUMMER COMBINED WITH FALL; N Y-UPSTATE AND L I COMBINED. 2/ INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES WHICH ARE LIMITED TO END-OF-SEASON ESTIMATES ONLY: CABBAGE-IDAHO, OREG; CELERY-WASH. 3/ INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES TERMINATED WITH PROGRAM CHANGES EFFECTIVE IN 1976: CABBAGE-ARIZ, MO.

PROSPECTIVE AREA FOR HARVEST, FALL QUARTER, BY STATES

CROP AND STATE	FALL AREA			1976 AREAS FOR HARVEST AS PERCENT OF 1975 PERCENT
	HARVESTED		FOR HARVEST	
	1974	1975	1976	
	ACRES			
SNAP BEANS <u>1/</u>				
CALIF	700	1,100	800	73
FLA	9,600	10,400	9,200	88
GA	500	800	1,100	138
MD	250	300	270	90
N J	500	700	1,000	143
N C	50	300	150	50
S C	900	1,200	1,000	83
VA	1,800	2,100	1,800	86
GROUP TOTAL	14,300	16,900	15,320	91
BROCCOLI <u>1/</u>				
CALIF	14,400	13,800	16,200	117
MINOR STATES <u>2/</u>	350	350		
GRAND TOTAL	14,750	14,150		
CARROTS <u>1/ 3/</u>				
CALIF - DES	800	700	500	71
- OTH	6,000	6,700	7,000	104
MICH	2,700	1,900	2,700	142
N Y	1,680	1,700	1,700	100
OREG	1,600	1,100	850	77
TEX - H. PLNS	900	1,600	1,600	100
- S. TEX	1,800	2,200	2,000	91
WASH	2,300	2,000	2,700	135
WIS	2,600	2,000	1,600	80
SUB-TOTAL	20,380	19,900	20,650	104
MINOR STATES <u>2/</u>	3,260	2,620		
DISCONTINUED				
STATE <u>4/</u>	260	260		
GROUP TOTAL	23,900	22,780		
CAULIFLOWER <u>1/ 3/</u>				
CALIF	9,900	10,600	9,500	90
N Y	1,800	2,200	1,900	86
OREG	1,650	1,700	1,800	106
SUB-TOTAL	13,350	14,500	13,200	91
MINOR STATES <u>2/</u>	1,120	1,100		
GRAND TOTAL	14,470	15,600		

SEE FOOTNOTES ON PAGE 5.

PROSPECTIVE AREA FOR HARVEST, FALL QUARTER, BY STATES

CROP AND STATE	FALL AREA			1976 AREAS FOR
	HARVESTED		FOR HARVEST	HARVEST AS
	1974	1975	1976	PERCENT OF
	ACRES			1975
				PERCENT
SWEET CORN <sup>1/</sup>				
CALIF	1,500	1,700	1,200	71
FLA	13,700	13,600	14,000	103
GROUP TOTAL	15,200	15,300	15,200	99
CUCUMBERS <sup>1/</sup>				
CALIF	700	700	530	76
FLA	7,400	7,600	7,400	97
S C	1,200	1,300	1,300	100
TEX	2,700	2,700	3,100	115
VA	1,700	2,100	1,700	81
GROUP TOTAL	13,700	14,400	14,030	97
EGGPLANT <sup>1/</sup>				
FLA	750	850	700	82
LETTUCE <sup>1/</sup>				
ARIZ - YUMA	9,600	9,200	9,000	98
OTH	6,800	7,000	7,000	100
CALIF	30,500	31,200	30,300	97
FLA	2,000	1,900	2,200	116
N J	800	900	1,200	133
N MEX	3,200	3,500	3,600	103
TEX - H PLNS	800	1,000	1,500	150
- S TEX	900	700	700	100
GROUP TOTAL	54,600	55,400	55,500	100
GREEN PEPPERS <sup>1/</sup>				
CALIF	4,900	4,500	4,000	89
FLA	3,000	3,400	4,200	124
N J	1,000	1,000	900	90
TEX	2,200	3,400	3,100	91
GROUP TOTAL	11,100	12,300	12,200	99
SPINACH <sup>1/</sup>				
CALIF	400	450	500	111
N J	360	300	340	113
TEX	2,000	2,000	1,500	75
GROUP TOTAL	2,760	2,750	2,340	85

<sup>1/</sup> ACREAGE INTENTIONS FOR SPECIFIED PERIODS ARE NOT ESTIMATED NATIONALLY.

<sup>2/</sup> INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES WHICH ARE LIMITED TO END-OF-SEASON ESTIMATES ONLY: BROCCOLI - ARIZ, TEX; CARROTS - MINN, N J, OHIO. <sup>3/</sup> CARROTS - MINN, NY, OREG SUMMER COMBINED WITH FALL; CAULIFLOWER - MICH, OREG SUMMER COMBINED WITH FALL. <sup>4/</sup> INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATE TERMINATED WITH PROGRAM CHANGES EFFECTIVE IN 1976: CARROTS - MASS.

ONIONS: AREA AND PRODUCTION REPORTED TO DATE

SEASON AND STATE	AREA HARVESTED			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	1974	1975	FOR HARVEST 1976	1974	1975	IND 1976	1974	1975	IND 1976
	ACRES			CWT			1,000 CWT		
SPRING 1/	28,400	23,000	31,700	218	228	226	6,199	5,248	7,172
SUMMER 1/ NON-STORAGE TOTAL	10,800	9,450	11,850	283	286	308	3,061	2,704	3,646
STORAGE									
COLO	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	545	4,554	4,500	6,322
MICH	6,900	6,800	7,100	310	260	290	2,139	1,768	2,059
MINN	750	750	750	375	220	250	281	165	188
N Y	13,700	13,500	13,700	290	255	255	3,973	3,443	3,494
OHIO	480	580	430	285	375	350	137	218	151
OREG, W	2,100	2,100	2,100	520	520	520	1,092	1,092	1,092
UTAH	1,300	1,300	1,400	300	290	280	390	377	392
WASH	1,600	1,500	1,800	400	400	400	640	600	720
WIS	1,300	1,200	1,200	280	260	290	364	312	348
SUBTOTAL	43,130	43,030	46,480	349	328	363	15,049	14,118	16,878
CALIF 2/	26,400	27,000	18,500	325	340	350	8,580	9,180	6,475
DISCONTINUED STATE 3/	600	400		260	280		156	112	
TOTAL SUMMER	80,930	79,880	76,830	332	327	351	26,846	26,114	26,999
U S TOTAL	109,330	102,880	108,530	302	305	315	33,045	31,362	34,171

ONIONS: AREA INTENTIONS

SEASON AND STATE	PLANTED AREA			1977 AS PERCENT OF	
	1975	1976	INTENDED 1977	1975	1976
	ACRES			PERCENT	
SPRING TEX	18,000	25,000	21,300	118	85

1/ PRIMARILY FRESH MARKET  
 2/ PRIMARILY PROCESSING.  
 3/ INDICATED.

TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING: PRELIMINARY AREA AND INDICATED PRODUCTION,  
BY STATES, 1976 WITH COMPARISONS

STATE	AREA HARVESTED				INDICATED 1976		
	1974 TOTAL	1975 TOTAL	1975 CONTRACT	1975 CONTRACT			
ACRES							
CALIF <u>1/</u>	249,900	299,200	297,800		232,000		
COLO	630	640	640		600		
IND	15,100	15,800	15,200		14,000		
MD	3,700	4,600	3,900		3,800		
MICH	5,300	4,400	4,200		3,600		
N J	13,300	10,600	9,600		8,200		
N MEX	600	860	860		800		
OHIO	25,100	24,100	23,500		22,300		
PA	6,600	7,000	6,800		5,600		
TEX	2,600	4,000	3,800		4,500		
VA	4,100	3,800	3,600		3,400		
OTH STS <u>2/</u>	10,770	9,250	6,560		4,880		
U S	337,700	384,250	376,460		303,680		
	YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION			
	1974 TOTAL	1975 TOTAL <u>3/</u>	INDICATED 1976	1974 TOTAL	1975 TOTAL	1975 CONTRACT	INDICATED 1976
TONS							
CALIF <u>1/</u>	23.40	24.30	21.90	5,847,650	7,270,550	7,235,950	5,100,000
COLO	12.22	13.44	16.00	7,700	8,600	8,600	9,600
IND	11.42	13.25	17.50	172,450	209,300	201,000	245,000
MD	12.93	11.59	15.00	47,850	53,300	45,400	57,000
MICH	11.40	14.39	16.00	60,400	63,300	60,100	57,600
N J	17.41	14.53	19.50	231,550	154,000	137,700	159,900
N MEX	12.00	10.00	15.00	7,200	8,600	8,600	12,000
OHIO	14.67	17.55	21.00	368,200	423,000	412,400	468,300
PA	14.08	15.44	15.70	92,950	108,100	104,450	87,900
TEX	8.38	9.48	11.30	21,800	37,900	36,300	50,850
VA	9.01	8.91	10.00	36,950	33,850	32,450	34,000
OTH STS <u>2/</u>	11.62	14.37	14.93	125,150	132,900	103,050	72,850
U S	20.79	22.13	20.93	7,019,850	8,503,400	8,386,000	6,355,000

1/ CALIF TOTALS INCLUDE BOTH CONTRACT AND OPEN MARKET PURCHASES. ALL OTHER STATES ARE CONTRACT TOTALS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE SEPTEMBER 9 PRODUCTION REPORT.

2/ ALA, ARK, DEL, FLA, ILL, IOWA, KY, LA, N Y, N C, OKLA, UTAH AND W VA.

3/ DERIVED 1975 CONTRACT YIELD MAY DIFFER SLIGHTLY FROM TOTAL YIELD DUE TO EXCLUSION OF OPEN MARKET PURCHASES.

SNAP BEANS: The 1976 fall quarter prospective area for harvest in major producing States is estimated at 15,320 acres, 9 percent less than the 16,900 acres harvested during the same quarter in 1975. Based on a projection of historic average yields, this acreage is expected to provide 597,000 cwt. which would be 10 percent less than the 1975 crop.

Virginia harvest started in late September and yield prospects are good. In Florida, plantings are active and increasing. Excessive rainfall in the heavy producing southeast area has washed out some young seedlings and resulted in some replanting in low areas. Older plantings are in good to excellent condition. Gadsden County pole bean harvest is underway. Bush and pole beans should be available from the southeast by the end of October. The Georgia snap bean crop is in good condition.

The California snap bean crop has made satisfactory progress. Supplies this fall are expected to be adequate. Volume will be moderate October thru mid-November from the South Coast and lower San Joaquin Valley. Harvest will taper off after mid-November and end in mid-December.

BROCCOLI: The 1976 prospective area for harvest in California during the fall quarter is placed at 16,200 acres, 17 percent more than the fall of last year. Based on historic average yields, production is expected to total 1.2 million cwt. which would be 22 percent higher than the same period in 1975.

Good supplies of California broccoli are being harvested from Monterey County. Southern coastal areas are expected to have increasing production and peak in late November and early December.

CABBAGE: Prospective area for harvest during the 1976 fall quarter is forecast at 28,800 acres, 8 percent higher than the fall quarter of 1975. This acreage, using historic average yields, is expected to provide 7.5 million cwt., an increase of 5 percent from 1975. In New York, too much rain during and after setting of cabbage has cut the potential yield with heads smaller than usual. Long Island cabbage sustained only minor damage from Hurricane Belle. New Jersey harvest is underway and yields and quality are good.

The Pennsylvania fall cabbage crop looks good. Some blight has been reported in late cabbage and some acreage was lost due to the recent excessive rainfall. Ohio producers continue to harvest a good quality cabbage crop. However, the late planted crop could reflect droughty conditions in some growing areas.

Dry weather in Michigan during August caused heads to be small and slowed development of later planted fields. Harvest is active in all areas and is about 50 percent complete. Quality varies from fair to mostly good. Lack of moisture in Wisconsin slowed crop development in some areas but Southeastern Wisconsin had timely rainfall for an early fresh market crop.

Very light harvest is underway in Southwest Virginia. Volume will increase in late October. In Florida, light transplanting and seeding of cabbage was underway in early September. By the end of the month planting was active in all areas. Transplanted fields are in good condition and are making good growth, but there are a few wet spots causing some damage due to damp-off. Harvest is expected by mid-November.

In Texas, cabbage in the Lower Rio Grande Valley is currently in good condition. Stands and quality in Colorado look good throughout the State. Most growers intend to harvest all acres planted although some had damage from rains in mid and late September.

California's fall cabbage crop has progressed satisfactorily in spite of unseasonable rains. Fall supplies are expected to be normal with shipments originating mainly from the South Coast. Additional supplies will come from the Central Coast and Desert areas. Harvest will be active October through December.

CANTALOUPS: The 1976 fall quarter estimate of 4,300 acres for harvest is 48 percent more than the 2,900 acres in 1975. Production from this acreage based on average yields in the past 3 years is projected at 495,000 cwt., which would be 56 percent more than the comparable period last year.

Arizona's fall cantaloups are up to a good stand and are making good progress. Harvest is expected to begin near mid-October and continue until near mid-November. With the increased acreage the harvest season could extend further into November depending on weather conditions.

Recent rains have slowed California's cantaloupe development in the Imperial Valley. Harvesting is expected to begin near mid-October, peaking near the end of the month, and tapering off toward the end of November.

CARROTS: The 1976 prospective area for harvest during the fall quarter is forecast at 20,650 acres, 4 percent more than in 1975. Production is projected, on the basis of historic average yields, at 6.8 million cwt, which would be 11 percent more than the 1975 fall crop.

New York's wet weather throughout the growing season has reduced yields. Hot, dry weather in Michigan pushed carrot development during August. Most of the crop is in good condition with about average quality. Harvesting is active in all areas and is half complete. Late planted non-irrigated carrots have suffered some due to moisture stress. Development of the Wisconsin crop was uneven because of a lack of moisture in July and August. September brought some relief and boosted yields on the late harvested crop.

Harvest began in the Texas High Plains in mid-September. Growing conditions have been good and supplies should continue until mid-December.

September weather in Washington was generally favorable for carrot growth. Digging is underway in all areas and will continue through the fall months. Oregon's carrot crop looks good and is progressing normally as harvest activities get underway.

Planting of the fall California Desert carrot crop was interrupted by heavy rain. Some acreage was replanted. Rain in late September caused further acreage loss. Supplies will be lighter than normal. Carrot harvest is currently light in the Salinas Valley. Peak harvest will occur during November and December. Digging in the San Joaquin Valley and South Coast will be moderate during the fall months.

CAULIFLOWER: Prospective acreage for harvest in the fall quarter is estimated at 13,200 acres, 9 percent below the same period in 1975. Based on historic average yields, fall crop production is expected to be 7.5 million cwt., 6 percent less than the fall 1975 output.

In New York, warm days and cool nights have provided excellent growing conditions. Hurricane Belle caused some late acreage to be replanted on Long Island because of damage from salt spray but quality of the more mature crop was not affected. All areas have excellent quality.

Oregon's cauliflower crop is in good condition. The crop is developing rapidly and some acreage may be bypassed because early and late plantings are maturing together.

Good weather in California through most of the major growing areas has aided in producing good supplies at this time. Most production is coming from Monterey County. Later in the season an increased production is expected from the southern areas through November and December.

CELERY: Fall quarter 1976 celery acreage for harvest is placed at 9,240 acres, 19 percent more than the 1975 crop of 7,750 acres. Production for the fall crop is projected at 4.8 million cwt. based on average yields in recent years. This would be 22 percent larger than last year's crop.

In Michigan, growing conditions are good as most celery is irrigated and the dry weather has not hurt the crop. Quality is excellent.

In New York, excellent growing conditions have prevailed. Harvest of excellent quality celery is expected to continue through October.

In Florida, the crop is making good progress. Transplanting continues active in the Everglades and has resumed in the Zellwood area.

Cutting of the California South Coast celery crop will begin in November. The Oxnard area will provide most of the fall volume.

Celery cutting is at peak levels in the Central Coast area of California and is expected to continue heavy through November. Harvest will be completed by the end of December.

SWEET CORN: Prospective area for harvest during the 1976 fall quarter is estimated at 15,200 acres, 1 percent below the 15,300 acres harvested during the 1975 fall period. Production of 1.1 million cwt. is anticipated on the basis of yields in recent years.

In Florida, plantings began in the Everglades in late July and tapered off in late September. Growth has been very good. First harvest got underway about September 20th and is gaining rapidly. Quality is improving as temperatures moderate. Plantings are underway in the Southeast. The crop in the Zellwood area is making good progress. Steady harvesting of California's fall sweet corn acreage is expected through mid-November. Harvest should finish at mid-December.

CUCUMBERS: Area for harvest, at 14,030 acres, is 3 percent less than the 1975 fall acreage. Projected production is down 2 percent to 1,263,000 cwt. Virginia harvest began in mid-September with average yields. In Florida, plant growth and crop conditions are very good. Early plantings are blooming and setting fruit. Planting continues active. First harvest should get underway by the middle of October. Peak volume is expected in November when the important southern areas reach heavy production.

The Texas harvest is currently active in the San Antonio-Winter Garden area as well as at Eagle Pass. Planting continues on the Coastal Bend and the Lower Rio Grande Valley. In California's Imperial Valley, tropical storm Kathleen washed out some acreage; however, remaining acreage is progressing satisfactorily. South Coast areas were not affected. Harvest will be active in October and November with supplies lighter than normal from the Imperial Valley.

EGGPLANT: Florida's projected production is 134,000 cwt, a 23 decline from last year. A drop in acreage from 850 to 700 acres, plus a return to more normal yields from 1975's high yield accounts for the large production decline. The crop is progressing well. Harvest is underway in scattered areas in the north and west of Florida. Volume should increase through October to peak movement in November when the important Pompano area reaches full production. Growing conditions have been generally favorable in all areas.

ESCAROLE: A 9 percent decrease in harvested area from 1,700 acres to 1,550 acres results in a projected production of 177,000 cwt. Ohio's harvest should continue through mid-October. Early frost has lowered quality. In Florida, plantings continued active in the Everglades and Zellwood areas. Early plantings are up and making good growth. Thinning and weeding is active. First harvest is expected in late October.

HONEYDEWS: The prospective area for harvest during the 1976 fall quarter is estimated at 1,100 acres compared with 920 acres harvested during the 1975 fall period. Production of 232,000 cwt. is anticipated on the basis of yields in recent years. This compares with 204,000 cwt. output during the same period in 1975.

In Arizona, fall honeydews have made good growth. Harvest is expected to begin mid-October and continue until mid-November. Growers have planted more than three times the normal acreage this year for fall harvest.

Fall honeydew harvest in the Imperial Valley of California, postponed slightly by recent weather conditions, should begin by mid-October. After a peak in early November, harvest should be complete by November or early December.

LETTUCE: The 1976 fall quarter lettuce area for harvest is estimated at 55,500 acres, nearly the same as the 1975 crop of 55,400 acres. However, projected production based on average yields in recent years is 12.5 million cwt., 2 percent less than the 1975 fall crop.

In Florida, plantings are well underway in the Zellwood and Everglades areas. Thinning and weeding of early plantings is active. First harvest is expected in late October.

New Mexico's crop is in excellent condition in all areas. Harvest is underway. Early planted fields in the Yuma area of Arizona were hit by heavy rains and winds in excess of 70 M.P.H. It is estimated that 40 percent of the early plantings were lost and are being replanted now. Normal planting is expected to continue well into December. Lettuce harvest has begun in the Willcox area of Cochise County. Central Arizona lettuce is making good progress with harvest to begin near mid-October with supplies available through December. Land preparations are underway for planting of the winter and spring crops with planting expected to extend well into February.

California's lettuce harvest is presently heavy in the Salinas Valley. Volume will be good through October. Cutting is just beginning in the Brentwood area and the San Joaquin Valley. Stands in the Desert were reduced due to heavy rains but harvest will begin in late November.

ONIONS: The final October 1 production estimate for summer States with primarily storage type onions is placed at 16.9 million cwt., 2 percent above the September 1 estimate and 20 percent above last year. Total production of non-storage and storage type summer crop onions is estimated at 27.0 million cwt., 3 percent more than in 1975. Acreage is estimated at 76,830 acres, 4 percent less than the 79,880 acres harvested in 1975. Summer crop yields this year average 351 cwt. per acre.

Harvest is nearly complete in all areas of New York. Small size onions make up a larger than normal proportion of the crop in all areas. Minnesota summer storage onions are somewhat smaller than usual due to drought. Quality varies mainly from good to excellent.

In Ohio, harvest of early planted dry onions is virtually complete. The Michigan onion harvest is behind normal. Replanting of some fields and dry weather in August slowed the maturity of the crop. Early September rains gave some relief to the crop. In many fields the tops are still green. Size, quality and yields are generally good. The Wisconsin crop was slow in sizing and growers held off harvesting to take advantage of recent rains.

Idaho's harvest is active with over half the crop harvested. Ideal weather during the first two weeks of September enabled the crop to make excellent growth and development. The crop condition is very good with yields above average. The quality and size of the onions are excellent.

Onion quality in Colorado is very good and yields are above normal. Wet weather during mid and late September delayed harvest about one week in the Northeast.

The Utah onion crop is smaller than earlier anticipated because of thin stands. In Washington, harvest is nearing completion with 75-80 percent of the crop under cover. The quality is good but size is slightly smaller than last year. Harvest in Oregon is late due to a cool, wet growing season. Some mildew is present. Good curing weather is needed. Most growers did not start harvest until about October 1.

Digging of California's summer onion crop has been interrupted by heavy rains several times during September. The rains are not expected to adversely affect the fresh market crop except in the Salinas Valley where onions are still in the ground. Dehydrator onions may have quality reduced but not yields. There were some onions lost in southern California due to rains.

SPRING ONIONS - 1977: Intermittent rainfall in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas during August and September delayed seedbed preparation as well as planting.

GREEN PEPPERS: Fall quarter area for harvest is estimated at 12,200 acres, 1 percent below the 12,300 acres harvested during the same quarter in 1975. Based on historic yields, this acreage is expected to provide production of 1.5 million cwt., which is slightly above year earlier output.

In Florida, planting rates are steady. Excessive rainfall in the south has necessitated moderate to heavy resetting in a few low-lying fields. Elsewhere, the crop condition is mostly good. Light to moderate supplies should be available by the end of October. Volume supplies are expected by December when the important southern areas reach heavy production.

The Texas harvest is expected to begin during October in the Trans-Pecos area.

Green pepper harvest is active in all growing areas of California. Supplies will be good through early November. Harvest will end about mid-December.

SPINACH: The fall estimate of 2,340 acres for harvest is 15 percent lower than the 2,750 acres harvested in 1975. Production is projected at 124 cwt. compared with 139 cwt. produced for the fall crop last year.

In New Jersey, quality is good. In Texas, planting continues active in the San Antonio-Winter Garden area with some earlier planted fields germinated. In California, the spinach crop has progressed satisfactorily. Normal supplies are expected from October through December with most of the shipments originating in the South Coast area.

TOMATOES: The 1976 prospective area for harvest during the fall quarter is placed at 21,820 acres compared with 22,800 acres harvested last year. Based on historic average yields, production is expected to total 4.4 million cwt., 10 percent below the 1975 crop.

In Florida, the crop condition is generally good to excellent. Open bloom is abundant and fruit set is increasing. Light harvest is expected by the end of October in the heavy producing Palmetto-Ruskin area. Volume should increase in November as harvest becomes active in the Southwest and Ft. Pierce-Pompano areas. Harvest should begin in Dade County in December.

Harvest in Alabama is expected to continue until the first frost or freeze (usually mid-November). Dry weather during August reduced yield potential. In California, tomato picking is very active in the Central Coast and San Joaquin Valley. Most of the fall volume will originate from the South Coast.

