

VEGETABLES — PROCESSING

REFERENCE ROOM

HD
9004
T8
U6c

TC-56: 502



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PROSPECTIVE PLANTED ACREAGE OF PRINCIPAL COMMERCIAL CROPS MAY 1, 1956

The prospective 1956 planted acreage of 9 vegetables for commercial processing is about 8 percent more than last year, according to the Crop Reporting Board. The nine vegetables for processing for which 1956 intended acreage reports are now available are 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

C R O P	Average	1955	1956
	1945-54		Prospective
	Acres	Acres	Acres
Beans, Green Lima.....	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 1/.....	459,340	469,920	499,840
Spinach (Winter and Early Spring) 2/.....	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	1,623,910	1,761,920
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	Junell & Nov. 9
TOTALS -			
11 CROPS FOR PAST SEASONS.....	1,922,450	1,793,310	Dec. 28

1/From previous releases.

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

GREEN LIMA BEANS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING
PROSPECTIVE PLANTED ACREAGE

1956 with Comparisons

An increase of 6 percent from 1955 in the prospective 1956 acreage of green lima beans for processing is indicated by reports received by the Crop Reporting Board from processors in late April and early May. These reports gave information on the acreage processors intend to contract and plant this season. The indicated acreage for 1956 is an interpretation of these reports, based on past relationships between such reports and the acreage actually planted.

If these early-season prospects materialize, the 1956 plantings for canning, freezing and other processing will total 111,250 acres. This compares with 105,070 acres planted in 1955 and the 1945-54 average of 99,120 acres.

Assuming a loss of plantings of about 5 percent in line with recent years, a planting of 111,250 acres would result in about 105,700 acres for harvest. This compares with 99,080 acres harvested in 1955 and the average of 93,420 acres.

Of the 111,250 acres in prospect for processing in 1956, intentions reports indicate 72,440 acres will be planted for freezing and 38,810 acres will be planted for canning, including succotash. Last year 67,180 acres were planted for freezing and 37,890 acres were planted for canning, etc.

The purpose of this report is to assist growers and processors generally in making such further changes in their 1956 acreage plans as may appear desirable. The acreage finally planted in 1956 may turn out to be larger or smaller than now indicated, by reason of weather conditions, price changes, labor supplies, financial conditions and the effect of this report itself on processors' actions. The following table shows, by States, the acreage in prospect at the present time.

GREEN LIMA BEANS, Commercial crop for processing: Prospective Planted Acreage by States, 1956, with Comparisons

STATE	1955		1956		
	Average 1945-54	Prospective	As Percent of Average 1945-54	As Percent of 1955	
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
New York.....	3,030	4,600	3,100	102	67
Pennsylvania.....	4,760	4,800	4,600	97	96
Ohio.....	960	730	680	71	93
Michigan.....	3,030	1,500	1,800	59	120
Wisconsin.....	6,420	7,250	7,400	115	102
Delaware.....	19,430	23,400	24,500	126	105
Maryland.....	4,820	3,900	3,800	79	97
Virginia.....	4,400	2,800	3,300	75	118
Washington.....	1,490	1,120	1,300	87	116
California.....	19,660	23,500	30,500	155	130
Other States <u>1/</u>	31,130	31,470	30,270	97	96
U. S. TOTAL.....	99,120	105,070	111,250	112	106
For freezing <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 67,890	67,180	72,440	---	108
For canning and other: processing <u>2/</u>	<u>3/</u> 42,230	37,890	38,810	---	102

1/ Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee and Utah.

2/ Not shown by States to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ 3-year average, 1952-54. Estimates not available prior to 1952.

PROGRESS OF PLANTING AND CONDITION

MAY 1, 1956

GREEN PEAS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Maine: Snow has just finished melting in much of the area where green peas are grown in Maine. Planting will not start much before May 10.

New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Western Maryland: Cool rainy weather has delayed field work. Growers planted much of their acreage late in April. Good stands are reported on the early fields.

Delaware, Eastern Shore of Maryland, and Virginia: Planting was a little later than usual due to cool, rainy weather. In the southern portion of this area, it is expected that harvesting will not get under way before May 23. In Delaware, unseasonably cool weather has retarded the development of the crop about a week.

New York State: The amount of green pea seed that was in the ground before May 1 was limited. Rains hindered growers with field work in Western New York State.

Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan: Rains and cool temperatures extended westward into Michigan and Ohio so the season is backward in those States. An occasional grower in Indiana finished planting toward the end of April.

Illinois and Wisconsin: Additional moisture is needed in Illinois and small portions of Wisconsin. Temperatures were also unseasonably cool. Planting is expected to continue through early May, especially in Wisconsin.

Iowa and Minnesota: Weather is cool and dry. Some seed was planted about mid-April but it has been slow in germinating.

Colorado and Utah: In Colorado, favorable conditions are reported, although additional rainfall would be beneficial. In Utah, the 1956 season to May 1 was dry. However, planting was progressing about on schedule.

Idaho, Oregon and Washington: Generally favorable conditions are reported from the Northwest. In the first fields to be planted, germination was good. Most of the acreage will be planted before May 5. Additional rains will be welcomed now.

California: Harvesting was under way late in April. Southern California growers had about finished by May 1. In the San Joaquin Valley, the crop is about one-fourth harvested.