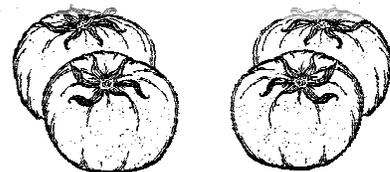


California Processing Tomato Report



Released: June 2, 1997



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO CONTRACT TONNAGE DOWN 8 PERCENT

California tomato processors have contracted 9.7 million tons of tomatoes for 1997 harvest, 8 percent less than last year's final contracted production. Acreage contracted, at 270 thousand acres, is down 14 percent from last year.

During the past three years, for which an early season processing tomato report has been available, June 1 indication versus the final delivered contracted production was as follows:

PRELIMINARY vs. FINAL CONTRACTED PRODUCTION

Year	June 1	Final	Difference
--- Thousands ---			
1994	10,300	10,632	+332
1995	11,300	10,473	-827
1996	11,300	10,540	-760

Following an extremely wet January, late winter and early spring were among the driest in the history of California. Dry weather has enhanced crop prospects in the Central Valley. The desert harvest is expected to start in early June, while most of the San Joaquin Valley should start the end of June and work its way to the north.

This early processing tomato survey is funded by the California League of Food Processors in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The USDA estimate for all states will be issued on July 10.

ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION (CONTRACT AND TOTAL) - CALIFORNIA

Year	Total Crop			Contract Only		
	Planted	Harvested	Production	Planted	Harvested	Production
	-- Acres --		- Tons -	-- Acres --		- Tons -
1987	217,000	214,000	6,702,480	214,800	211,800	6,632,770
1988	228,300	226,100	6,547,860	225,200	223,000	6,458,620
1989	290,000	276,500	8,585,330	280,000	272,000	8,445,200
1990	320,000	310,000	9,306,200	315,000	305,000	9,170,000
1991	322,000	312,000	9,893,520	320,000	310,000	9,820,000
1992	242,000	240,000	7,932,000	238,600	236,600	7,830,140
1993	282,000	274,000	8,951,580	280,000	272,000	8,890,240
1994	318,000	311,000	10,748,160	315,000	308,000	10,632,160
1995	331,000	317,000	10,606,820	329,000	315,000	10,472,980
1996	318,000	313,000	10,660,780	315,000	310,000	10,540,000
1997	---	---	---	270,000	---	9,700,000

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY

County	1996 Total Crop		1997 Contracted Acreage Planted
	Planted	Harvested	
SACRAMENTO VALLEY:	--- Acres ---		
Colusa	27,100	26,800	22,200
Sacramento	7,900	7,600	5,300
Solano	15,400	15,000	14,500
Sutter	21,200	21,000	16,000
Yolo	68,800	67,700	52,900
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY:			
Fresno	99,400	98,800	95,500
Kern	---	---	2,300
Kings	6,900	6,700	---
Merced	12,800	12,400	10,900
San Joaquin	26,300	26,000	26,600
Stanislaus	14,300	13,900	13,000
Other Counties <u>1/</u>	17,900	17,400	10,800
STATE TOTAL	318,000	313,000	270,000

1/ Counties combined to avoid disclosure problems (less than three processors or one processor accounting for more than sixty percent of the acreage) include:

1996 - Butte, Contra Costa, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, Madera, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura

1997 - Butte, Contra Costa, Glenn, Kings, Madera, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura

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