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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C.

# Vegetables

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## **Fresh Vegetable Harvested Acreage Down 1 Percent**

The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the fall quarter is forecast at 159,700 acres, down 1 percent from last year. Acreage increased for cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, sweet corn, and cucumbers while acreage decreased for snap beans, broccoli, celery, head lettuce, bell peppers, and tomatoes. Area forecasted for fall melon harvest is 16,200 acres, up 3 percent from last year. Cantaloup harvested area is forecast at 12,500 acres, down 1 percent from 2005. Honeydew harvested area is forecast at 3,700 acres, up 19 percent from last fall.

## **Summer Storage Onion Production Up Less Than 1 Percent**

Summer storage onion production is forecast at 50.3 million hundredweight, up less than 1 percent from last year. Storage onion harvested area is forecast at 109,650 acres, up 3 percent from 2005. California production, at 13.2 million hundredweight, is 12 percent above 2005. Harvested area is expected to be 31,500 acres, up 13 percent from last year.

## Contents

### Fresh Market

#### Page

By Crops	
Area .....	4

#### Harvested Acres of Selected Vegetables, Melons, and Dual Purpose Crops by State

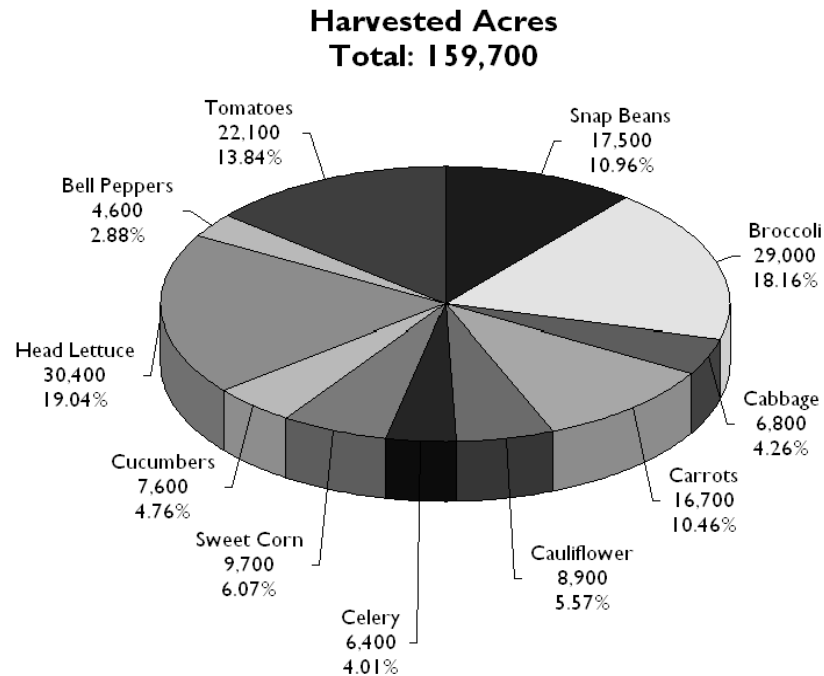
Beans, Snap .....	6
Broccoli .....	6
Cabbage .....	6
Cantaloups .....	6
Carrots .....	6
Cauliflower .....	6
Celery .....	6
Corn, Sweet .....	6
Cucumbers .....	7
Honeydews .....	7
Lettuce, Head .....	7
Peppers, Bell .....	7
Tomatoes .....	7

Fresh Market Crop Comments .....	8
----------------------------------	---

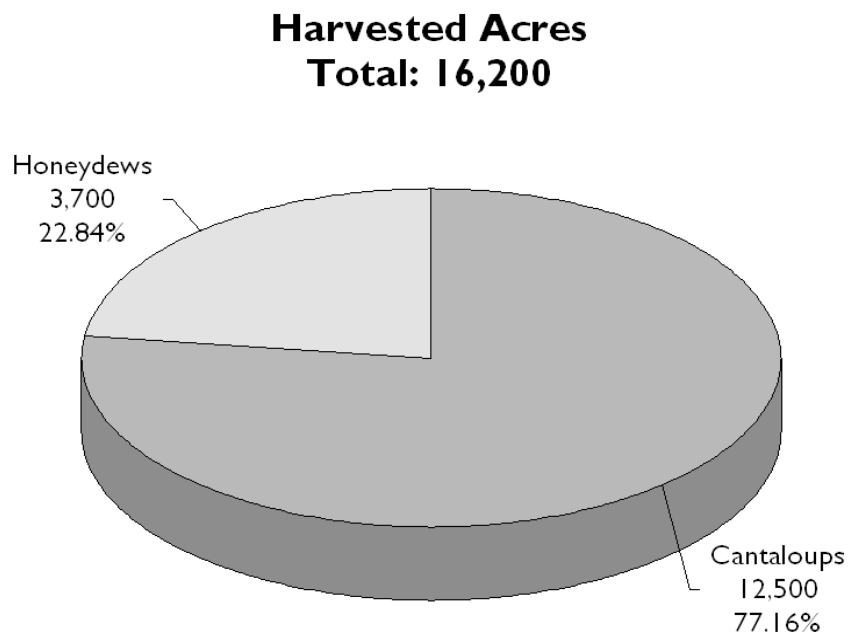
#### Onions: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Season

Onions, Spring .....	10
Onions, Summer Non-storage .....	10
Onions, Summer Storage .....	10
Onion Crop Comments .....	11

## Fall Season Fresh Market Vegetables: 2006



## Fall Season Melons: 2006



**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season,  
and Crop, Major States, 2004-2005 and Forecasted Area 2006  
(Domestic Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2006
	2004	2005	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Winter	178,300	179,600	183,900
Spring	301,050	282,250	285,100
Summer	407,900	410,600	408,500
Fall			
Snap Beans	18,000	18,200	17,500
Broccoli <sup>1</sup>	29,500	29,500	29,000
Cabbage	6,000	6,500	6,800
Carrots	13,500	16,200	16,700
Cauliflower <sup>1</sup>	8,000	8,600	8,900
Celery <sup>1</sup>	6,900	6,800	6,400
Sweet Corn	9,100	9,000	9,700
Cucumbers	7,700	6,800	7,600
Head Lettuce	29,450	31,350	30,400
Bell Peppers <sup>1</sup>	5,100	5,400	4,600
Tomatoes	23,000	22,500	22,100
Total	156,250	160,850	159,700
Cantaloups	8,500	12,600	12,500
Honeydew Melons	3,200	3,100	3,700
Total Melons	11,700	15,700	16,200
Total Fall Crop	167,950	176,550	175,900

<sup>1</sup> Includes fresh market and processing.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season,  
and Crop, Major States, 2004-2005 and Forecasted Area 2006  
(Metric Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2006
	2004	2005	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Winter	72,160	72,680	74,420
Spring	121,830	114,220	115,380
Summer	165,070	166,170	165,320
Fall			
Snap Beans	7,280	7,370	7,080
Broccoli <sup>1</sup>	11,940	11,940	11,740
Cabbage	2,430	2,630	2,750
Carrots	5,460	6,560	6,760
Cauliflower <sup>1</sup>	3,240	3,480	3,600
Celery <sup>1</sup>	2,790	2,750	2,590
Sweet Corn	3,680	3,640	3,930
Cucumbers	3,120	2,750	3,080
Head Lettuce	11,920	12,690	12,300
Bell Peppers <sup>1</sup>	2,060	2,190	1,860
Tomatoes	9,310	9,110	8,940
Total <sup>2</sup>	63,230	65,090	64,630
Cantaloups	3,440	5,100	5,060
Honeydew Melons	1,300	1,250	1,500
Total Melons <sup>2</sup>	4,730	6,350	6,560
Total Fall Crop <sup>2</sup>	67,970	71,450	71,180

<sup>1</sup> Includes fresh market and processing.

<sup>2</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop,  
State, and Total, Fall Season, 2004-2005 and Forecasted Area 2006**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2006
		2004	2005	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Snap Beans				
FL	Oct-Dec	9,800	10,000	9,500
GA	Oct-Dec	5,000	5,100	4,700
NJ	Sep-Oct	1,600	1,300	1,500
VA	Sep-Oct	1,600	1,800	1,800
Total		18,000	18,200	17,500
Broccoli <sup>1</sup>				
CA	Oct-Dec	29,500	29,500	29,000
Cabbage				
FL	Oct-Dec	500	1,000	1,000
GA	Oct-Dec	4,800	4,800	4,900
NJ	Sep-Nov	500	500	600
TX	Sep-Nov	200	200	300
Total		6,000	6,500	6,800
Cantaloups				
AZ	Oct-Dec	5,200	8,000	7,500
CA	Oct-Dec	3,300	4,600	5,000
Total		8,500	12,600	12,500
Carrots				
CA	Oct-Dec	13,300	16,000	16,500
TX	Sep-Nov	200	200	200
Total		13,500	16,200	16,700
Cauliflower <sup>1</sup>				
CA	Oct-Dec	8,000	8,600	8,900
Celery <sup>1</sup>				
CA	Oct-Dec	6,900	6,800	6,400
Sweet Corn				
CA	Oct-Dec	4,300	4,200	4,600
FL	Oct-Dec	4,800	4,800	5,100
Total		9,100	9,000	9,700

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop, State,  
and Total, Fall Season, 2004-2005 and Forecasted Area 2006 (continued)**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2006
		2004	2005	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Cucumbers				
FL	Oct-Dec	4,600	4,600	4,700
SC	Oct-Dec	1,000	700	600
TX	Sep-Nov	1,200	400	1,400
VA	Sep-Oct	900	1,100	900
Total		7,700	6,800	7,600
Honeydews				
AZ	Oct-Dec	700	700	1,300
CA	Oct-Dec	2,500	2,400	2,400
Total		3,200	3,100	3,700
Head Lettuce				
CA	Oct-Dec	29,000	31,000	30,000
Other States <sup>2</sup>		450	350	400
Total		29,450	31,350	30,400
Bell Peppers <sup>1</sup>				
FL	Oct-Dec	4,900	4,900	4,500
TX	Sep-Nov	200	500	100
Total		5,100	5,400	4,600
Tomatoes				
CA	Oct-Dec	11,000	11,000	10,300
FL <sup>3</sup>	Sep-Dec	12,000	11,500	11,800
Total		23,000	22,500	22,100

<sup>1</sup> Includes fresh market and processing.

<sup>2</sup> 2004 - AZ and NJ.

2005 - AZ and NJ.

2006 - AZ and NJ.

<sup>3</sup> 2005 revised.

**Snap Beans:** Fall fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 17,500 acres, down 4 percent from last year and 3 percent below 2004. In Florida, during August and September, scattered showers delayed some planting over the central and southern Peninsula. However, crop progress was mostly on schedule. Warm weather boosted crop growth and development. In Georgia, rainfall during the last few weeks in September benefitted the crop. A few pest problems were reported. In New Jersey, dry conditions in late August combined with frequent heavy rains during mid-September had an adverse impact on harvest and crop development. Growing conditions had improved by late September. In Virginia, timely rains throughout the growing season benefitted the crop.

**Broccoli:** California's area for fall harvest is forecast at 29,000 acres, down 2 percent from both last year and 2004. Conditions have been favorable for crop development and growth. The crop was planted under good conditions with no major pests or disease problems reported.

**Cabbage:** Fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 6,800 acres, up 5 percent from last year and 13 percent above 2004. Georgia received rainfall during September which helped benefit the crop. In Florida, during August and September, scattered showers delayed some planting over the central and southern Peninsula. However, most of the crop is reported to be on schedule. Warm temperatures boosted crop growth and development. Growers in New Jersey reported some plant losses due to heavy rains in mid-September. However, growing conditions are currently favorable. Texas conditions have been good for fall vegetables due to cool nights and heavy irrigation.

**Cantaloups:** Fall cantaloup area for harvest is forecast at 12,500 acres, down 1 percent from 2005 but 47 percent above two years ago. Arizona's harvest is behind schedule due to cool nights. Harvest is expected to begin by late September in central Arizona, and by early October in western Arizona. California's fall melons are progressing well, however, growers have been struggling with whitefly infestation.

**Carrots:** Area for fresh market harvest is forecast at 16,700 acres, up 3 percent from last year and 24 percent above 2004. In California, cool temperatures this fall are providing excellent growing conditions. In Texas, cool nights and heavy irrigation have benefitted the crop.

**Cauliflower:** Area for fall harvest in California is forecast at 8,900 acres, up 3 percent from last year and 11 percent above 2004. Seasonal weather allowed the fall crop to have near normal development. Quality is reported to be good.

**Celery:** California's fall area for harvest is forecast at 6,400 acres, down 6 percent from 2005 and 7 percent below 2004. The fall celery crop is reported to be in good condition in the central California coastal areas. However, hot weather in July negatively impacted the summer celery crop in Salinas which resulted in lower production in September.

**Sweet Corn:** Fresh market area for harvest is forecast at 9,700 acres, up 8 percent from last year and 7 percent above 2004. California's crop is in good condition with no insect or disease problems reported. In Florida, rainfall delayed some planting in the southern Peninsula during August and September. However, most plantings are on schedule.

**Cucumbers:** Area for fall harvest is forecast at 7,600 acres, up 12 percent from last year but 1 percent lower than 2004. In Florida, scattered showers during August and September delayed some planting over the central and southern Peninsula areas. However, warm temperatures after planting boosted plant growth and development. Crop progress is now on schedule. In Texas, recent rains and cooler night time temperatures improved conditions for fall vegetables. In Virginia, dry weather conditions during the planting season discouraged some producers from planting. These same dry conditions continued during the growing season and hindered crop development.



**Honeydews:** Fresh market area for fall harvest is forecast at 3,700 acres, up 19 percent from last year and 16 percent above 2004. California's fall melon crop is progressing well. However, growers have been struggling with whitefly infestation and hope yields will not be affected. Arizona's melon harvest got a late start this season due to unseasonable cool night time temperatures. Harvest is expected to begin in central and western Arizona the week of October 1.

**Head Lettuce:** Area for fall harvest is forecast at 30,400 acres, down 3 percent from last year but 3 percent above two years ago. In California, fall lettuce fields were in various stages of planting. Fields were also being cultivated, irrigated, fertilized, and treated to control insects. Harvest is expected to transition from the Salinas growing district to the Central San Joaquin Valley by mid-October.

**Bell Peppers:** Fall area for harvest is forecast at 4,600 acres, down 15 percent from 2005 and 10 percent below 2004. In Florida, field work was interrupted by rainfall during late August through mid-September. However, field activities were able to progress with fall harvest expected to begin on schedule.

**Tomatoes:** Fresh market area for fall harvest is forecast at 22,100 acres, down 2 percent from 2005 and 4 percent below 2004. In California, July's heat shortened the transplanting season resulting in less acreage. Unseasonable rains produced by Hurricane John delayed field preparation and planting. In Florida, picking in the Quincy area is expected to begin the first week of October. Scattered showers in the southern Peninsula areas during August and September delayed some fall planting.

**Onions: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Season,  
State, and United States, 2004-2005 and Forecasted 2006**

Season and State	Area			Yield per Acre		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2006	2004	2005	2006
	2004	2005				
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>
Spring	35,700	35,300	34,500	337	318	386
Summer						
Non-Storage	23,200	19,800	21,000	521	563	517
Storage						
CA <sup>1</sup>	30,000	27,800	31,500	440	425	420
CO	11,000	9,500	9,700	500	440	440
ID	10,400	9,500	9,500	770	640	575
MI	3,200	2,900	2,600	290	260	230
NY	13,000	13,600	13,000	400	280	320
OR						
Malheur	11,100	11,500	12,000	780	640	500
Other	7,400	7,800	7,400	570	360	420
UT <sup>2</sup>	1,500			520		
WA	20,000	19,500	20,000	580	600	600
WI	1,900	2,000	2,000	320	330	310
Oth Sts <sup>3</sup>	550	1,920	1,950	324	453	429
Total	110,050	106,020	109,650	535	472	459
Summer	133,250	125,820	130,650	533	486	468
US	168,950	161,120	165,150	491	449	451
Production						
	2004		2005	2006		
	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>		<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>		
Spring	12,031		11,243	13,330		
Summer						
Non-Storage	12,098		11,140	10,853		
Storage						
CA <sup>1</sup>	13,200		11,815	13,230		
CO	5,500		4,180	4,268		
ID	8,008		6,080	5,463		
MI	928		754	598		
NY	5,200		3,808	4,160		
OR						
Malheur	8,658		7,360	6,000		
Other	4,218		2,808	3,108		
UT <sup>2</sup>	780					
WA	11,600		11,700	12,000		
WI	608		660	620		
Oth Sts <sup>3</sup>	178		869	837		
Total	58,878		50,034	50,284		
Summer	70,976		61,174	61,137		
US	83,007		72,417	74,467		

<sup>1</sup> Primarily for dehydrated and other processing.

<sup>2</sup> 2005 data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

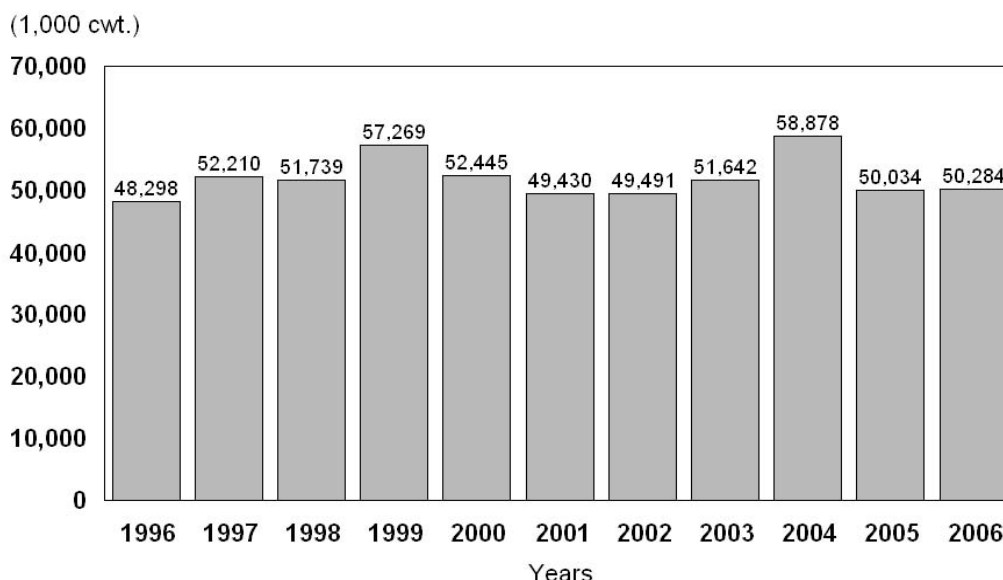
<sup>3</sup> 2004 - MN and OH.

2005 - OH and UT.

2006 - OH and UT.

# Storage Onion Production

## United States, 1996-2006



### Summer Storage Onion Production Up Less Than 1 Percent

Summer storage onion production is forecast at 50.3 million hundredweight (cwt), virtually unchanged from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 109,650 acres, up 3 percent from 2005. The yield, at 459 cwt per acre, is down 13 cwt from last year. Planting of California's storage onion crop was delayed due to rainfall. After planting, early mild temperatures and timely rains helped the crop to progress well. Some mildew problems were reported due to wet conditions. July's high heat reduced some yields. In Colorado, the crop experienced hot and dry conditions throughout the season. Damage from thrips was reported towards the end of the growing season, but it seems that it was late enough that the yields weren't affected. Idaho's yield and production are below last year due to late planting, extreme heat, and disease pressure. In Michigan, the onion crop is in fair condition. The start of harvest was delayed due to rainy weather. No major problems have been reported. New York received excessive rains and heat in all onion growing areas of the State. This resulted in loss of acreage and lower onion quality. Malheur and Other Oregon producers report that yields are low due to an extremely wet spring coupled with hot temperatures in July and yellow spot virus. Harvest is expected to be complete in Malheur County by October 25<sup>th</sup>. Other areas of the State will be completed by October 8th. In Washington, a wet spring followed by a very hot summer contributed to less than optimal growing conditions for onions. Wisconsin's hot and dry conditions contributed to lower yields this year.

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# **USDA Data Users' Meeting**

**October 16, 2006**

**Doubletree Chicago O'Hare Airport - Rosemont**

**Chicago, Illinois**

**(847) 292-9100**

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.nass.usda.gov/forum/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/forum/) or contact Amy Jenkins (NASS) at (202) 690-8141 or at [amy\\_jenkins@nass.usda.gov](mailto:amy_jenkins@nass.usda.gov).

This Data Users' Meeting precedes an Industry Outlook meeting that will be held at the same location on October 17, 2006. 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](mailto:robb@lmic.info).