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THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SITUATION

Summary

Largely because of delayed marketings, prices of many of the fruits and vegetables during the past month failed to follow the usual seasonal trends, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In general, prices of both fruits and vegetables are relatively high for this time of the year.

Sharp seasonal declines occurred in strawberry prices during the past month, and prices in mid-May were about the same as a year earlier. It seems likely that prices of strawberries from the second early and intermediate States will average about as high as those of last year.

Prices of California Navel oranges increased more than usual, but Florida orange prices declined somewhat during the past month. The California Valencia orange season was begun in April with relatively high prices. With the small crop, prices of this variety are likely to increase more than usual during the summer and early fall. Grapefruit prices increased seasonally during the past month, and are likely to continue to advance during the remainder of the season.

Peach prospects for the 1937 season are variable, ranging from a light prospective production in the 10 Southern States to good prospects in some of the Eastern States and in California. In general, prospects for the 1937 crops of other deciduous fruits are good. Little, if any, freeze damage to trees occurred during the past winter.

The supply of new potatoes available for market during the next several months is indicated to be close to 50 percent larger than that available last year and nearly two-thirds more than the average supply. Marketings of the new crop have increased sharply in recent weeks and probably will continue heavy during the next several weeks. Because of these larger marketings, prices have declined during the past month, particularly in western markets. The usual seasonal trend of prices is downward from April until late summer.

Present indications are that the total acreage planted to commercial truck crops for market for the 1937 season will show an increase over the 1936 acreage. The rate of increase, however, is likely to be less than the average of recent years. Price increases more than offset declines during the month ended May 15. Cool and wet weather retarded growth of vegetable crops this spring and seasonal declines in many instances were checked or delayed. As the season progresses and with more favorable growing conditions, increased supplies and seasonal declines of most important spring and early summer crops may be expected.

Early reports from canners and manufacturers of eight important vegetables indicate that the total combined acreage contracted or to be contracted for in 1937 is about 2 percent larger than that planted to these vegetables in 1936 and the largest on record. Tomatoes for manufacture is the only crop for which a slight decrease in intended acreage is indicated. With average growing conditions, most of the expanded acreages would produce larger crops than were actually harvested in 1936.

STRAWBERRIES

Strawberries from Louisiana, the major early-producing State, began to move in volume the latter part of April, causing sharp seasonal price declines. The season has been late throughout the early States this year,

except Florida, and present indications are that shipments from the intermediate States also will be a little later than usual.

As a result of the rather irregular season, it seems likely that there will be more overlapping of marketings from the various States during late May and early June this year than usually occurs. Shipments from Louisiana are not expected to decline much before the last week of May and shipments from North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas probably will still be moving in volume when shipments begin from the intermediate States.

Intermediate crop relatively small

Larger crops than last year are forecast for several of the important intermediate States, but these increases are offset almost entirely by very small crops in Missouri and Illinois. The total intermediate crop is estimated to be about 2 million crates, about the same as the crop of last year and considerably below average.

The price strengthening influence of a total crop in the second early and intermediate States about the same as the small crop of last year, and of material improvement in consumer purchasing power, may be offset by a tendency for shipments from different areas to overlap during parts of the season. It seems likely that prices of strawberries from these two groups of States, however, will average as high as those of last year.

Strawberries: Acreage and production, average 1931-35, annual 1936 and 1937

Group and State	Acreage			Production			:1937 as :percent : of : average
	:5-year : average : 1931-35	: : 1936	: : 1937	:5-year : average : 1931-35	: : 1936	: : 1937	
				1,000 crates	1,000 crates	1,000 crates	Percent
Early, excl. Fla. ^{1/}	27,806	20,400	23,150	1,838	1,605	1,843	100.3
Second early ^{2/}	54,118	45,960	41,190	3,191	2,205	2,528	79.2
Intermediate:							
Calif., other ...	3,048	3,260	3,000	435	447	450	103.4
Del.	4,240	5,200	5,200	246	182	286	116.3
Ill.	5,100	5,600	5,200	284	252	156	54.9
Kans.	1,220	800	880	59	40	26	44.1
Ky.	7,240	8,200	6,700	429	189	268	62.5
Md.	6,700	7,500	7,500	493	338	450	91.3
Mo.	9,340	8,600	4,500	362	301	90	24.9
N. J.	3,760	3,400	3,700	337	187	278	32.5
Okla.	1,480	600	200	49	15	6	12.2
Group total ...	42,123	43,160	36,880	2,694	1,951	2,010	74.6
Late	48,324	53,100	3/57,800	3,041	3,804	---	---

^{1/} Early includes Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

^{2/} Second early includes Arkansas, California-Southern District, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

^{3/} Preliminary.

Strawberries: Weekly average price per quart by varieties,
New York and Chicago, specified weeks

Market and variety	Week ended					
	May 16, 1936	April 17, 1937	April 24, 1937	May 1, 1937	May 8, 1937	May 15, 1937
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
New York City						
La.-Klondikes	---	38	27	22	25	17
N.C.-Klondikes	13	---	---	14	16	14
Chicago						
La.-Klondikes	17	32	24	18	20	16

CITRUS FRUITS

ORANGES: California Navel prices very high.- Prices of all oranges continued relatively high during the past month, but prices of the several varieties behaved rather differently. California Navel prices made more than the usual seasonal rise. Prices of the first California Valencias in late April were near Navel prices, but prices of later supplies declined. Prices of Florida oranges have declined rather steadily since early April instead of making the usual seasonal rise.

The varied behavior of orange prices is due to the irregular supply situation. The 1936-37 California crop was reduced to below average size by freeze damage, whereas the Florida crop is considerably above average. Total shipments of all oranges for the season to date have been about average, and during recent weeks have been only slightly less than average. Shipments from the various producing regions have not been average, however. Shipments of California Navels have been relatively small since January, and during recent weeks have dropped off tremendously. On the other hand, shipments of Florida oranges have been very heavy and during recent weeks have maintained about the same volume as earlier in the season. Shipments of California Valencias thus far in the season have been about as heavy as average in spite of the small crop.

There appears to be sufficient differences in quality to prevent complete substitution of varieties, and the prices of the several varieties to some extent fluctuate independently of one another. Accordingly, although total orange supplies in recent weeks have been only slightly less than average, short supplies of California Navels caused a greater-than-usual seasonal rise in prices of this variety; heavy shipments of Florida oranges caused a weakening of prices in place of the usual seasonal rise.

Shipments from Florida are expected to drop off rather sharply in the next few weeks, and it is likely that prices of Florida oranges will reverse the present downward trend and show some rise before the end of the season. The rate of shipment of California Valencias is not expected to continue to be as great as average, and it is probable that the seasonal rise in prices of this variety during the summer and early fall will be somewhat greater than usual. The California Navel season is practically over, and the closing prices are the highest since the 1929-30 season.

GRAPEFRUIT: Prices continue upward trend.- Prices of grapefruit fluctuated considerably during the past six weeks, but the general movement was upward. Heavier than average shipments of grapefruit from Florida during recent weeks have been partially offset by relatively small shipments from California and Arizona, but total market supplies have been well above average. Although the seasonal rise in grapefruit prices from the low levels of early February has been greater than usual, a further seasonal rise is likely to occur before the end of the season.

Citrus Fruits: Weighted average prices per box at New York and Chicago, specified periods

Market and crop	Average week ended			Average	
	May 16, : April 17, : May 15, : April : April				
	1936 : 1937 : 1937 : 1936 : 1937				
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
New York City					
Oranges- Calif. Navels ...	3.31	4.06	4.59	3.03	4.15
Calif. Valencias.:	---	---	4.02	---	---
Fla.	3.57	3.71	3.49	2.91	3.74
Grapefruit- Fla.	2.92	2.71	2.74	2.76	2.61
Lemons- Calif.	7.03	4.99	6.01	4.65	5.05
Chicago					
Oranges- Calif. Navels ...	3.55	4.19	4.70	3.14	4.25
Calif. Valencias:	---	---	4.38	---	---
Fla.	3.38	3.84	3.73	3.16	4.06
Grapefruit- Fla.	2.75	2.50	2.90	2.68	2.83
Lemons- Calif.	6.92	5.45	5.60	4.66	5.46

PROSPECTS FOR OTHER FRUITS

APPLES: In general, there has been no unusual damage to apple trees or buds from winter temperatures or spring frosts. Bud development has been delayed by cool spring weather, but prospects for the 1937 crop appear good in practically all important apple producing areas.

PEACHES: Production of peaches in 10 Southern States is forecast at about 10 million bushels, which is 27 percent less than the crop of last year and 32 percent below the 1928-32 average. It now appears that the low temperatures of February and March caused more damage than was evident a month ago. In California the May 1 condition of all peaches was considerably better than the condition on May 1, 1936, or the 1928-32 average May 1 condition.

PEARS: In general, conditions during April were favorable for pears, and buds developed with relatively little frost damage. In the South Central States, as a result of spring freezes, the crop is irregular and production may be below average, but in most sections present prospects are favorable. In California, prospects are above average, and Bartlett pears appear to have a heavier set than the late shipping varieties.

GRAPES: Condition of the crop in California on May 1 was above the 5-year average on wine, raisin, and table grapes. Present indications are for a good grape crop in all producing areas.

CHERRIES: In most of the important cherry producing States the season is from two to three weeks later than usual. There was little or no freeze damage during the past winter, and in most sections trees are in good condition and prospects are generally favorable.

POTATOES

Prices of new potatoes declined sharply under the pressure of heavy marketings from Florida and from the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas during the second and third weeks of April. They regained most of the loss during the succeeding two weeks, when a decrease in the rate of marketings occurred. Prices in the western markets have since declined to the lowest level reached this season to date under the pressure of a seasonal increase in shipments occasioned by the opening of the marketing season in Alabama, Louisiana and California. The usual trend of prices of new potatoes is downward from the latter part of April until late summer.

Prices of old stock followed much the same trend as that of new potatoes in western markets, but declined throughout the last month in the East. Prices of most varieties in mid-May were generally lower than a month earlier. Prices of Idaho Russet Burbanks have been fairly stable during the last month.

Increased production in early States

An increased acreage was planted to potatoes in nearly all of the commercial early States this season, which, together with yields above last year and above the average, indicates a total supply of new potatoes nearly three-fifths larger than the 1936 crop and four-fifths larger than the average crop for these States. Although increases in production this season over last year are rather general, the sharpest increase occurred in the rapidly expanding sections of California, where production is indicated to be 10,350,000 bushels, against 5,695,000, in 1936 and 2,226,000 bushels, the 1928-32 average. The large production is due both to a sharp expansion in the acreage planted and to a great increase in the yield per acre. Whereas the acreage planted to early potatoes in California during the period 1928-32 averaged 14,400 acres, a total of 30,000 acres was planted in 1937. Also, the yield per acre for the 1928-32 period averaged only 137 bushels while the prospect is for a yield of 345 bushels per acre this season.

Although no forecast of production of early potatoes in the second-early States is yet available, the acreage planted was increased by nearly one-fourth over that harvested in 1936. The condition of the crop in this group of States on May 1 indicated an average yield per acre about 20 percent higher than the relatively low average of 1936. Therefore, it is believed that production of new potatoes in the second-early States also will be larger than last year.

Practically all of the early potatoes produced in Florida and the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas already have been shipped to market. Thus the production in the second section of early States and in the second-early group represents the principal source of supply until about the first of July. These two areas probably will produce close to 50 percent more than they produced in 1936 and nearly two-thirds more than the average crop. It is indicated, therefore, that supplies of new potatoes available for market during the next few months will be unusually large.

New potato shipments increasing

Shipments of new potatoes from Florida and the lower valley of Texas are about completed for this season, while those from the other early States are rapidly attaining volume. It is likely that the marketings from these States, together with those from the second-early group, will increase sharply during the next few weeks and practically supplant the movement from the late northern States. For the second week of May, shipments of new potatoes totaled 3,060 cars by rail and boat, against 1,800 the week before. This compares with an average rate of about 1,000 cars per week for the month of April. On the other hand, shipments of old stock from the late northern States totaled 1,935 cars during the second week of May, compared with 2,285 the week before and a weekly average of about 3,500 cars during April.

Potatoes: Shipping-point prices, specified weeks, 1936 and 1937

Shipping point	: F.o.b. per 100-pound sack, week ending-			: Cash to grower, per 100 pounds, bulk, week ending		
	: May 16, 1936	: Apr. 17, 1937	: May 15, 1937	: May 16, 1936	: Apr. 17, 1937	: May 15, 1937
	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>
<u>Old Crop:</u>						
Presque Isle, Mo...	1.78	1.57	1.30	-	1.36	-
Rochester, N.Y....	1.80	1.87	1.75	1.50	1.53	1.40
Waupaca, Wis.....	1.31	1.78	1.78	1.07	1.66	1.60
<u>New Crop:</u>						
Texas	-	3.22	-	-	2.60	-
Florida	3.22	2.95	1/2.46	-	-	-
Alabama	2.40	-	1.92	-	-	-
Louisiana	2.22	-	1.92	-	-	-

Potatoes: Terminal market prices per 100-lb. sack, specified weeks

	: Russet Burbanks			: Other varieties		
	: May 16, 1936	: Apr. 17, 1937	: May 15, 1937	: May 16, 1936	: Apr. 17, 1937	: May 15, 1937
	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>	: <u>Dol.</u>
<u>Old Crop:</u>						
New York City, l.c.l.	2.24	2.64	2.65	2.33	2.31	2.00
Chicago, carlot ...	2.24	2.64	2.65	1.63	2.40	2.14
<u>New Crop:</u>						
New York City, l.c.l.	-	-	-	3.51	3.08	3.08
Chicago, carlot ...	-	-	-	2.96	3.87	2.91

1/ For week ending May 8.

Commercial early potatoes: Acreage and production, average 1928-32 and annual 1936 and 1937

Group of States	: Acreage			: Production		
	: Average : 1928-32	: 1936	: 1937	: Average : 1928-32	: 1936	: Forecast : 1937
	: <u>Acres</u>	: <u>Acres</u>	: <u>Acres</u>	: <u>1,000 bu.</u>	: <u>1,000 bu.</u>	: <u>1,000 bu.</u>
Fall	2,400	1,700	2,100	120	85	147
Early (1)	38,400	29,700	37,300	3,833	2,807	4,486
Early (2)	82,400	75,900	116,200	8,818	11,955	18,660
Second-early	50,000	46,000	56,800	6,243	4,225	(Forecast
Intermediate (1)...	110,600	73,100	79,500	16,976	8,795	is due
Intermediate (2)...	34,600	46,900	48,800	5,918	8,093	later)
Total all groups:	318,400	273,300	340,700	41,908	35,960	

TRUCK CROPS

Preliminary estimates of planted acreages of truck crops and growers' intentions to plant some intermediate and late crops indicate a combined acreage of 17 commercial vegetable crops grown for market, exclusive of Early Irish potatoes, only slightly greater than in 1936. Unfavorable weather conditions and storm damages resulted in a considerable abandonment of planted acreages and a failure of growers to complete intentions to plant in Southern States. The rate of increase in acreage this year, therefore, is likely to be less than the average of recent years.

Delayed development of commercial truck crops in many areas occasioned by unfavorable growing condition and rain damage in Southern States, retarded or checked the usual seasonal declines in prices of a number of commodities during the month ended May 15. Price advances more than offset declines during this period.

More recently markets for many of the major commodities have weakened. As the season progresses and marketings attain volume, early season crops, including snap beans, cabbage, cucumbers, peppers, and tomatoes, may be expected to continue to decline seasonally.

ASPARAGUS: Decreased production expected. Total production of asparagus this year is expected to be less than a year ago. Although the country's total commercial acreage for cutting is slightly above the 1936 harvested acreage, plant growth was retarded by prolonged cool spring weather and yields will be correspondingly lower. Production in the late States this year is indicated to be 6 percent less than in 1936. Slight decreases in production are indicated for several of the Central and Western States. The indicated production in New Jersey, most important source of the late crop, and practically all of the other eastern States show slight increases.

Prices thus far during 1937 have averaged higher than last year. With decreased production indicated for the late States, prices for the remainder of the season are likely to average higher than a year earlier.

SNAP BEANS: Production increased. Snap bean prices usually decline seasonally from April to June. This season, however, because of light supplies following severe rain damage to the Florida crop, prices were maintained at relatively high levels from the second week in April to mid-May.

Production of spring crop snap beans in the second early group of States is expected to be 20 percent larger than last year's production. Acreages were increased in the important producing States, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina, but yields are indicated to be below average in all States but Mississippi.

As supplies increase from these second early States, seasonal declines may be expected.

CABBAGE: Present prices above year ago. Cabbage prices rose from the second week of April to a peak in early May as supplies from the early producing States tapered off. More recently markets weakened as shipments from Mississippi, an important source of the second early crop, increased in volume. Production from the second early States this year is indicated to be 7 percent greater than in 1936, and the estimated acreage in the intermediate States shows an increase of 3 percent.

Seasonal price declines may be expected to continue. Present prices are above those of a year ago, but it is not likely that this situation will continue for many weeks. The 1936 crop from the intermediate States was cut short by drought and prices during the summer rose to unusually high levels. The indications, therefore, are that prices this summer will average less than those of a year ago.

Cabbage: Prices per lettuce crate, carloads, f.o.b., shipping points specified periods

Shipping point	Week ended				Month	
	May 16, 1936	Apr. 17, 1937	May 15, 1937	Apr. 1936	Apr. 1937	
Crystal Springs, Miss.	.74	--	<u>1/</u> 1.75	--	--	
Lower Rio Grande, Tex.	--	1.50	--	1.14	1.56	
<u>1/</u> Average for 4 days.						

CANTALOUPS: Increase in early production. The acreage planted to early cantaloups in the Imperial Valley, California, where practically all the early crop is produced, is 24 percent larger than last year, but the indicated yield is 10 percent smaller than a year ago. Production is forecast at 4,200,000 crates (standard 45's) compared with 3,755,000 crates harvested in 1936. Although this year's acreage and indicated production is considerably larger than last year it is still below the 5-year (1928-32) average.

Planted acreage in Imperial Valley, California, showed a distinct upward trend from 1922 to 1931, after which the trend appears to have been reversed. The 1936 acreage was the smallest since 1921.

Acreage in the second early group of States is estimated to be 11 percent smaller than the 1936 acreage and 4 percent smaller than average.

CUCUMBERS: Smaller production indicated. Both acreage and indicated yield per acre of spring crop cucumbers in Florida and Texas are below estimates for 1936. The indicated production shows a 22 percent decrease. Acreage in the 5 other early States, Alabama, California, Georgia, Louisiana and South Carolina, show a decrease of 13 percent.

Thus far this season, supplies have been light and prices relatively high. Seasonal declines may be expected as shipments increase from Florida and Texas. But with prospects for lower production this year it is likely that prices will average higher than in 1936.

ONIONS: Early crop smaller than last year. As a result of unfavorable growing conditions in Texas during April the forecast of the 1937 production of onions in the early States was revised downward and is now indicated to be 37 percent less than the large crop harvested in 1936.

Prices of new crop onions usually decline sharply from April to the middle of May and then hold steady as supplies decrease from the earlier sections, the most important area of which is South Texas. Prices often average higher in June than in May.

Prices have held steady in recent weeks. Shipments probably will decrease the latter part of May and then increase in June as the movement attains volume from north Texas. With a substantial decrease in acreage over 1936 in the early States, and with yields of the Texas crop indicated to be lower than in 1936 or average, it is very likely that prices this year will average considerably higher than in 1936, and may show improvement soon.

Onions: Prices per 50-pound sack, carloads, f.o.b., cash track shipping points, specified weeks

Crop and locality	Week ended			Month	
	May 16, 1936	Apr. 17, 1937	May 15, 1937	Apr. 1936	Apr. 1937
Yellow Bermudas					
Laredo, Tex.39	--	1/ .88	.47	.92
Crystal City, Tex. ..	.33	--	1/ .88	.46	2/ .95
Crystal White Wax					
Laredo, Tex.45	--	1/1.09	.64	1.13
Crystal City, Tex. ..	.38	--	1/1.11	.57	1/1.06

1/ Average for 4 days.

2/ Average for 2 days.

PEAS: Larger production expected. Production of green peas in North Carolina and Virginia, the two earliest shipping States of the intermediate group, is indicated to be 37 percent larger than last year's crop. The acreage shows a decrease from 1936, but yields are expected to be larger, the cool and wet weather during the spring having been beneficial to the pea crop.

WATERMELONS: Larger acreage indicated. Preliminary estimates of planted acreage in the early and second-early States and growers' intentions to plant in the late States indicate that the total acreage of the commercial watermelon crop in the United States will be 5 percent larger than the 1936 acreage and 13 percent larger than the 5-year average.

Production of watermelons in the two early States, Florida and the Imperial Valley section of California, is forecast at 9,375,000 melons compared with 8,942,000 melons harvested in 1936 -- an increase of about 5 percent. In Florida the prospective crop is 9 percent above the 1936 production; although acreage was increased 22 percent, yields are indicated to be lower than a year ago and lower than average.

Preliminary estimates of acreage in the second-early States indicate an increase of 4 percent over last year.

Truck crops: Acreage and production, average 1928-32, annual 1936 and 1937

Commodity and group	Acreage			Unit	Production		
	Average		1937		Average		1937
	1928-32	1936	(prel.)		1928-32	1936	(Indi- cated)
	Acres	Acres	Acres				
Asparagus <u>1/</u>				1,000			
Early	74,550	79,900	78,760	crates	7,249	7,925	7,097
Late	24,530	27,360	28,810	"	2,011	3,043	2,868
Total	99,080	107,260	107,570	"	9,260	10,968	9,965
Beans, snap				1,000			
Fall	12,000	14,900	21,100	bushels	1,013	1,295	1,986
Early (1)	9,660	30,000	30,000	"	936	1,800	1,950
Early (2)	27,460	31,500	20,800	"	2,261	2,773	1,976
Second early ..	20,150	23,670	26,080	"	1,395	1,309	1,576
Total 4 groups	69,270	100,070	97,980	"	5,605	7,177	7,488
Beets							
Early	4,710	7,400	5,600	"	<u>2/</u> 830	<u>2/</u> 1,036	868
Second early ..	2,390	1,450	1,350	"	264	192	213
Total 2 groups	7,100	8,850	6,950	"	1,094	1,228	1,081
Cabbage							
Fall	810	1,920	2,800	tons	5,900	9,500	22,200
Early	37,560	57,100	58,000	"	<u>2/</u> 211,000	<u>2/</u> 307,300	327,900
Second early ..	13,810	18,300	18,800	"	<u>2/</u> 80,700	<u>2/</u> 92,100	98,900
Intermediate ..	25,220	32,510	33,520	"	157,700	160,400	
Late	71,750	74,030	3/80,100	"	<u>2/</u> 571,600	<u>2/</u> 519,800	
Total	149,150	183,860	193,220	"	<u>2/</u> 1,026,900	<u>2/</u> 1,089,100	
Cantaloups				1,000			
Early	44,530	24,350	30,190	crates	6,614	3,755	4,200
Second early ..	40,640	44,210	39,150	"	5,562	4,720	
Total	85,170	68,560	69,340	"	12,176	8,475	
Carrots				1,000			
Fall	3,280	7,100	10,400	bushels	1,831	3,337	4,576
Early	8,470	11,000	8,800	"	<u>2/</u> 1,840	<u>2/</u> 1,877	1,533
Second early ..	8,550	12,300	10,060	"	<u>2/</u> 3,432	<u>2/</u> 5,770	4,070
Total 3 groups	20,300	30,400	29,260	"	7,103	10,984	10,179
Cauliflower				1,000			
Fall and winter	7,990	8,800	8,150	crates	2,261	1,952	2,336
Early	8,630	8,650	7,900	"	2,235	2,491	2,133
Total 2 groups	16,620	17,450	16,050	"	4,496	4,443	4,469
Celery							
Fall and winter	7,180	9,050	9,500	"	1,240	1,538	1,520
Early	7,620	8,900	10,050	"	2,533	2,538	2,654
Second early ..	1,000	1,900	1,750	"	590	969	854
Total 3 groups	15,800	19,850	21,300	"	4,363	5,045	5,028
Cucumbers				1,000			
Fall	1,390	1,600	1,600	bushels	104	160	64
Early (1)	14,630	12,600	11,300	"	1,128	776	605
Early (2)	12,290	12,330	10,730	"	1,289	1,039	
Total 3 groups	28,310	26,530	23,630	"	2,421	1,975	
Eggplant							
Fall	1,170	980	1,350	"	210	133	245
Early (Fla.) ..	910	600	500	"	256	240	150
Total 2 groups	2,080	1,580	1,850	"	466	373	395

Continued -

Truck crops: Acreage and production, average 1928-32, annual 1936 and 1937
Cont'd

Commodity and group	Acreage			Unit	Production		
	Average 1928-32	1936	1937 (prel.)		Average 1928-32	1936	1937 (Indicated)
	Acres	Acres	Acres				
Lettuce				:1,000			
Early	49,740	36,010	35,250	:crates	5,821	<u>2/</u> 4,798	5,037
Second early..	46,640	61,980	57,450	: "	4,855	<u>2/</u> 7,427	6,202
Total 2 groups:	<u>96,380</u>	<u>97,990</u>	<u>92,700</u>	: "	<u>10,676</u>	<u>12,225</u>	<u>11,239</u>
Onions				:1,000			
Early	23,060	34,970	24,050	:sacks	<u>2/</u> 2,308	<u>2/</u> 3,302	2,085
Intermediate..	8,330	20,400	<u>3/</u> 17,200	: "	<u>2/</u> 1,337	2,209	---
Late	53,040	54,110	<u>3/</u> 52,730	: "	<u>2/</u> 9,609	11,811	---
Total	<u>84,430</u>	<u>109,480</u>	<u>93,980</u>	: "	<u>2/</u> 13,254	<u>2/</u> 17,322	---
Peas, Green				:1,000			
Early	6,470	16,400	16,200	:bushels	438	1,300	929
Second early..	29,770	57,000	45,540	: "	2,177	2,944	2,522
Intermediate(1)	6,320	6,000	5,300	: "	462	278	382
Total 3 groups:	<u>42,560</u>	<u>79,400</u>	<u>67,040</u>	: "	<u>3,077</u>	<u>4,522</u>	<u>3,833</u>
Peppers, Green							
Fall	2,010	2,400	3,600	: "	406	350	640
Early, (Winter)	<u>4/</u> 3,320	600	3,000	: "	<u>4/</u> 834	132	660
Early, (Spring)	<u>4/</u> 2,500	4,500	2,200	: "	<u>4/</u> 545	1,125	440
Total 3 groups:	<u>7,400</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>8,800</u>	: "	<u>1,786</u>	<u>1,607</u>	<u>1,740</u>
Spinach							
Fall	2,940	2,900	2,600	: "	888	754	780
Early	30,860	51,450	62,000	: "	7,599	7,596	11,849
Second Early..	8,900	11,490	10,710	: "	2,705	2,404	3,069
Total 3 groups:	<u>42,700</u>	<u>65,840</u>	<u>75,310</u>	: "	<u>11,192</u>	<u>10,754</u>	<u>15,698</u>
Tomatoes							
Fall	4,010	7,300	11,700	: "	256	584	444
Early (1)	10,990	11,000	19,200	: "	1,218	990	1,344
Early (2)	27,880	35,200	27,000	: "	2,664	2,636	1,940
Second Early ..	34,880	44,150	51,600	: "	3,540	3,436	---
Total	<u>77,760</u>	<u>97,650</u>	<u>109,500</u>	: "	<u>7,078</u>	<u>7,646</u>	---
Watermelons				:1,000			
Early	41,460	23,500	27,000	:melons	15,202	8,942	9,375
Second early ..	151,230	169,200	175,500	: "	<u>2/</u> 39,858	33,826	---
Late	45,310	63,900	<u>3/</u> 67,200	: "	16,714	20,571	---
Total	<u>238,000</u>	<u>256,600</u>	<u>269,700</u>	: "	<u>71,774</u>	<u>63,339</u>	---

1/ Includes asparagus for market and canning.

2/ Includes some quantities not harvested on account of market conditions.

3/ Based on growers' intentions to plant.

4/ Short time average.

Truck crops: Wholesale prices at Chicago and New York, specified weeks

Commodity and State	Unit	Chicago			New York		
		Week ended			Week ended		
		May 16: 1936	Apr. 17: 1937	May 15: 1937	May 16: 1936	Apr. 17: 1937	May 15: 1937
Asparagus (Medium):		Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
Calif.	crate	---	3.20	---	---	2.88	3.19
S. C.	"	---	---	---	---	2.06	2.19
N. J.	"	---	---	---	1.71	---	2.31
Ill.	"	1/1.16	---	1.62	---	---	---
Beans, snap							
Fla. (green) ...	bushel	---	3.22	2/3.50	1.65	2.71	3.08
Fla. (wax)	"	2/2.00	---	---	2.17	3.25	2.84
Beans, lima							
Fla.	"	---	3.75	2/4.12	4.31	3.42	4.88
Beets							
Tex.	1/2 lettuce crate	1.08	1.28	1.77	1.07	1.36	2.16
Cabbage							
Miss. (domestic):	lettuce crate	1.42	---	2.64	1.56	---	3.15
Tex. (domestic):	"	2/1.38	2.39	2.60	1.68	2.78	---
S.C. (pointed):	1 1/2 bush. hmp.	.82	.98	---	.84	.88	1.81
Carrots							
Calif.	lettuce crate-6 doz.	2.08	2.64	3.30	2.62	3.14	3.84
Cauliflower							
Calif.	crate	1.49	1.43	1.72	1.66	1.69	2.09
Celery							
Fla.	10" cr. 4-10 doz.	2.85	2.38	2.60	2.83	1.85	2.21
Calif.	1/2 crate	3.19	3/1.31	3/1.55	2.96	---	---
Cucumbers							
Fla.	bushel	---	4.22	---	2.83	3.44	5.70
Eggplant							
Fla.	1 1/2 bush. crate	2.65	2.88	2.75	2.02	2.71	2.68
Lettuce							
Ariz.	crate 4-5's	---	2.66	---	---	2.85	2/3.12
Calif.	" "	2.08	---	3.32	2.62	---	4.20
Onions							
Tex. (Yellow Bermudas)	50-lb. sack	.86	1.97	1.40	.80	1.82	1.34
Peas							
Calif.	bushel	1.48	3.06	1.96	1.60	3.17	2.18
Miss.	"	1.28	3.10	1.56	1.35	---	1.81
S. C.	"	---	---	---	1.00	2.67	1.44
Peppers							
Fla.	1 1/2 bush. hmp.	2.50	3.22	4.75	2.10	2.42	4.50
Sweet potatoes							
La. (Porto Ricans)	50-lb. crate	---	2.64	2.65	1.72	---	---
Tenn. (Nancy Halls)	bushel hmp.	1.06	1.81	1.82	---	---	---
Spinach							
Tex.	bushel	---	.90	---	---	.87	---
Va.	"	---	2/ .75	.79	.58	3/ .60	.54
N. J.	"	---	---	---	.58	---	.52
Ill.	"	.51	2/ .58	1.00	---	---	---
Tomatoes							
Fla.	lugs - 6 x 6	3.42	3/3.00	2/3.25	2.75	2.92	2.92
Tex.	" "	4/3.00	---	2.80	2/2.25	---	2.83
Mex.	" "	3.29	4/4.00	4/3.44	---	3.33	3.22

1/ "Ottawa Section, Pyramid crates, 2 doz.". 2/ One quotation.
 3/ Based on fair quality stock. 4/ Based on few sales, best stock.

TRUCK CROPS FOR MANUFACTURE

Early reports from canners and manufacturers of 8 important vegetables indicate that the total combined acreage contracted or to be contracted-for in 1937 is about 2 percent larger than that planted to these vegetables in 1936 and the largest on record. Sharp increases are noted in the acreages to be planted to lima beans and beets for canning, and to cucumbers for pickles, while only slight increases are indicated in acreages of snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, and spinach. Tomatoes for manufacture is the only crop for which a slight decrease in intended acreage is indicated.

Since a large proportion of the cabbage used in the manufacture of kraut is purchased on the open market, no definite information as to the total acreage of cabbage intended to be grown for this purpose is yet available. The acreage contracted or to be contracted-for is indicated to be about 17 percent larger than the 1936 planted acreage. Likewise, no information as to the total acreage of asparagus that will be cut for canning purposes is yet available, but the total acreage available for harvesting for market and canning in the Delta area of California, where most of the asparagus for canning is produced, is indicated to be slightly larger than in 1936. Production of asparagus for market and canning in California, however, is indicated to be 11 percent less than in 1936 and slightly below average.

Although the information available includes only the acreage intended to be contracted-for or planted by canners and manufacturers, and not acreages actually planted and remaining for harvest, it indicates that, in general, the tendency is to increase the output of these vegetables over what was produced in 1936. With average growing conditions, most of these expanded acreages would produce larger tonnages than were actually harvested in 1936. The general outlook, therefore, is for slightly increased supplies of most canned and manufactured vegetables in 1937 over those of 1936.

Vegetables for canning or manufacture: Planted acreage, 1933-1936, and intended acreage, 1937

Crop	Planted acreage				Intended 1937 as %	
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	of 1936
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent
Lima beans	17,460	25,250	29,220	34,440	46,380	134.7
Snap beans	42,890	47,860	51,730	55,910	58,050	103.8
Beets	4,260	7,840	9,010	10,080	11,320	112.3
Sweet corn	208,440	323,590	418,990	444,370	450,720	101.4
Cucumbers for pickles:	62,700	89,670	103,740	100,250	110,990	110.7
Green peas	228,300	280,390	341,360	337,050	347,050	102.3
Spinach	8,200	13,420	13,410	12,970	13,170	101.5
Tomatoes	296,350	435,620	510,150	477,100	461,550	96.7
TOTAL above crops:	835,500	1,233,420	1,477,210	1,472,170	1,499,230	101.8
Asparagus, Delta area:	Harvested acreage					
of Calif. ... Total :	70,900	66,700	64,340	61,260	62,020	
Market :	22,110	24,490	15,840	19,040		
Canning :	48,790	42,410	48,500	42,220		
Cabbage for kraut:						
Total....:	16,440	25,710	16,500	18,810		
Contract.:	8,250	13,080	8,210	7,390	1/9,850	
Open mkt.:	8,190	12,630	8,290	11,420		

1/ Planted acreage; compares with 8,410 acres in 1936 and 8,630 acres in 1935.