

VEGETABLES — PROCESSING

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Release: June 11, 1956
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PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS JUNE 1, 1956

REFERENCE

The prospective 1956 planted acreage of 9 vegetables for commercial processing is about 9 percent more than last year, according to the Crop Reporting Board. This includes -- in addition to prospective acreage previously reported -- the planted acreage of late spring spinach for which the preliminary estimate is made as of June 1. These 9 crops usually account for about 94 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, June 1, 1956, with Comparisons

CROP	Average	1955	1956
	1945-54	1955	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 Spring) 3/.....	29,510	25,110	25,070
Tomatoes 1/.....	412,840	322,720	355,550
TOTALS - Crops for which prospective 1956 planted acreage has been estimated:	1,798,620	1,636,700	1,778,050
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 (Fall).....	11,420	7,380	Nov. 9
TOTALS -			
11 CROPS FOR PAST SEASONS.....	1,922,450	1,791,690	Dec. 28

1/From previous releases.
2/Preliminary estimate of 1956 planted acreage from previous releases.
3/Planted acreage comparable with harvested acreages shown on page 8 of this report.

GREEN PEAS, Commercial crop for processing: Condition,
June 1, 1956, with comparisons

STATE	Average June 1, 1945-54	June 1, 1955	June 1, 1956
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Maine.....	94	95	85
New York.....	84	96	86
Pennsylvania.....	89	82	81
Ohio.....	82	100	80
Indiana.....	84	101	83
Illinois.....	89	101	84
Michigan.....	86	93	85
Wisconsin.....	89	96	84
Minnesota.....	89	82	96
Iowa.....	89	106	90
Delaware.....	83	82	89
Maryland.....	84	92	86
Virginia.....	84	85	85
Idaho.....	90	100	107
Colorado.....	87	50	81
Utah.....	86	95	94
Washington.....	92	97	95
Oregon.....	89	103	101
California 1/.....	89	85	90
Other States 2/.....	87	86	108
TOTAL ALL STATES.....	88	94	91

1/ Acreage for harvest and indicated production, 1956, with comparisons:

California

Year	Acreage harvested	Yield per Acre	Production
	Acres	Pounds (Shelled)	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.

June 11, 1956

PROGRESS OF PLANTING AND CONDITION
JUNE 1, 1956

GENERAL COMMENTS

Weather conditions west of the Rocky Mountains have generally been favorable for processing crops. In the East, continued cold weather and rain has delayed the planting of many processing vegetables.

Growing conditions for green peas, corn, and snap beans in the important northwest area are above average. Good stands of tomatoes are reported in California.

Through the early part of the season, growers in the Midwest were somewhat handicapped by cold wet weather and up to June 1 they had not fully overcome this handicap. Wisconsin's green pea growers were from one to three weeks behind schedule with planting. The delay was less serious in Minnesota and northern Illinois. Other crops also suffered as a result of the late spring. Heavy rains in late May in parts of Indiana and Ohio delayed plantings and also damaged earlier planted fields.

As of June 1, probably the most serious delay to processing crops was in New York State; planting of green peas was far behind schedule and field work for other crops, such as snap beans, sweet corn and tomatoes, has been delayed by the wet, cold spring. Unseasonable late frosts in some other States in the Middle Atlantic region damaged tomatoes and snap beans and necessitated replanting some of the early fields. In some areas of this region and in the Midwest, a shortage of tomato plants has developed and replacements are late.

GREEN PEAS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Maine Most of the acreage intended for green peas was planted by June 1. Seed germinated well in the earliest fields. Rains are now needed.

New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Western Maryland. Appearance of the crop in New Jersey is good. In Pennsylvania and Western Maryland, the late fields also look good but early varieties in scattered areas suffered from a frost on May 17 and another one on May 24-25. Harvesting is expected to start in some of the early fields around June 10.

Delaware, Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia Progress of the crop in this area varies widely. Some of the early fields in Virginia are expected to be ready for harvest around the last of May or early in June. Good rains late in May benefited these fields. In Delaware and Maryland (Eastern Shore) the crop is developing under favorable conditions. Timely rains helped the late crop.

New York State The 1956 planting season in western New York State is very late. Some growers expect to plant seed into early June. Below normal temperatures have slowed germination and growth in this State.

Indiana, Ohio and Michigan Growers in these three States are still behind schedule. Much of the acreage intended for green peas remained to be planted after June 1. Torrential rains during the latter half of May flooded some of the lowlands in Central Indiana and Western Ohio.

GREEN PEAS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING (Cont'd)

Illinois and Wisconsin The crop in central and eastern Illinois showed the effect of the late, cold spring. The northern Illinois crop was developing under more favorable conditions and some fields were beginning to bloom. Over practically all of Wisconsin planting schedules have been delayed from one to three weeks by cold backward weather. Many growers will be planting their green pea seed in early June.

Iowa and Minnesota Good headway was made toward the end of May in planting green peas but the season is still later than usual. Rains have been beneficial and the growing crop looks promising, though late.

Colorado and Utah The crop in these two States is growing under favorable conditions except in some local areas where hail and late frosts caused some damage.

Idaho, Oregon and Washington Generally, the Northwestern green pea crop is developing under favorable conditions. Some of the earliest fields in eastern Washington were ready for harvest around May 31; it will be more general by June 10.

California The harvesting of green peas continues along the Coastal Valleys in California and was practically finished by the end of May in the Central Valleys.

SNAP BEANS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Maine and New England States Planting of snap beans for processing got underway in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont near the end of May. The season is backward, a frost being reported on May 25.

Delaware, Maryland and Virginia The season is still backward. On the lower Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland, frosts inflicted some damage in early fields and cool weather retarded germination in late plantings. In Delaware, the crop is more promising.

New Jersey and Pennsylvania A backward season prevails in these States, too. Some replanting was underway late in May in fields where frost damage was severe. Growers expect to continue planting into June.

New York State Most of the land intended for snap beans was expected to be planted after June 1. Weather was too cool and wet in May. Some early-planted seed rotted and growers are replanting as rapidly as conditions permit.

Michigan and Wisconsin Only a limited acreage was planted before June 1. Weather continues cool.

Arkansas and Oklahoma Early season prospects are favorable in Oklahoma and Ozarks. In some early areas, picking may begin around mid-June.

Louisiana and Texas Harvesting of the spring crop in Louisiana was nearly finished by May 31. In the Texas Lower Valley, picking is expected to continue through early June. The east Texas crop was maturing under favorable conditions.

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SNAP BEANS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING (Cont'd)

Colorado and Utah Planting continues under favorable conditions. In the early fields, the seed germinated well and is making satisfactory growth.

Oregon and Washington Excellent growing conditions prevail in the Northwest. Planting was generally finished before May 31. Good stands are reported.

SWEET CORN FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

New England States Very little of the crop was planted prior to June 1, due to a cool, late spring. Season is about two weeks late, with a freeze on May 25.

New York State Planting was delayed by wet, cold weather until the first week in June.

New Jersey and Pennsylvania Planting is continuing in all areas of Pennsylvania. Germination has been good, but the crop has been retarded by cold weather. Some replanting has been necessary due to the soil "crusting" after hard rains.

Delaware and Maryland Low soil moisture and cold weather have caused uneven germination. Some early acreage has been replanted in northern Delaware. Cool, dry weather slowed growth, however, general rains the last week in May are expected to benefit the crop. Planting is still under way in some areas of Maryland.

Ohio and Indiana Growers in these States are about two weeks behind schedule. Planting has been delayed by continued cold weather and excessive rains. Earliest plantings in Ohio are in good condition but in Indiana much of the acreage is showing water damage.

Illinois and Wisconsin Sweet corn planting is progressing in most areas, with early acreage now coming up. Although the crop has been delayed by unfavorable weather, condition of first plantings is generally favorable.

Iowa and Minnesota Planting is about completed. Early growth is satisfactory, with stands on first plantings good. Moisture is needed to relieve inadequate reserves.

Texas Growing conditions continue favorable and harvest is expected to start early in June.

Colorado and Utah Planting has been completed. Conditions are generally favorable.

Idaho, Oregon and Washington Growing conditions have been very good with higher than normal temperatures prevailing during the past 30 days. Indications point toward a good crop, especially on heavy soil. Fair to good stands are reported in all areas. Irrigated corn is reported doing very well.

TOMATOES FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

- New York State Due to cold, wet weather, planting was just getting started the last week of May. Heavy frost damage to earliest plantings reported in some areas.
- New Jersey and Pennsylvania Original plantings completed but freeze damage in May has necessitated resetting in many areas. Growers have had some difficulty in obtaining plants. Moisture is adequate. Plantings expected to be completed the first week in June.
- Delaware, Maryland and Virginia Cold weather has retarded the crop in these States. Frost damaged plants in many areas. Extensive cut-worm damage has been reported on the Eastern Shore in Maryland and Delaware.
- Ohio, Indiana and Illinois Excessive rains, and scarcity of plants have seriously delayed planting. Weather has been too cool for proper growth in many areas of Indiana and Ohio. Some cut-worm damage has been reported. In Illinois, plantings were generally about two weeks late. The crop is in fair to good condition.
- Michigan and Wisconsin Growers were busy through late May, setting plants in the fields. Moisture is adequate. Some frost damage reported in Wisconsin.
- Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma The season to date has been generally favorable for tomatoes. Transplanting was practically completed by June 1. Appearance of the crop is very good.
- Colorado and Utah The crop was reported to be in very good condition except for hail damage in some areas of Utah. Weather has generally been favorable.
- California Planting has been completed. Condition of the crop is average to good except in the Imperial Valley where some disease damage has been reported.

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LATE SPRING SPINACH FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

PRELIMINARY ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

1956, with comparisons

The 1956 production of late spring spinach for processing is estimated at 31,300 tons, 2 percent below last year and 24 percent under average. For the group of 6 late spring crop States, the preliminary estimate of 1956 harvested acreage is slightly smaller than 1955 but the average yield per acre is higher.

Harvest of the Washington crop was nearing completion on June 1. In New York, where the season is late because of cold wet weather, harvest is expected to run into July.

Because of increased production of winter and early spring spinach in California and Texas, total 1956 production for processing reported to date is 12 percent above last year and 32 percent over average.

The first estimate of 1956 fall production for processing will be released on November 10.

LATE SPRING SPINACH FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING
PRELIMINARY ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION
1956, with comparisons

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	HARVESTED ACREAGE			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	Average:	1955	1956	Average:	1955	1956	Average:	1955	1956
	1945-54:		Prelim:	1945-54:		Prelim:	1945-54:		Prelim:
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Winter.....	6,090	4,000	4,000	1.5	1.3	2.5	9,080	5,200	10,000
Early Spring...	7,390	8,000	8,900	5.6	7.1	7.2	41,280	56,800	64,100
Late Spring:									
Va.....	560	1,200	1,100	2.6	2.6	2.4	1,470	3,100	2,600
Md.....	680	440	440	2.2	2.5	2.7	1,520	1,100	1,200
N.Y. 1/.....	1,200	1,300	1,200	8.1	8.2	7.0	9,670	10,700	8,400
Ark.....	4,530	3,300	3,300	1.6	1.7	2.2	7,370	5,600	7,300
Okla.....	4,930	4,300	4,000	1.7	2.2	2.4	8,350	9,500	9,600
Wash. 1/.....	200	270	330	6.0	6.7	6.7	1,200	1,800	2,200
Group total 2/.....	12,100	10,810	10,370	2.16	2.94	3.02	41,280	31,800	31,300
Reported									
to date 2/.....	25,580	22,810	23,270	3.12	4.11	4.53	79,940	93,800	105,400
Fall:									
Calif.....	1,230	1,000	---	5.6	6.4	---	6,440	6,400	---
Va.....	410	400	---	2.9	2.5	---	1,180	1,000	---
Md.....	550	500	---	1.9	2.4	---	1,080	1,200	Nov. 10
Ark.....	1,330	230	---	1.8	1.9	---	2,400	440	---
Okla.....	2,170	400	---	1.2	2.5	---	2,920	1,000	---
Wash. 1/.....	440	500	---	7.2	7.2	---	3,030	3,600	---
Other									
States 1/.....	2,090	1,800	---	4.8	5.0	---	10,130	9,000	---
Group total 2/.....	8,220	4,830	---	3.51	4.69	---	27,180	22,640	---
9 STATES 2/.....	33,800	27,640	---	3.11	4.21	---	107,120	116,440	Nov. 10

1/ Averages for these States are 1949-54.

2/ Averages for these groups include short-time averages for New York, Washington, and "Other States."