



NASS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Vegetables

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Fresh Vegetable Harvested Acreage Up 3 Percent

The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the fall quarter is forecast at 163,900 acres, up 3 percent from last year. Acreage increased for snap beans, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, sweet corn, and bell peppers while acreage decreased for celery, cucumbers, head lettuce, and tomatoes. Acreage for cabbage was unchanged. Area forecasted for fall melon harvest is 15,800 acres, up 35 percent from last year. Cantaloup harvested area is forecast at 12,300 acres, up 45 percent from 2004. Honeydew harvested area is forecast at 3,500 acres, up 9 percent from last fall.

Summer Storage Onion Production Down 14 Percent

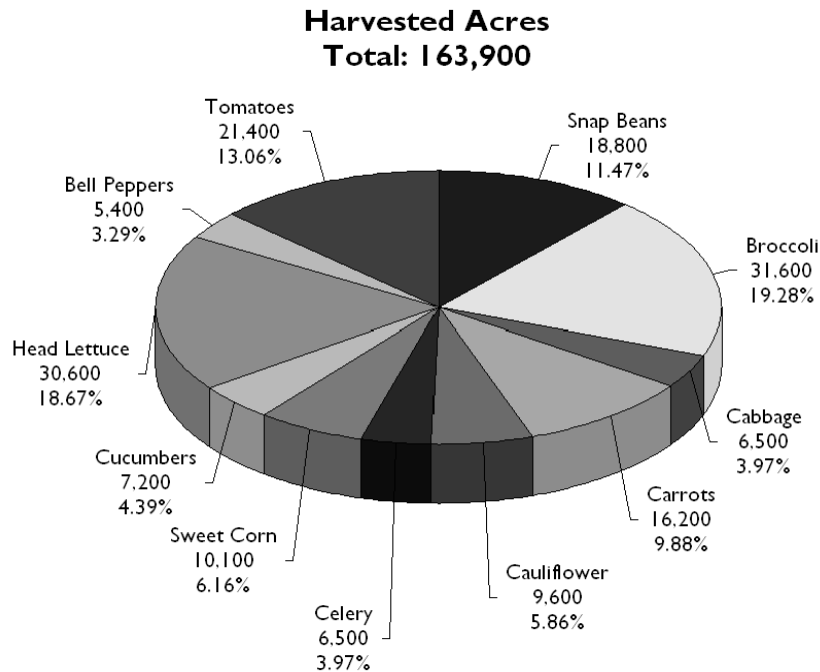
Summer storage onion production is forecast at 49.7 million hundredweight, down 14 percent from last year. Storage onion harvested area is forecast at 103,620 acres, down 5 percent from 2004. California production, at 11.6 million hundredweight, is 6 percent below 2004. Harvested area is expected to be 27,500 acres, down 4 percent from last year.

Contents

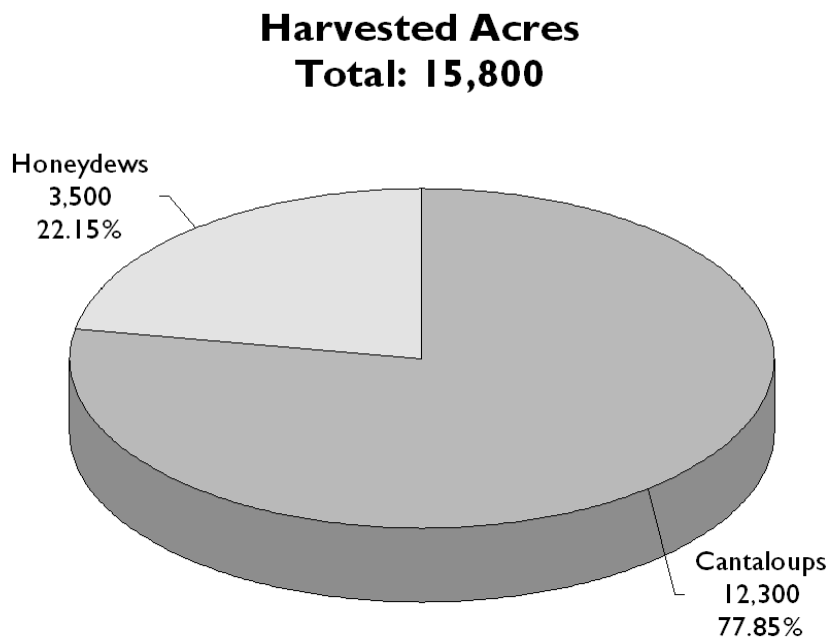
Fresh Market

	Page
By Crops	
Area	4
Harvested Acres of Selected Vegetables, Melons, and Dual Purpose Crops by State	
Beans, Snap	6
Broccoli	6
Cabbage	6
Cantaloups	6
Carrots	6
Cauliflower	6
Celery	6
Corn, Sweet	6
Cucumbers	7
Honeydews	7
Lettuce, Head	7
Peppers, Bell	7
Tomatoes	7
Fresh Market Crop Comments	8
Onions: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Season	
Onions, Spring	10
Onions, Summer Non-storage	10
Onions, Summer Storage	10
Onion Crop Comments	11

Fall Season Fresh Market Vegetables: 2005



Fall Season Melons: 2005



**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season,
and Crop, Major States, 2003-2004 and Forecasted Area 2005
(Domestic Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2005
	2003	2004	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Winter	175,000	181,200	184,700
Spring	291,200	305,200	293,200
Summer	430,700	416,900	415,500
Fall			
Snap Beans	17,000	18,000	18,800
Broccoli ¹	28,000	30,500	31,600
Cabbage	6,500	6,500	6,500
Carrots	14,700	13,500	16,200
Cauliflower ¹	9,000	9,000	9,600
Celery ¹	6,900	6,600	6,500
Sweet Corn	9,900	9,700	10,100
Cucumbers	7,900	7,700	7,200
Head Lettuce	31,500	31,400	30,600
Bell Peppers ¹	5,100	5,100	5,400
Tomatoes	22,300	21,600	21,400
Total	158,800	159,600	163,900
Cantaloups	8,400	8,500	12,300
Honeydew Melons	3,900	3,200	3,500
Total Melons	12,300	11,700	15,800
Total Fall Crop	171,100	171,300	179,700

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season,
and Crop, Major States, 2003-2004 and Forecasted Area 2005
(Metric Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2005
	2003	2004	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Winter	70,820	73,330	74,750
Spring	117,850	123,510	118,660
Summer	174,300	168,720	168,150
Fall			
Snap Beans	6,880	7,280	7,610
Broccoli ¹	11,330	12,340	12,790
Cabbage	2,630	2,630	2,630
Carrots	5,950	5,460	6,560
Cauliflower ¹	3,640	3,640	3,890
Celery ¹	2,790	2,670	2,630
Sweet Corn	4,010	3,930	4,090
Cucumbers	3,200	3,120	2,910
Head Lettuce	12,750	12,710	12,380
Bell Peppers ¹	2,060	2,060	2,190
Tomatoes	9,020	8,740	8,660
Total ²	64,260	64,590	66,330
Cantaloups	3,400	3,440	4,980
Honeydew Melons	1,580	1,300	1,420
Total Melons ²	4,980	4,730	6,390
Total Fall Crop ²	69,240	69,320	72,720

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop,
State, and Total, Fall Season, 2003-2004 and Forecasted Area 2005**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2005
		2003	2004	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Snap Beans				
FL	Oct-Dec	9,200	9,800	10,000
GA	Oct-Dec	5,000	5,000	5,000
NJ	Sep-Oct	900	1,600	1,700
VA	Sep-Oct	1,900	1,600	2,100
Total		17,000	18,000	18,800
Broccoli ¹				
CA	Oct-Dec	28,000	30,500	31,600
Cabbage				
FL ²	Oct-Dec	500	1,000	1,100
GA	Oct-Dec	4,700	4,800	4,700
NJ	Sep-Nov	400	500	500
TX	Sep-Nov	900	200	200
Total		6,500	6,500	6,500
Cantaloups				
AZ	Oct-Dec	5,000	5,200	7,500
CA	Oct-Dec	3,400	3,300	4,800
Total		8,400	8,500	12,300
Carrots				
CA	Oct-Dec	14,500	13,300	16,000
TX	Sep-Nov	200	200	200
Total		14,700	13,500	16,200
Cauliflower ¹				
CA	Oct-Dec	9,000	9,000	9,600
Celery ¹				
CA	Oct-Dec	6,900	6,600	6,500
Sweet Corn				
CA	Oct-Dec	5,000	4,900	4,800
FL	Oct-Dec	4,900	4,800	5,300
Total		9,900	9,700	10,100

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop, State,
and Total, Fall Season, 2003-2004 and Forecasted Area 2005 (continued)**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2005
		2003	2004	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Cucumbers				
FL	Oct-Dec	4,800	4,600	4,300
SC	Oct-Dec	700	1,000	700
TX	Sep-Nov	1,100	1,200	1,500
VA	Sep-Oct	1,300	900	700
Total		7,900	7,700	7,200
Honeydews				
AZ	Oct-Dec	1,000	700	1,100
CA	Oct-Dec	2,900	2,500	2,400
Total		3,900	3,200	3,500
Head Lettuce				
AZ - Other ³	Oct-Dec	200		
CA	Oct-Dec	31,000	31,000	30,000
NJ ³	Sep-Nov	300		
Other States ⁴			400	600
Total		31,500	31,400	30,600
Bell Peppers ¹				
FL	Oct-Dec	4,900	4,900	4,800
TX	Sep-Nov	200	200	600
Total		5,100	5,100	5,400
Tomatoes				
CA	Oct-Dec	8,800	9,600	9,400
FL	Sep-Dec	13,500	12,000	12,000
Total		22,300	21,600	21,400

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² 2004 revised.

³ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

⁴ 2004 - AZ and NJ.

2005 - AZ and NJ.

Snap Beans: Fall fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 18,800 acres, up 4 percent from last year and 11 percent above 2003. Some fields in Florida were saturated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Growers expect harvest to begin by mid-November. Georgia growers report a very dry fall season with very little rainfall received during the last month. The New Jersey crop did well despite sustained high temperatures during the summer months. Regular irrigation was necessary for most of the fields. In Virginia, persistent dry weather and warmer than normal temperatures made irrigation necessary in some areas. Growers that could not irrigate expect lower yields.

Broccoli: California's area for fall harvest is forecast at 31,600 acres, 4 percent above last year and 13 percent more than 2003. Conditions have been favorable for this season's broccoli crop. The planting season began under good conditions but recent hot temperatures have caused some bolting.

Cabbage: Fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 6,500 acres, unchanged from both last year and the year before. Florida planting began in the Hastings area with some delayed due to rainfall from Tropical Storm Ophelia. Harvest is expected to begin around December 1. Conditions have been dry in Georgia during the past month. New Jersey acreage is unchanged from last year. Harvest began mid-September with good quality reported. Texas conditions have been abnormally hot with mid-afternoon temperatures in the high 90's. This year's crop is experiencing problems similar to white fly infestation but the cause is uncertain at this time.

Cantaloups: Fall cantaloup area for harvest is forecast at 12,300 acres, up 45 percent from 2004 and 46 percent above two years ago. Conditions in Arizona have been normal and quality is mostly good. California fall melons are progressing well with no major insect or disease problems reported.

Carrots: Area for fresh market harvest is forecast at 16,200 acres, up 20 percent from last year and 10 percent above 2003. Cooler California weather this fall is providing excellent growing conditions for the carrot crop. Texas fall acreage is unchanged. Weather has been hot with temperatures in the mid-90's.

Cauliflower: Area for fall harvest in California is forecast at 9,600 acres, up 7 percent from both last year and 2003. California's fall crop development is mostly good with minor quality issues reported such as yellowing, mold spotting, and brown spotting. Weather conditions have been favorable for cauliflower development.

Celery: California's fall area for harvest is forecast at 6,500 acres, down 2 percent from 2004 and 6 percent below 2003. Celery quality was excellent in late summer and early fall with no pest or disease problems reported. Higher fuel prices and hauling food for Hurricane Katrina victims has caused a shortage in trucks to haul celery and other California vegetables to Eastern markets.

Sweet Corn: Fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 10,100 acres, up 4 percent from last year and 2 percent above 2003. California's crop is in good condition with no insect or disease problems reported. In Florida, surplus soil moisture delayed planting in some areas around Lake Okeechobee and Dade County.

Cucumbers: Area for fall harvest is forecast at 7,200 acres, down 6 percent from last year and 9 percent lower than 2003. Florida cucumbers received a large amount of rainfall from both Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita which saturated fields and hindered field activities. Some growers may plant more cucumbers as weather permits. South Carolina's crop had received sufficient moisture until hurricane season which disrupted the normal West-East weather fronts. Precipitation has been well below normal with the exception of coastal areas from Charleston north that received rainfall from Hurricane Ophelia. The Texas crop had some white fly damage but is doing well overall. Virginia growers report hot and dry conditions this fall. Irrigated cucumbers are doing well but growers without irrigation expect lower yields and quality.

Honeydews: Fresh market area for fall harvest is forecast at 3,500 acres, up 9 percent from last year but 10 percent below 2003. Arizona's harvest has already begun throughout the State. The California crop is progressing well with no major insect or disease problems reported.

Head Lettuce: Area for fall harvest is forecast at 30,600 acres, down 3 percent from last year and two years ago. Planting of the fall season crop in California is ongoing. Development is good in the San Joaquin Valley while growing regions along the Central Coast have reported some quality problems. New Jersey growers expect a good crop despite dry conditions.

Bell Peppers: Fall area for harvest is forecast at 5,400 acres, up 6 percent from both 2004 and 2003. In Florida, fields are extremely wet in some areas due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Field activities are suspended until the water drains. More bell peppers may be planted as weather permits. In Texas, bell pepper fields have made good progress but hot weather has delayed fruit set. The market is strong but there are no peppers ready for harvest. A late harvest is expected.

Tomatoes: Fresh market area for fall harvest is forecast at 21,400 acres, 1 percent below last year and down 4 percent from 2003. California growers reported normal conditions during planting. Harvest is ongoing and fungicides are being applied as needed. The Quincy area in Florida is expected to begin harvesting in early October. Fall planting in the southern Peninsula during August and early September was delayed by the threat of rain and gusty winds from tropical systems.

**Onions: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Season,
State, and United States, 2003-2004 and Forecasted 2005**

Season and State	Area			Yield per Acre		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2005	2003	2004	2005
	2003	2004				
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>
Spring	32,500	35,700	34,100	312	337	310
Summer						
Non-Storage	22,200	23,200	22,400	522	521	488
Storage						
CA ¹	35,000	28,500	27,500	420	430	420
CO	9,600	11,000	9,500	385	500	440
ID	9,800	10,400	9,500	600	770	700
MI	3,600	3,200	3,300	320	290	260
MN ^{2 3}	210			310		
NY	11,900	13,000	12,700	320	400	260
OH ⁴	380			320		
OR						
Malheur	12,200	11,100	11,000	590	780	600
Other	6,900	7,400	7,000	470	570	500
UT ⁵	1,800	1,500		460	520	
WA	18,000	20,000	19,500	570	580	600
WI	2,000	1,900	1,700	345	320	330
Oth Sts ⁶		550	1,920		324	425
Total	111,390	108,550	103,620	464	534	480
Summer	133,590	131,750	126,020	473	532	481
US	166,090	167,450	160,120	442	490	445
Production						
	2003		2004	2005		
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>		
Spring	10,133		12,031	10,563		
Summer						
Non-Storage	11,588		12,098	10,920		
Storage						
CA ¹	14,700		12,255	11,550		
CO	3,696		5,500	4,180		
ID	5,880		8,008	6,650		
MI	1,152		928	858		
MN ^{2 3}	65					
NY	3,808		5,200	3,302		
OH ⁴	122					
OR						
Malheur	7,198		8,658	6,600		
Other	3,243		4,218	3,500		
UT ⁵	828		780			
WA	10,260		11,600	11,700		
WI	690		608	561		
Oth Sts ⁶			178	816		
Total	51,642		57,933	49,717		
Summer	63,230		70,031	60,637		
US	73,363		82,062	71,200		

¹ Primarily for dehydrated and other processing.

² 2004 data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ Estimates discontinued in 2005.

⁴ 2004 and 2005 data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

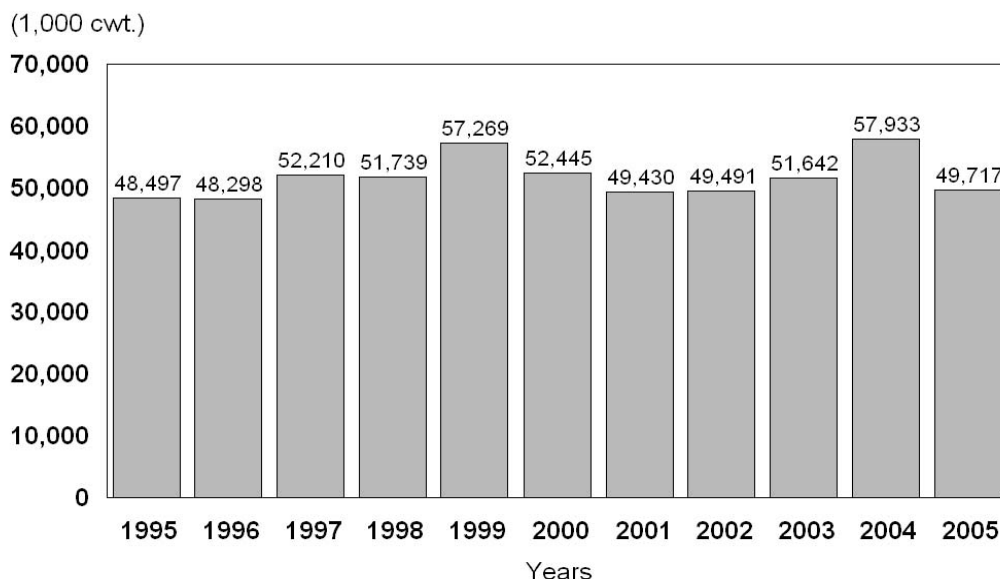
⁵ 2005 data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

⁶ 2004 - MN and OH.

2005 - OH and UT.

Storage Onion Production

United States, 1995-2005



Summer Storage Onion Production Down 14 Percent

Summer storage onion production is forecast at 49.7 million hundredweight (cwt), down 14 percent from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 103,620 acres, down 5 percent from 2004. The yield is down 54 cwt from last year at 480 cwt per acre. California storage onion yields are lower due to disease and mildew problems caused by wet conditions. Rain and wet conditions during planting caused delays and reduced acreage planted. Weather in the Colorado onion growing areas has been optimal resulting in the second highest yield on record. In Idaho, yield and production are below last year. Michigan's onion growers expect lower yields from this year's crop. Dry, hot conditions lowered quality and reduced bulb size. Yields and quality were better for growers that irrigated. In New York, onion sizes are smaller due to drought conditions during the growing season. The hot, dry weather also caused decreased yields for the State. Oregon's harvest is about 50 percent complete and should finish by mid-October in Malheur County. Other areas of the State finished harvesting at the end of September. Very wet spring conditions, combined with iris yellow virus and thrips, have reduced yields across the State. In Utah, yields are lower than last year due to wet conditions during the spring and not enough rain during the summer. Washington's onion harvest is winding down. Better than normal yields are expected. Wisconsin growers expect higher yields despite hot and dry growing conditions.

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

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 robb@lmic.info.