

Mushrooms

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All Mushroom Sales Virtually Unchanged, Value Down 1 Percent

Sales of the 2004-05 U.S. mushroom crop are 853 million pounds, virtually unchanged from the 2003-04 season but 1 percent above the 2002-03 season. Value of sales for the 2004-05 U.S. mushroom crop is \$908 million, down 1 percent from the previous season but 2 percent above the 2002-03 season. The number of growers, at 275, is down 3 from last season. The average price is \$1.06 per pound, down 2 cents from 2003-04.

Sales reported by growers of Agaricus mushrooms for fresh market are 696 million pounds, down 1 percent from last season. Sales of Agaricus mushrooms for processing are 142 million pounds, 3 percent above last season. Value of sales for all Agaricus mushrooms totaled 862 million dollars, down 2 percent from the previous season but 1 percent higher than 2002-03.

(Agaricus and Specialty highlights continued on page 12)

		All Sales			
Year	Growers ¹	Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales	
	Number	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	
2002-03 2003-04 2004-05	265 278 275	848,306 854,514 853,132	1.050 1.080 1.060	890,394 918,914 908,370	

Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, Price, and Value of Sales, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005

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.

State, Region, ¹	Area in P	Area in Production		Price	Value
and Year	Growing Area	Total Fillings	of Sales	per Pound ²	of Sales
	1,000 Square Feet	1,000 Square Feet	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
CA					
2002-03	5,401	22,667	127,713	1.330	170,234
2003-04 2004-05	4,618 4,100	21,337 20,525	123,483 118,648	1.400 1.450	172,943 172,465
FL					
2002-03	1,375	7,123	44,529	0.998	44,426
2003-04 2004-05 ³	1,500	7,437	46,704	1.020	47,519
PA 2002-03	17,002	75,006	461,404	0.792	365,650
2003-04	17,211	78,970	464,627	0.816	379,333
2004-05	17,363	80,243	495,432	0.790	391,289
WA					
2002-03	348	2,242	11,205	1.290	14,497
2003-04 2004-05	348 365	2,254 2,267	9,881 11,103	1.370 1.430	13,525 15,877
Oth Sts					
2002-03 4	6,154	34,806	191,547	1.360	261,176
2003-04 4	7,362	36,512	196,467	1.350	265,085
2004-05 5	7,077	40,058	212,900	1.330	282,672
East	10.500	02.104	5 (1 100	0.065	105 556
2002-03 2003-04	19,528 19,876	92,104 96,891	561,192 566,147	0.865 0.887	485,576 502,179
2003-04 2004-05	20,089	98,792	594,848	0.868	516,450
Central					
2002-03	2,584	18,233	103,105	1.450	149,986
2003-04	3,799	19,446	109,524	1.410	154,565
2004-05	3,105	15,358	84,133	1.440	121,554
West	9.169	21 507	172 101	1 290	220 421
2002-03 2003-04	8,168 7,364	31,507 30,173	172,101 165,491	$\begin{array}{c} 1.280\\ 1.340\end{array}$	220,421 221,661
2004-05	5,711	28,943	159,102	1.410	224,299
US					
2002-03	30,280	141,844	836,398	1.020	855,983
2003-04	31,039	146,510	841,162	1.040	878,405
2004-05	28,905	143,093	838,083	1.030	862,303

Agaricus Mushrooms: Area, Sales, Price, and Value by State and United States, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005

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 WĂ.

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 Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
 ⁴ CO, CT, DE, IL, IN, MD, MI, MT, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, and WI.
 ⁵ CO, CT, DE, FL, IL, MD, MT, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, and WI.

Year,		Fresh Market			Processing	
State, Region ¹	Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales	Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales
	1,000 Lbs	Dollars	1,000 Dols	1,000 Lbs	Dollars	1,000 Dols
2002.02	1,000 £03	Donars	1,000 D013	1,000 L03	Donars	1,000 D013
2002-03	257 202	0.964	200 701	104 111	0.547	50.040
PA Out E	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	2 62 205	0.000	220.054	101 000	0.505	51.04
PA	363,305	0.903	328,064	101,322	0.506	51,269
Other East	88,034	1.310	115,745	13,486	0.527	7,10
East Total	451,339	0.983	443,809	114,808	0.508	58,370
Central Total	93,305	1.540	143,546	16,219	0.679	11,019
СА	118,838	1.430	169,938	4,645	0.647	3,005
Other West	40.014	1.200	47,907	1,994	0.407	811
West Total	158,852	1.370	217,845	6,639	0.575	3,816
US	703,496	1.140	805,200	137,666	0.532	73,205
2004.05						
2004-05	205 472	0.002	244.007	100.050	0.429	17.000
PA	385,473	0.893	344,227	109,959	0.428	47,062
Other East	85,442	1.390	118,397	13,974	0.484	6,764
East Total	470,915	0.982	462,624	123,933	0.434	53,820
Central Total	72,485	1.560	112,915	11,648	0.742	8,639
CA	114,013	1.490	169,879	4,635	0.558	2,580
Other West	38,906	1.320	51,186	1,548	0.419	648
West Total	152,919	1.450	221,065	6,183	0.523	3,234
US	696,319	1.140	796,604	141,764	0.463	65,699

Agaricus Mushrooms: Utilization, Volume of Sales, Price, and Value by Region and United States, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005

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 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.

Year,		All Sales			
State, Region ¹	Growers	Volume of Sales	Price per Pound ²	Value of Sales	
	Number	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	
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		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	101,520	1.210	122,846	
East Total	87	566,147	0.887	502,179	
Central Total	9	109,524	1.410	154,565	
СА	21	123,483	1.400	172,943	
Other West	8	42,008	1.160	48,718	
West Total	29	165,491	1.340	221,661	
US	125	841,162	1.040	878,405	
2004-05					
PA	76	495,432	0.790	391,289	
Other East	12	99,416	1.260	125,161	
East Total	88	594,848	0.868	516,450	
Central Total	7	84,133	1.440	121,554	
СА	16	110 649	1 450	170 465	
CA Other West	16 7	$118,648 \\ 40,454$	1.450 1.280	172,465 51,834	
West Total	23	40,434	1.280	224,299	
west 10tal	23	159,102	1.410	224,299	
US	118	838,083	1.030	862,303	

Agaricus Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Volume, Price, and Value of All Sales by Region and United States, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005

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 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.

	July	1, 2002 - Julie 30, 2005	
State		Yield per Square Foot	
and Region ¹	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
PA	6.15	5.88	6.17
East	6.09	5.84	6.02
Central	5.65	5.63	5.48
CA	5.63	5.79	5.78
West	5.46	5.48	5.50
US	5.90	5.74	5.86
		Dollar Volume per Square Foot	
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
PA	4.87	4.80	4.88
East	5.27	5.18	5.23
Central	8.23	7.95	7.91
CA	7.51	8.11	8.40
West	7.00	7.35	7.75
US	6.03	6.00	6.03

Agaricus Mushrooms: Yield and Dollar Volume per Square Foot of Growing Area, by State and United States, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005

¹ 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.

Brown Mushrooms (Portabello and Crimini): Number of Growers, Volume of Sales, and Value, by Region and United States, July 1, 2002-June 30, 2005¹

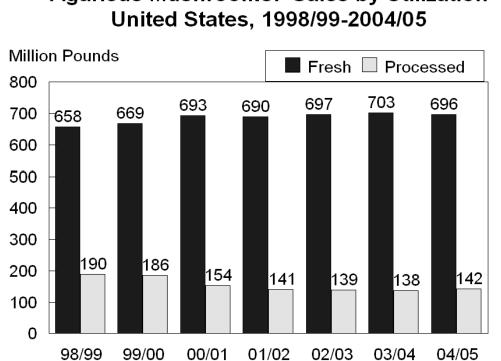
Region and Year ²	Growers	Volume of Sales	Value	Region and Year ²	Growers	Volume of Sales	Value
	Number	1,000 Lbs	1,000 Dols		Number	1,000 Lbs	1,000 Dols
East 2002-03	37	86,859	92,946	West 2002-03	17	15,708	29,042
2003-04 2004-05	34 36	74,117 79,524	81,018 84,640	2003-04 2004-05	16 15	15,540 14,524	29,284 30,301
Central 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05	8 9 7	8,143 7,338 6,480	18,063 16,733	US 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05	62 59 58	110,710 96,995 100,528	140,051 127,035 130,163

¹ Brown mushrooms are part of Agarius mushrooms.
 ² 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.

		United Sta	ites, 1991-2005		
	Fresh Mark	ket	Processin	g	Total
Year	Volume of Sales	Percent	Volume of Sales	Percent	Volume of Sales
	1,000 Pounds		1,000 Pounds		1,000 Pounds
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	703,496	84	137,666	16	841,162
2004-05	696,319	83	141,764	17	838,083

Agaricus Mushrooms: Sales by Type and Percent of Total, United States, 1991-2005¹

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

Agaricus Mushrooms: Price and Value by Type of Sale, United States, 1991-2005¹

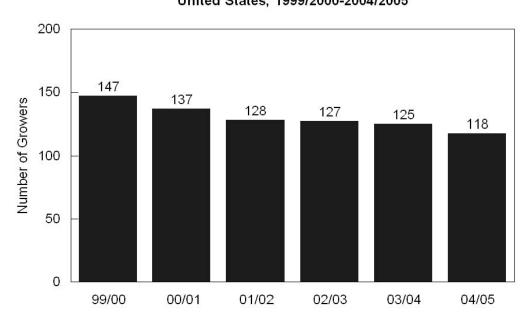
	Fresh M	larket	Proce	ssing	All Sa	lles
Year	Price	Value	Price	Value	Price	Value
	per	of	per	of	per	of
	Pound	Sales	Pound	Sales	Pound	Sales
	Dollars	1,000 Dols	Dollars	1,000 Dols	Dollars	1,000 Dols
1991-92 1992-93 1993-94	0.995 0.998 1.020	494,340 521,566	0.638 0.582	159,501 147,832	0.875 0.862 0.916	653,841 669,398
1993-94	1.030	532,863	0.662	154,810	0.916	687,673
1994-95	1.050	560,127	0.684	171,046		731,173
1995-96	$ 1.090 \\ 1.090 \\ 1.080 \\ 1.080 \\ 1.080 \\ 1.070 $	588,126	0.579	139,452	0.935	727,578
1996-97		605,728	0.559	124,568	0.940	730,296
1997-98		670,168	0.553	103,449	0.957	773,617
1998-99		712,000	0.611	116,098	0.977	828,098
1999-00		715,943	0.606	112,608	0.970	828,551
2000-01	$ \begin{array}{r} 1.060 \\ 1.150 \\ 1.120 \\ 1.140 \\ 1.140 \end{array} $	736,543	0.579	88,957	0.976	825,500
2001-02		796,522	0.525	74,051	1.050	870,573
2002-03		778,307	0.558	77,676	1.020	855,983
2003-04		805,200	0.532	73,205	1.040	878,405
2004-05		796,604	0.463	65,699	1.030	862,303

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.

Year	Growers ¹	Area in Production	Yield per Square Foot	Dollar Volume per Square Foot
	Number	1,000 Square Feet	Pounds	Dollars
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	146,510	5.74	6.00
2004-05	118	143,093	5.86	6.03

Agaricus Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Area in Production, Yield, and Dollar Volume per Square Foot, United States, 1991-2005

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



Agaricus Mushrooms: Number of Growers United States, 1999/2000-2004/2005

Agaricus Mushrooms: Bed or Tray Area Intended for Production by State and United States, July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

State	Intentions Jul 2005 - Jun 2006						
and Region ¹	Fresh Market	Processed Market	Total Fillings	Percent of Last Year			
	1,000 Square Feet	1,000 Square Feet	1,000 Square Feet	Percent			
CA PA WA	19,024 73,207 2,250	691 8,179	19,715 81,386 2,250	96 101 99			
Oth Sts ²	36,060	3,968	40,028	100			
East	88,672	11,287	99,959	101			
Central	14,907	651	15,558	101			
West	26,962	900	27,862	96			
US	130,541	12,838	143,379	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, FL, IL, MD, MT, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, and WI.

Year	Year		All Sales		
and Variety	Growers ²	Total Production ³	Volume of Sales ⁴	Price per Pound ⁵	Value of Sales
	Number	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
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	146	7,731	7,517	3.24	24,391
Oyster	70	4,428	4,185	2.08	8,714
Other	25	1,691	1,650	4.49	7,404
US ⁶	170	13,850	13,352	3.03	40,509
2004-05					
Shiitake	146	9,081	8,613	3.21	27,677
Oyster	74	5,409	5,109	2.33	11,889
Other	26	1,435	1,327	4.90	6,501
US ⁶	172	15,925	15,049	3.06	46,067

Specialty Mushrooms: Number of Growers, Total Production, Volume of Sales, Price, and Value of Sales, by Variety and United States, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005 1

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

2004-05: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WV, and WI.

Year		Area		
and Variety	Natural Wood Outdoor Logs	Natural Wood Undercover and Indoor Logs	All Other Production Media	
	1,000 Logs	1,000 Logs	1,000 Square Feet	
2002-03				
Shiitake ²	318	127	1,755	
Oyster			473	
Other			387	
US ³	318	127	2,615	
2003-04				
Shiitake ²	362	78	1,535	
Oyster			476	
Other			378	
US ³	362	78	2,389	
2004-05				
Shiitake ²	350	58	1,585	
Oyster			635	
Other			459	
US ³	350	58	2,679	

Specialty Mushrooms: Area in Production by Variety and United States, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005 $^{\rm 1}$

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

2004-05: AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, NC, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WV, and WI.

Agaricus Mushrooms

Agaricus mushroom sales totaled 838 million pounds, virtually unchanged from both the 2003-04 and 2002-03 seasons. Pennsylvania accounted for 59 percent of the total volume of sales and second ranked California contributed 14 percent. The value of the Agaricus crop was estimated at \$862 million, down 2 percent from the 2003-04 season. Brown mushrooms, including Portabello and Crimini varieties, accounted for 101 million pounds, up 4 percent from last season but 9 percent below the 2002-03 crop year. Brown mushrooms accounted for 12 percent of the total Agaricus volume sold. The brown mushroom crop value of sales for the 2004-05 season is \$130 million, 15 percent of the total Agaricus value.

The number of Agaricus growers in the U.S. totaled 118, down 7 from last season and 9 below two seasons ago. Growers with sales exceeding 10 million pounds accounted for 63 percent of U.S. Agaricus production, or 530 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, 12 growers; 5.0 million to 9.9 million pounds, 26 growers; 2.5 million to 4.9 million pounds, 23 growers; 1.0 million to 2.4 million pounds, 20 growers; 0.5 million to 1.0 million pounds, 11 growers; less than 0.5 million pounds of sales, 15 growers.

The growing area is 28.9 million square feet, down 7 percent from the previous season and 5 percent below 2002-03. Total fillings are 143 million square feet, down 2 percent from last season but 1 percent above 2002-03. Yields averaged 5.86 pounds per square foot, up 2 percent from last season. Producers received an average return of \$6.03 per square foot, up 3 cents from last season but unchanged from the 2002-03 season. U.S. fresh market production at 696 million pounds is down 1 percent from the previous season, while processed production, at 142 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. Growers total filling intentions for the 2005-06 crop are virtually unchanged from the 2004-05 crop.

Specialty Mushrooms - Shiitake, Oyster, and all Other Exotics

Value of sales for commercially grown specialty mushrooms in 2004-05 is \$46.1 million, up 14 percent from the 2003-04 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 \$3.06, is up 3 cents from the previous season.

Sales of Shiitake mushrooms totaled 8.61 million pounds for the 2004-05 season, up 15 percent from the previous season. Price per pound received by growers, at \$3.21, is down 3 cents from 2003-04. Sales volume of Oyster mushrooms, at 5.11 million pounds, is up 22 percent from the previous season. Price per pound received by growers, at \$2.33, is up 25 cents from the previous season. Sales of exotic mushrooms, other than Shiitake or Oyster, are 1.33 million pounds, down 20 percent from last season. Price per pound received by growers, at \$4.90, is up 41 cents from 2003-04.

Certified Organic Agaricus and Specialty Mushrooms

Growers sold 35.0 million pounds of mushrooms that were certified organic during the 2004-05 growing season, down 1 percent from 2003-04. Out of the 35.0 million pounds, 6.01 million pounds, or 17 percent of the total were sold as certified organic mushrooms, while the rest were sold without the certified organic label. This compares to 8.31 million pounds, or 23 percent sold as certified organic during the 2003-04 crop year. Agaricus mushrooms accounted for 74 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 2004-05 total mushroom sales. The number of certified organic mushroom growers totaled 35, up 4 from the previous season. These growers represent 13 percent of the 275 total mushroom producers.

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USDA Data Users' Meeting October 17, 2005 Embassy Suites at O'Hare Chicago, Illinois (847) 678-4000

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 <u>www.usda.gov/nass/</u> or contact Lynda Ford (NASS) at (202) 720-3896 or at <u>lynda_ford@nass.usda.gov</u>.

This Data Users' Meeting precedes an Industry Outlook meeting that will be held at the same location on October 18, 2005. 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 <u>robb@lmic.info.</u>