

WEEKLY TOMATO REPORT 1/ - 1963-64 Season

Weekly Planting in Florida and the
Spring Crop in the Texas Lower Valley

Week Ending	FLORIDA						TEXAS		TOTAL	
	1962-63			1963-64			LOWER VALLEY		2 STATES	
	Seeded	Set 2/	Total	Seeded	Set 2/	Total	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64
Season through	-Acres-						-Acres Seeded-		-Total Acres Seeded Basis-	
Nov. 23	25,420	2,960	28,380	25,040	4,210	29,250	---	---	28,380	29,250
30	1,140	490	1,630	1,000	40	1,040	---	50	1,630	1,090
Dec. 7	980	380	1,360	1,160	50	1,210	50	150	1,410	1,360
14	1,070	530	1,600	1,880	80	1,960	50	450	1,650	2,410
21	2,980	640	3,620	1,090	170	1,260	150	---	3,770	1,260
28	1,770	1,000	2,770	2,150	620	2,770	150	250	2,920	3,020
Jan. 4	1,570	390	1,960	840	1,450	2,290	950	3,050	2,910	5,340
11	870	150	1,020	1,020	370	1,390	2,900	4,100	3,920	5,490
18	460	160	620	440	620	1,060	1,350	1,850	1,970	2,910
25	410	100	510	510	140	650	1,700	2,850	2,210	3,500
Feb. 1	270	---	270	120	180	300	2,400	1,050	2,670	1,350
8	80	---	80	60	---	60	950	450	1,030	510
Total through Feb. 8	37,020	6,800	43,820	35,310	7,930	43,240	10,650	14,250	54,470	57,490
Feb. 15	---	---	---	150	---	---	700	600	700	---
22	170	60	230	---	---	---	500	600	730	---
29	210	20	230	---	---	---	600	50	830	---
Mar. 7	---	---	---	10	---	---	350	200	350	---
Season to date	37,400	6,880	44,280	35,470	---	---	12,800	15,700	57,080	---

Plant Development and Progress of Harvest 3/ - March 7, 1964

STAGES	FLORIDA		TEXAS		TOTAL 2 STATES	
	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64	1962-63	1963-64
	-Acres-		-Acres-		-Acres-	
Pre-fruit stage	10,570	11,560	12,800	15,700	23,370	27,260
Fruit set						
Early development	6,420	3,430	---	---	6,420	3,430
Har. expected next 2 weeks	2,330	2,230	---	---	2,330	2,230
Times harvested						
Once	2,690	1,970	---	---	2,690	1,970
Twice	2,500	1,720	---	---	2,500	1,720
Three or more	5,790	5,190	---	---	5,790	5,190
Harvest completed	13,900	17,300	---	---	13,900	17,300

1/ Excludes acreage contracted for processing. 2/ The acreage set is shown as planted 4 weeks earlier to make crop development comparable to that on the acreage seeded. 3/ For fresh market. Does not include harvest for processing.

(See comments on reverse side.)

Warm days and nights with abundant sunshine in all of Florida's tomato producing areas improved plant condition and accelerated growth last week. In the Pompano vine ripe area, condition of older plants is declining seasonally. Other plants are mostly in good condition. Size of fruit is good on all but the oldest plants. Condition of the crop in Dade County continued to improve. The young acreage looks good. Fruit quality and size are fair to good. Plants for spring harvest in Fort Pierce, Immokalee-Fort Myers, and Manatee-Ruskin showed considerable improvement last week and most fields are in good condition.

Warmer weather in Texas during the week stimulated growth of the Rio Grande Valley tomatoes but high gusty winds in all sections continued to buffet plants. In the upper and middle sections of the Valley, stands are being reduced with little possibility of replanting this late in the season. Growers are watering and cultivating oldest plants to minimize plant loss. Irrigation is difficult on late planted acreage due to small plant sizes and winds are rapidly reducing top moisture. A few of the earliest fields are about ready to bloom. In the lower section of the Valley, stands are heavy and plants vary from one to six inches tall. Moisture is adequate. A small acreage was planted during the week.