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All Mushroom Sales Up 1 Percent, Value Up 3 Percent

Sales of the 2003-04 U.S. mushroom crop are 857 million pounds, up 1 percent from both the 2002-03 and 2001-02 seasons. Value of sales for the 2003-04 U.S. mushroom crop is \$920 million, up 3 percent from the previous season and 1 percent above the 2001-02 season. The number of growers, at 278, is up 13 from last season. Average price is \$1.07 per pound, up 2 cents from 2002-03.

Sales reported by growers of Agaricus mushrooms for fresh market are 701 million pounds, up 1 percent from last season. Sales of Agaricus mushrooms for processing are 143 million pounds, 3 percent above last season. Value of sales for all Agaricus mushrooms totaled 880 million dollars, up 3 percent from the previous season and 1 percent higher than 2001-02.

(Agaricus and Specialty highlights continued on page 12)

Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, Price, and Value of Sales, July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004

Year	Growers ¹	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2001-02	268	844,590	1.070	907,799
2002-03	265	848,306	1.050	890,394
2003-04	278	857,120	1.070	920,418

¹ Number of growers counted once if growing both Agaricus and specialty mushrooms.

² Prices for mushrooms are the average prices producers receive at the point of first sale, commonly referred to as the average price as sold. For example, if in a given State, part of the fresh mushrooms are sold F.O.B. packed by growers, part are sold bulk to brokers or repackers, and some are sold retail at roadside stands, the mushroom average price as sold is a weighted average of the average price for each method of sale.

**Agaricus Mushrooms: Area, Sales, Price, and Value by State
and United States, July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004**

State, Region, ¹ and Year	Area in Production		Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales
	Growing Area	Total Fillings			
	<i>1,000 Square Feet</i>	<i>1,000 Square Feet</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
CA					
2001-02	5,552	22,846	128,910	1.340	172,168
2002-03	5,401	22,667	127,713	1.330	170,234
2003-04	5,066	21,282	122,477	1.410	172,683
FL					
2001-02	1,353	7,157	43,944	1.010	44,351
2002-03	1,375	7,123	44,529	0.998	44,426
2003-04	1,500	7,437	46,704	1.020	47,519
PA					
2001-02	18,150	73,722	452,504	0.850	384,477
2002-03	17,002	75,006	461,404	0.792	365,650
2003-04	17,211	78,970	464,627	0.816	379,333
WA					
2001-02	348	2,263	12,522	1.330	16,711
2002-03	348	2,242	11,205	1.290	14,497
2003-04	348	2,254	9,881	1.370	13,525
Oth Sts					
2001-02 ³	5,192	34,834	193,227	1.310	252,866
2002-03 ⁴	6,154	34,806	191,547	1.360	261,176
2003-04 ⁴	7,424	36,401	200,270	1.340	267,377
East					
2001-02	20,722	91,245	550,068	0.904	497,438
2002-03	19,528	92,104	561,192	0.865	485,576
2003-04	19,938	96,780	567,472	0.884	501,686
Central					
2001-02	2,476	18,048	103,855	1.390	144,097
2002-03	2,584	18,233	103,105	1.450	149,986
2003-04	3,799	19,446	109,524	1.410	154,565
West					
2001-02	7,397	31,529	177,184	1.290	229,038
2002-03	8,168	31,507	172,101	1.280	220,421
2003-04	7,812	30,118	166,963	1.340	224,186
US					
2001-02	30,595	140,822	831,107	1.050	870,573
2002-03	30,280	141,844	836,398	1.020	855,983
2003-04	31,549	146,344	843,959	1.040	880,437

¹ Regions: East: CT, DE, FL, MD, NY, PA, and TN. Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, OK, TX, and WI. West: CA, CO, MT, OR, UT, and WA.

² Prices for mushrooms are the average prices producers receive at the point of first sale, commonly referred to as the average price as sold. For example, if in a given State, part of the fresh mushrooms are sold F.O.B. packed by growers, part are sold bulk to brokers or repackers, and some are sold retail at roadside stands, the mushroom average price as sold is a weighted average of the average price for each method of sale.

³ CO, CT, DE, IL, IN, MD, MI, MT, NY, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, and WI.

⁴ CO, CT, DE, IL, IN, MD, MI, MT, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, and WI.

**Agaricus Mushrooms: Utilization, Volume of Sales, Price, and Value
by Region and United States, July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004**

Year, State, Region ¹	Fresh Market			Processing		
	Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales	Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales
	<i>1,000 Lbs</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dols</i>	<i>1,000 Lbs</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dols</i>
2001-02						
PA	348,210	0.952	331,496	104,294	0.508	52,981
Other East	86,999	1.240	108,213	10,565	0.449	4,748
East Total	435,209	1.010	439,709	114,859	0.503	57,729
Central Total	89,241	1.510	134,870	14,614	0.631	9,227
CA	119,428	1.390	166,005	9,482	0.650	6,163
Other West	46,090	1.210	55,938	2,184	0.427	932
West Total	165,518	1.340	221,943	11,666	0.608	7,095
US	689,968	1.150	796,522	141,139	0.525	74,051
2002-03						
PA	357,293	0.864	308,701	104,111	0.547	56,949
Other East	85,679	1.310	112,624	14,109	0.518	7,302
East Total	442,972	0.951	421,325	118,220	0.543	64,251
Central Total	92,947	1.540	143,069	10,158	0.681	6,917
CA	119,175	1.380	164,462	8,538	0.676	5,772
Other West	42,154	1.170	49,451	2,234	0.329	736
West Total	161,329	1.330	213,913	10,772	0.604	6,508
US	697,248	1.120	778,307	139,150	0.558	77,676
2003-04						
PA	363,305	0.903	328,064	101,322	0.506	51,269
Other East	86,404	1.310	113,174	16,441	0.558	9,179
East Total	449,709	0.981	441,238	117,763	0.513	60,448
Central Total	93,305	1.540	143,546	16,219	0.679	11,019
CA	117,832	1.440	169,678	4,645	0.647	3,005
Other West	40,014	1.200	47,907	4,472	0.804	3,596
West Total	157,846	1.380	217,585	9,117	0.724	6,601
US	700,860	1.140	802,369	143,099	0.546	78,068

¹ Regions: East: CT, DE, FL, MD, NY, PA, and TN. Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, OK, TX, and WI. West: CA, CO, MT, OR, UT, and WA.

² Prices for mushrooms are the average prices producers receive at the point of first sale, commonly referred to as the average price as sold. For example, if in a given State, part of the fresh mushrooms are sold F.O.B. packed by growers, part are sold bulk to brokers or repackers, and some are sold retail at roadside stands, the mushroom average price as sold is a weighted average of the average price for each method of sale.

**Agaricus Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Volume, Price, and Value of All Sales
by Region and United States, July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004**

Year, State, Region ¹	Growers	All Sales		
		Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2001-02				
PA	78	452,504	0.850	384,477
Other East	9	97,564	1.160	112,961
East Total	87	550,068	0.904	497,438
Central Total	10	103,855	1.390	144,097
CA	21	128,910	1.340	172,168
Other West	10	48,274	1.180	56,870
West Total	31	177,184	1.290	229,038
US	128	831,107	1.050	870,573
2002-03				
PA	77	461,404	0.792	365,650
Other East	10	99,788	1.200	119,926
East Total	87	561,192	0.865	485,576
Central Total	9	103,105	1.450	149,986
CA	22	127,713	1.330	170,234
Other West	9	44,388	1.130	50,187
West Total	31	172,101	1.280	220,421
US	127	836,398	1.020	855,983
2003-04				
PA	76	464,627	0.816	379,333
Other East	11	102,845	1.190	122,353
East Total	87	567,472	0.884	501,686
Central Total	9	109,524	1.410	154,565
CA	21	122,477	1.410	172,683
Other West	8	44,486	1.160	51,503
West Total	29	166,963	1.340	224,186
US	125	843,959	1.040	880,437

¹ Regions: East: CT, DE, FL, MD, NY, PA, and TN. Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, OK, TX, and WI. West: CA, CO, MT, OR, UT, and WA.

² Prices for mushrooms are the average prices producers receive at the point of first sale, commonly referred to as the average price as sold. For example, if in a given State, part of the fresh mushrooms are sold F.O.B. packed by growers, part are sold bulk to brokers or repackers, and some are sold retail at roadside stands, the mushroom average price as sold is a weighted average of the average price for each method of sale.

**Agarius Mushrooms: Yield and Dollar Volume per Square Foot
of Growing Area, by State and United States,
July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004**

State and Region ¹	Yield per Square Foot		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
PA	6.14	6.15	5.88
East	6.03	6.09	5.86
Central	5.75	5.65	5.63
CA	5.64	5.63	5.75
West	5.62	5.46	5.54
US	5.90	5.90	5.77
	Dollar Volume per Square Foot		
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
PA	5.22	4.87	4.80
East	5.45	5.27	5.18
Central	7.98	8.23	7.95
CA	7.54	7.51	8.11
West	7.26	7.00	7.44
US	6.18	6.03	6.02

¹ East: CT, DE, FL, MD, NY, PA, and TN.
Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, OK, TX, and WI.
West: CA, CO, MT, OR, UT, and WA.

**Brown Mushrooms (Portabello, Crimini): Number of Growers, Volume of Sales,
and Value, by Region and United States, July 1, 2001-June 30, 2004 ¹**

Region and Year ²	Growers	Volume of Sales	Value	Region and Year ²	Growers	Volume of Sales	Value
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Lbs</i>	<i>1,000 Dols</i>		<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Lbs</i>	<i>1,000 Dols</i>
East				West			
2001-02	33	74,060	74,021	2001-02	17	15,199	30,617
2002-03	37	86,859	92,946	2002-03	17	15,708	29,042
2003-04	34	72,951	78,679	2003-04	17	15,542	29,287
Central				US			
2001-02	9	5,322	13,284	2001-02	59	94,581	117,922
2002-03	8	8,143	18,063	2002-03	62	110,710	140,051
2003-04	9	7,338	16,733	2003-04	60	95,831	124,699

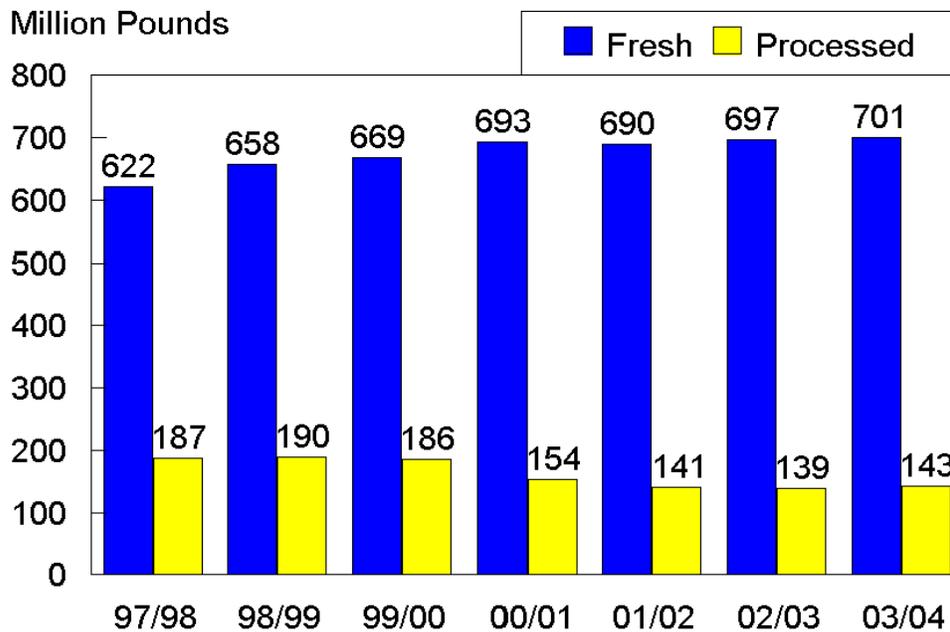
¹ Brown mushrooms are part of Agarius mushrooms.
² Regions: East: CT, DE, FL, MD, NY, PA, and TN.
Central: IL, IN, MI, OH, OK, TX, and WI.
West: CA, CO, MT, OR, UT, and WA.

**Agaricus Mushrooms: Sales by Type and Percent of Total,
United States, 1990-2004 ¹**

Year	Fresh Market		Processing		Total Volume of Sales
	Volume of Sales	Percent	Volume of Sales	Percent	
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
1990-91	511,921	68	237,230	32	749,151
1991-92	496,959	67	249,873	33	746,832
1992-93	522,381	67	253,976	33	776,357
1993-94	516,836	69	233,963	31	750,799
1994-95	532,232	68	250,108	32	782,340
1995-96	537,124	69	240,746	31	777,870
1996-97	553,780	71	222,897	29	776,677
1997-98	621,537	77	187,141	23	808,678
1998-99	657,833	78	189,927	22	847,760
1999-00	668,541	78	185,853	22	854,394
2000-01	692,630	82	153,579	18	846,209
2001-02	689,968	83	141,139	17	831,107
2002-03	697,248	83	139,150	17	836,398
2003-04	700,860	83	143,099	17	843,959

¹ This table represents volume of sales at point of first sale. Mushrooms sold for fresh use, but used for processing are included under fresh market volume of sales.

**Agaricus Mushrooms: Sales by Utilization
United States, 1997/98-2003/04**



**Agaricus Mushrooms: Price and Value by Type of Sale,
United States, 1990-2004 ¹**

Year	Fresh Market		Processing		All Sales	
	Price per Pound	Value of Sales	Price per Pound	Value of Sales	Price per Pound	Value of Sales
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dols</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dols</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dols</i>
1990-91	0.981	501,967	0.615	145,948	0.865	647,915
1991-92	0.995	494,340	0.638	159,501	0.875	653,841
1992-93	0.998	521,566	0.582	147,832	0.862	669,398
1993-94	1.030	532,863	0.662	154,810	0.916	687,673
1994-95	1.050	560,127	0.684	171,046	0.935	731,173
1995-96	1.090	588,126	0.579	139,452	0.935	727,578
1996-97	1.090	605,728	0.559	124,568	0.940	730,296
1997-98	1.080	670,168	0.553	103,449	0.957	773,617
1998-99	1.080	712,000	0.611	116,098	0.977	828,098
1999-00	1.070	715,943	0.606	112,608	0.970	828,551
2000-01	1.060	736,543	0.579	88,957	0.976	825,500
2001-02	1.150	796,522	0.525	74,051	1.050	870,573
2002-03	1.120	778,307	0.558	77,676	1.020	855,983
2003-04	1.140	802,369	0.546	78,068	1.040	880,437

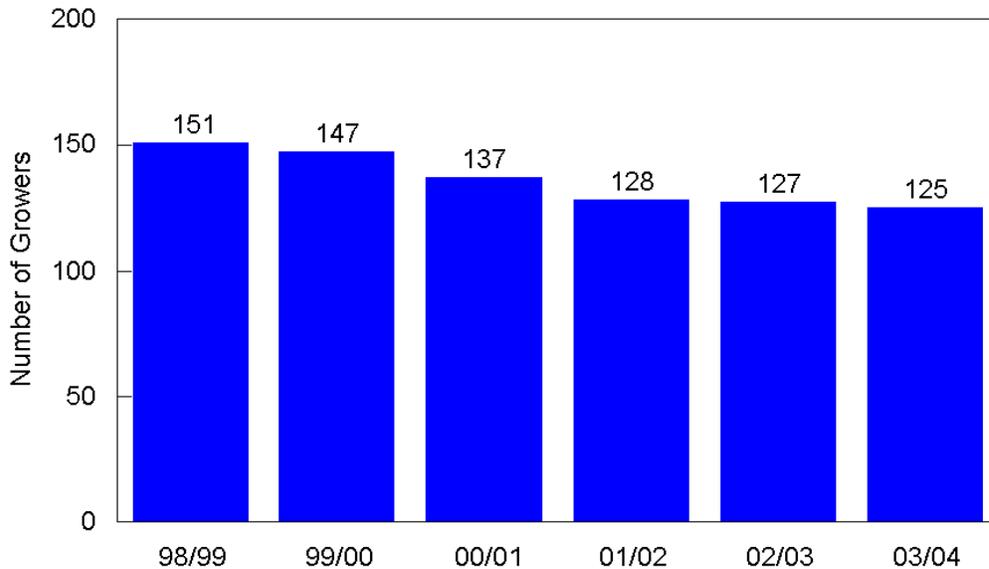
¹ Prices for mushrooms are the average prices producers receive at the point of first sale, commonly referred to as the average price as sold. For example, if in a given State, part of the fresh mushrooms are sold F.O.B. packed by growers, part are sold bulk to brokers or repackers, and some are sold retail at roadside stands, the mushroom average price as sold is a weighted average of the average price for each method of sale.

Agaricus Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Area in Production, Yield, and Dollar Volume per Square Foot, United States, 1990-2004

Year	Growers ¹	Area in Production	Yield per Square Foot	Dollar Volume per Square Foot
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Square Feet</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
1990-91	238	139,922	5.35	4.63
1991-92	226	138,148	5.41	4.73
1992-93	195	141,909	5.47	4.72
1993-94	193	135,703	5.53	5.07
1994-95	186	139,617	5.60	5.24
1995-96	180	135,320	5.75	5.38
1996-97	165	136,461	5.69	5.35
1997-98	156	145,094	5.57	5.33
1998-99	151	150,017	5.65	5.52
1999-00	147	151,487	5.64	5.47
2000-01	137	143,873	5.88	5.74
2001-02	128	140,822	5.90	6.18
2002-03	127	141,844	5.90	6.03
2003-04	125	146,344	5.77	6.02

¹ Estimates are based on growers with sales and include all known growing facilities.

Agaricus Mushrooms: Number of Growers
United States, 1998/99-2003/2004



**Agaricus Mushrooms: Bed or Tray Area Intended for Production
by State and United States, July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005**

State and Region ¹	Intentions Jul 2004 - Jun 2005			
	Fresh Market	Processed Market	Total Fillings	Percent of Last Year
	<i>1,000 Square Feet</i>	<i>1,000 Square Feet</i>	<i>1,000 Square Feet</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	20,150	970	21,120	99
FL	6,237	1,200	7,437	100
PA	69,408	10,500	79,908	101
WA	2,254		2,254	100
Oth Sts ²	32,745	3,255	36,000	99
East	84,385	13,424	97,809	101
Central	18,383	897	19,280	99
West	28,026	1,604	29,630	98
US	130,794	15,925	146,719	100

¹ Regions:

East: CT, DE, FL, MD, NY, PA, and TN.

Central: IL, IN, MI, OK, TX, and WI.

West: CA, CO, MT, OR, UT, and WA.

² CO, CT, DE, IL, IN, MD, MI, MT, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, and WI.

Specialty Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Total Production, Volume of Sales, Price, and Value of Sales, by Variety and United States, July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004 ¹

Year and Variety	Growers ²	Total Production ³	All Sales		
			Volume of Sales ⁴	Price per Pound ⁵	Value of Sales
	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2001-02					
Shiitake	132	8,454	8,024	2.92	23,407
Oyster	53	4,273	4,035	2.01	8,092
Other	23	1,541	1,424	4.02	5,727
US ⁶	156	14,268	13,483	2.76	37,226
2002-03					
Shiitake	134	7,476	7,059	3.08	21,718
Oyster	62	3,997	3,562	1.91	6,820
Other	23	1,431	1,287	4.56	5,873
US ⁶	153	12,904	11,908	2.89	34,411
2003-04					
Shiitake	142	7,762	7,542	3.24	24,461
Oyster	69	4,208	3,968	2.05	8,133
Other	25	1,692	1,651	4.47	7,387
US ⁶	167	13,662	13,161	3.04	39,981

¹ Specialty mushroom estimates represent growers who have at least 200 natural wood logs in production or commercial indoor growing areas.

² Growers counted only once for US total if growing more than one specialty type mushroom. Growers growing Agaricus and specialty mushrooms are included.

³ Total production includes all fresh market and processing sales plus amount harvested but not sold (shrinkage, cullage, dumped, etc.).

⁴ Virtually all specialty mushroom sales are for fresh market.

⁵ Prices for mushrooms are the average prices producers receive at the point of first sale, commonly referred to as the average price as sold. For example, if in a given State, part of the fresh mushrooms are sold F.O.B. packed by growers, part are sold bulk to brokers or repackers, and some are sold retail at roadside stands, the mushroom average price as sold is a weighted average of the average price for each method of sale.

⁶ 2001-02: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VT, VA, WA, WV, and WI.
2002-03: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VT, VA, WA, WV, and WI.
2003-04: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, KS, KY, ME, MA, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VT, VA, WA, WV, and WI.

**Specialty Mushrooms: Area in Production by Variety and United States,
July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2004 ¹**

Year and Variety	Area		
	Natural Wood Outdoor Logs	Natural Wood Undercover and Indoor Logs	All Other Production Media
	<i>1,000 Logs</i>	<i>1,000 Logs</i>	<i>1,000 Square Feet</i>
2001-02			
Shiitake ²	130	290	1,723
Oyster			631
Other			373
US ³	130	290	2,727
2002-03			
Shiitake ²	318	127	1,755
Oyster			473
Other			387
US ³	318	127	2,615
2003-04			
Shiitake ²	360	196	1,970
Oyster			476
Other			379
US ³	360	196	2,825

¹ Specialty mushroom estimates represent growers who have at least 200 natural wood logs in production or commercial indoor growing areas.

² Includes small quantity of logs producing Oyster mushrooms. These logs are not published separately to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ 2001-02: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VT, VA, WA, WV, and WI.

2002-03: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, VT, VA, WA, WV, and WI.

2003-04: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, KS, KY, ME, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VT, VA, WA, WV, and WI.

Agaricus Mushrooms

Agaricus mushroom sales totaled 844 million pounds, up 1 percent from the 2002-03 season and 2 percent above 2001-02. Pennsylvania accounted for 55 percent of the total volume of sales and second ranked California contributed 15 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop is estimated at \$880 million, up 3 percent from the 2002-03 season and is the highest value on record. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 95.8 million pounds, down 13 percent from last season but 1 percent above the 2001-02 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 11 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold. The brown mushroom crop value of sales for the 2003-04 season is \$125 million, 14 percent of the total Agaricus value.

The number of Agaricus growers in the U.S. totaled 125, down 2 from last season and 3 below two seasons ago. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 65 percent of U.S. Agaricus production, or 544 million pounds. The number of growers by sales categories are as follows:

- Over 20.0 million pounds, 11 growers;
- 10.0 million and 19.9 million pounds, 15 growers;
- 5.0 million to 9.9 million pounds, 23 growers;
- 2.5 million to 4.9 million pounds, 25 growers;
- 1.0 million to 2.4 million pounds, 28 growers;
- 0.5 million to 1.0 million pounds, 9 growers;
- less than 0.5 million pounds of sales, 14 growers.

The growing area is 31.5 million square feet, up 4 percent from the previous season and 3 percent above 2001-02. Total fillings are 146 million square feet, up 3 percent from last season and 4 percent above 2001-02. Yields averaged 5.77 pounds per square foot, down 2 percent from last season. Producers received an average return of \$6.02 per square foot, down 1 cent from last season and 16 cents below the 2001-02 season. U.S. fresh market production at 701 million pounds is up 1 percent from the previous season, while processed production, at 143 million pounds, is 3 percent above the previous season. Growers reported U.S. fresh market production at 83 percent of total sales volume with processed production making up the remaining 17 percent. For the 2004-05 crop, growers plan to increase their total fillings by less than 1 percent from the 2003-04 crop.

Specialty Mushrooms - Shiitake, Oyster, and all Other Exotics

Value of sales for commercially grown specialty mushrooms in 2003-04 is \$40.0 million, up 16 percent from the 2002-03 season. A specialty grower is defined as having at least 200 natural wood logs in production or some commercial indoor growing area. The average price per pound received by growers, at \$3.04, is up 15 cents from the previous season.

Sales of Shiitake mushrooms totaled 7.54 million pounds for the 2003-04 season, up 7 percent from the previous season. Price per pound received by growers, at \$3.24, is up 16 cents from 2002-03. Sales volume of Oyster mushrooms, at 3.97 million pounds, is up 11 percent from the previous season. Sales of exotic mushrooms, other than Shiitake or Oyster, are 1.65 million pounds, up 28 percent from last season.

Certified Organic Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms

Growers sold 34.9 million pounds of mushrooms that were certified organic during the 2003-04 growing season, triple the amount certified during 2002-03. Out of the 34.9 million pounds, 7.86 million pounds, or 23 percent of the total were sold as certified organic mushrooms, while the rest were sold without the certified organic label. This compares to 3.49 million pounds, or 31 percent sold as certified organic during the 2002-03 crop year. Agaricus mushrooms accounted for 76 percent of the mushrooms sold as certified organic, while all specialty mushrooms made up the remainder. These certified organic sales represent 1 percent of the 2003-04 total mushroom sales. The number of certified organic mushroom growers totaled 31, up 1 from the previous season. These growers represent 11 percent of the 278 total mushroom producers.

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USDA Data User's Meeting

October 18, 2004

Hampton Inn & Suites

Chicago, Illinois

(312) 832-0330

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will be organizing an open forum for Data Users. The purpose will be to provide updates on pending changes in the various statistical and information programs and seek comments and input from data users. Other USDA agencies to be represented will include the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Economic Research Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board. The Foreign Trade Division from the Census Bureau will also be included in the meeting.

For registration details or additional information for the Data Users' Meeting, see the NASS homepage at www.usda.gov/nass/ or contact Karlyn McCutcheon (NASS) at (202) 690-8141 or at karlyn_mccutcheon@nass.usda.gov.

This Data User's Meeting precedes an Industry Outlook meeting that will be held at the same location on October 19, 2004. The Outlook meeting brings together analysts from various commodity sectors to discuss the outlook situation. For more information about the outlook meeting and to register contact Jim Robb (Livestock and Marketing Information Center) at (720) 544-2941 or at robb@lmic.info.