

VEGETABLES — PROCESSING

REFERENCE ROOM

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T8
U6c

TC-56:503

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PROSPECTIVE PLANTED ACREAGE OF PRINCIPAL COMMERCIAL CROPS MAY 15, 1956

The prospective 1956 planted acreage of nine vegetables for commercial processing is 9 percent more than last year, according to the Crop Reporting Board. The nine vegetables for processing for which 1956 prospective acreage reports are now available are green lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage for kraut (contract acreage only), sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, green peas, winter and early spring spinach and tomatoes. These crops usually account for about 93 percent of the planted acreage of the 11 vegetables for processing covered in the regular program of reports.

Prospective planted acreage by crops, United States May 1, 1956, with comparisons

CROP	Average 1945-54	1955	1956 Prospective
	Acres	Acres	Acres
Beans, Green Lima. 1/.....	99,120	105,070	111,250
Beans, Snap 1/.....	130,540	146,010	152,490
Beets for Canning 1/.....	17,090	18,590	20,720
Cabbage for Kraut (Contract) 1/.....	9,940	7,680	9,820
Corn, Sweet 1/.....	496,100	406,900	469,980
Cucumbers for Pickles 1/.....	144,140	134,220	129,070
Peas, Green 2/.....	459,340	470,400	504,100
Spinach (Winter and Early Spring) 3/.....	14,680	12,800	13,200
Tomatoes 1/.....	412,840	322,720	355,550
TOTALS - Crops for which prospective			
1956 planted acreage has been estimated...	1,783,790	1,624,390	1,766,180
Asparagus for Processing.....	84,410	115,070	Dec. 28
Cabbage for Kraut (Open Market).....	8,420	5,840	Dec. 28
Pimientos.....	20,480	26,700	July 10
Spinach (Late Spring and Fall).....	26,250	21,790	June 11 & Nov. 9
TOTALS -			
11 CROPS FOR PAST SEASONS.....	1,922,450	1,793,790	Dec. 28

1/From previous releases.

2/Preliminary estimate of 1956 planted acreage.

3/Planted acreage comparable with harvested acreages shown in Report TC-56303.

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GREEN PEAS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING
PRELIMINARY PLANTED ACREAGE
1956 with Comparisons

The 1956 acreage of green peas, planted or to be planted, for processing is estimated at 504,100 acres by the Crop Reporting Board. This compares with 470,400 acres planted in 1955 and the average of 459,340 acres planted during the preceding 10-year period.

Of the 1956 plantings, 158,150 acres are indicated for freezing and 345,950 acres for canning and other processing. This year's prospective acreage for freezing is the highest on record. The comparable figures for 1955 are 140,130 acres for freezing and 330,270 acres for canning; and for the 1945-54 period, 101,770 acres and 357,570 acres, respectively.

The 1956 acreage of sweet, wrinkled types totals 409,940 acres, and smooth, round varieties 94,160 acres. In 1955, sweet wrinkled varieties accounted for 369,270 acres and smooth, round types totaled 101,130 acres.

In California, where harvesting operations were well under way in May, indications on May 15, pointed to a production of 21,980 tons. This compares with 14,110 tons harvested in 1955 and the 1945-54 average of 8,560 tons.

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GREEN PEAS, Commercial crop for processing: Preliminary planted acreage,
by States, 1956, with comparisons

STATE	Average 1945-54	1955	Preliminary	1956 Average	As percent of 1955
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	Percent
Maine.....	7,430	7,800	7,800	105	100
New York.....	30,540	22,000	21,700	71	99
Pennsylvania.....	14,460	13,200	14,000	97	106
Ohio.....	3,360	1,600	1,400	42	88
Indiana.....	4,320	2,800	2,800	65	100
Illinois.....	24,240	29,200	30,700	127	105
Michigan.....	7,420	5,600	6,100	82	109
Wisconsin.....	135,810	127,000	133,400	98	105
Minnesota.....	52,600	62,400	64,500	123	103
Iowa.....	4,280	4,200	3,700	86	88
Delaware.....	2,490	4,000	6,200	249	155
Maryland.....	9,380	9,600	10,200	109	106
Virginia.....	2,320	2,800	2,400	103	86
Idaho.....	9,580	18,100	18,100	189	100
Colorado.....	4,190	1,500	2,500	60	167
Utah.....	10,780	7,600	6,800	63	89
Washington.....	61,900	70,000	81,000	131	116
Oregon.....	56,230	63,000	69,200	123	110
California 1/.....	8,470	11,400	15,100	178	132
Other States 2/.....	2,530	6,600	6,500	68	98
U. S. TOTAL.....	459,340	470,400	504,100	110	107
For freezing.....	101,770	140,130	158,150	155	113
For canning and other processing:	357,570	330,270	345,950	97	105
1/ Acreage for harvest and indicated production, 1956, with comparisons:					

CALIFORNIA

Year	Acreage Harvested	Yield per Acre Pounds (Shelled)	Production Tons (Shelled)
Average, 1945-54....	7,340	2,230	8,560
1955.....	9,800	2,880	14,110
Indicated 1956.....	14,000	3,140	21,980

2/ Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wyoming.

GREEN PEAS, Commercial crop for processing: Preliminary planted
acreage by types, by States, 1956, with comparisons

STATE	1955		1956 Preliminary	
	Smooth Round	Sweet Wrinkled	Smooth Round	Sweet Wrinkled
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Maine.....	---	7,800	---	7,800
New York.....	880	21,120	430	21,270
Pennsylvania.....	4,620	8,580	5,600	8,400
Ohio.....	1,120	480	920	480
Indiana.....	2,800	---	2,800	---
Illinois.....	6,420	22,780	7,370	23,330
Michigan.....	1,180	4,420	300	5,800
Wisconsin.....	46,990	80,010	42,690	90,710
Minnesota.....	14,980	47,420	16,120	48,380
Iowa.....	2,770	1,430	2,590	1,110
Delaware.....	2,000	2,000	1,550	4,650
Maryland.....	3,940	5,660	3,570	6,630
Virginia.....	1,760	1,040	1,800	600
Idaho.....	---	18,100	---	18,100
Colorado.....	---	1,500	---	2,500
Utah.....	---	7,600	---	6,800
Washington.....	7,000	63,000	4,050	76,950
Oregon.....	3,780	59,220	4,150	65,050
California.....	---	11,400	---	15,100
Other States ^{1/}	890	5,710	220	6,280
U. S. TOTAL.....	101,130	369,270	94,160	409,940

^{1/} Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wyoming.

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PROGRESS OF PLANTING AND CONDITION
MAY 15, 1956

Backwardness characterized the 1956 season for processing crops in most of the country east of the Rocky Mountains. West of the Rocky Mountains, conditions were more seasonable and growers were able to follow their planting schedules for such crops as green peas, snap beans and sweet corn. Warmer weather in the Middle Western States, New York and the Middle Atlantic States would improve prospects for early planted crops and assist farmers in planting the late acreage.

GREEN PEAS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Maine

Planting is expected to start about May 15. Moisture is adequate.

New JerseyPennsylvania and
Western Maryland

Favorable conditions prevail for the crop, although the season is a few days later than in 1955.

Delaware, Eastern
Shore Maryland and
Virginia

Season is late but favorable. Cool weather prevails.

New York State

Planting is in progress. Unseasonably cool weather with frequent showers has hindered work in the fields.

Indiana, Ohio
and Michigan

Conditions similar to those in New York State extended westward into Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. Season is late.

Illinois and
Wisconsin

Germination is good in the first fields planted to green peas but the season, especially in Wisconsin, is late. Planting in this State is expected to continue through most of May.

Iowa and
Minnesota

Cool and dry weather of late April continued through early May. Season is late.

Colorado
and Utah

Favorable conditions are reported for the growing crop.

Idaho, Oregon
and Washington

The crop in the northwest is growing under favorable conditions.

California

Harvesting in southern California was finished early in May and was under way in the Central valleys. Some late fields will be harvested early in June.

SWEET CORN FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Delaware, Maryland
and Virginia

As of mid-May, ground was becoming very dry. Weather is cool. Planting is expected to continue through most of the month.

New Jersey and
Pennsylvania

Conditions similar to Delaware, Maryland and Virginia extended into these two States. Season is a week or more later than usual.

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SWEET CORN FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING (Cont'd)

New York State Planting is expected to get under way near the end of May. Weather is cool.

Ohio and Indiana Cool weather through late April delayed sweet corn planting. Most of this year's acreage is now scheduled for planting late in May.

Illinois and Wisconsin Illinois growers of sweet corn indicate that more moisture is needed to aid seed germination. In Wisconsin however, the season is backward. Too much rain early in the season hindered farm work.

Iowa and Minnesota Cool weather which has prevailed in most of Wisconsin to date extended southward into Minnesota and Iowa. Planting has been delayed and much of sweet corn acreage will be planted later in May.

Idaho, Oregon and Washington Planting is on schedule in the Northwest. Weather is favorable.

SNAP BEANS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Delaware, Maryland and Virginia Planting of snap bean seed got under way on the lower Eastern Shore late in April and is expected to continue through May in Delaware and Maryland. Some delay in planting was caused by unseasonably cool weather.

New Jersey and Pennsylvania Cool weather has delayed field work. Season is a week or ten days later than usual.

New York State Planting is expected to get under way about mid-May. Soil moisture conditions are favorable.

Michigan and Wisconsin It is expected planting will not get under way before the latter part of May. Season is backward.

Arkansas and Oklahoma Season is late. Acreage planted before May 15 was limited but growers expect to continue planting snap bean seed through the month.

Louisiana and Texas In Louisiana harvest got under way around mid-May and picking the spring crop should be nearly finished by the end of the month. In the lower Valley of Texas, conditions are reported favorable for harvesting.

Colorado and Utah Planting is in progress under favorable conditions. Soil moisture is sufficient to germinate the seed.

California, Oregon and Washington Moderately cool weather continued through the first part of May in the Pacific Northwest and portions of California. Timely rains in the Northwest maintained favorable moisture conditions west of the Cascade Mountains.

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TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING

Delaware, Maryland
and Virginia

Plantings are more than half completed in Maryland and are nearing completion in Delaware. Cold winds on the Eastern Shore have retarded growth of early set plants. In Virginia, the setting of plants was practically completed early in May but many fields have been hard hit by frost and much re-setting has been necessary. This is still in progress.

Pennsylvania
and New Jersey

New Jersey tomato growers started setting plants in their fields around May 1. In southeast Pennsylvania, the second week of May marked greater transplanting activity and it is expected that growers in Northwest Pennsylvania will start transplanting about May 20, when weather should be warmer.

Ohio, Indiana
and Illinois

The season is late. Some early fields were seeded direct and are reported in good condition. Transplanting is expected to be more active after the middle of May.

Arkansas, Missouri
and Oklahoma

Due to the cool, late spring, very few plants were set in the fields before May 15. Warm rains are needed.

Colorado
and Utah

In Colorado the setting of plants in fields was under way early in May but in Utah, cool weather delayed work in the field. Most plantings will be made the latter part of May.

California

Transplanting is expected to be finished by May 25-30. In fields that were direct seeded, timely showers have helped germination.