

VEGETABLES

Release: March 3, 1964
3:00 P.M. (E.S.T.)

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. 16	24,040	2,410	26,450	23,810	4,040	27,850	---	---	26,450	27,850
23	1,380	550	1,930	1,230	170	1,400	---	---	1,930	1,400
30	1,140	490	1,630	1,000	60	1,060	---	100	1,630	1,160
Dec. 7	980	380	1,360	1,180	50	1,230	50	150	1,410	1,380
14	1,070	530	1,600	1,880	100	1,980	50	450	1,650	2,430
21	2,980	640	3,620	1,050	170	1,220	150	---	3,770	1,220
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	3,150	2,910	5,440
11	870	150	1,020	1,020	350	1,370	2,900	4,150	3,920	5,520
18	460	160	620	440	640	1,080	1,350	1,850	1,970	2,930
25	410	100	510	510	140	650	1,700	2,850	2,210	3,500
Feb. 1	270	---	270	160	120	280	2,400	1,050	2,670	1,330
Total through Feb. 1	36,940	6,800	43,740	35,270	7,910	43,180	9,700	14,000	53,440	57,180
Feb. 8	80	---	80	60	---	---	950	450	1,030	---
15	---	---	---	150	---	---	700	600	700	---
22	170	60	230	---	---	---	500	600	730	---
29	210	20	230	---	---	---	600	50	830	---
Season to date	37,400	6,880	44,280	35,480	---	---	12,450	15,700	56,730	---

Plant Development and Progress of Harvest 3/ - February 29, 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	11,230	12,770	12,450	15,700	23,680	28,470
Fruit set						
Early development	8,710	3,430	---	---	8,710	3,430
Har. expected next 2 weeks	1,750	2,100	---	---	1,750	2,100
Times harvested						
Once	2,380	1,950	---	---	2,380	1,950
Twice	2,650	1,170	---	---	2,650	1,170
Three or more	4,230	4,930	---	---	4,230	4,930
Harvest completed	13,250	17,040	---	---	13,250	17,040

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.)

March 3, 1964

Temperatures in Florida's tomato producing areas during the week ending February 29 averaged below normal for the third consecutive week. Light precipitation was recorded in most areas. Scattered frost on February 24, in all except the Pompano vine ripe area, caused little or no damage. In the Pompano vine ripe area, plants are generally in good condition. Quality of fruit has been good. Production is declining as most growers are now picking fruit from old acreage. Condition of the mature green crop in Dade County is fair. Fruit quality is improving and sizes are fair to good. Volume is picking up and is expected to increase. In the north central area, plants for spring harvest, although slowed by consistent adverse weather, are progressing satisfactorily. Fruit has started to set in the Immokalee-Fort Myers and Fort Pierce areas.

Cool days and cold nights held back tomato growth in the Texas Rio Grande Valley. Light rain and drizzle on Monday added one-fourth to one-half inch of moisture to fields already wet from the one inch rain on February 21. Ground generally was too wet during the week for field work. Some March acreage is expected to be seeded in the Brownsville area.