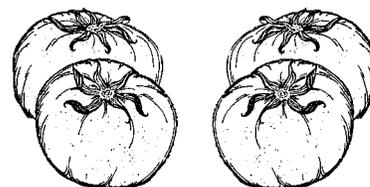


California Processing Tomato Report



Released: June 1, 1998



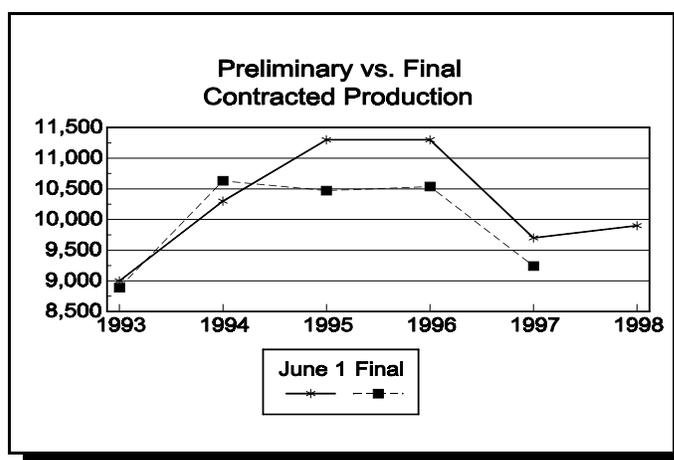
CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO CONTRACT TONNAGE

California tomato processors in late May reported 9.9 million tons of tomatoes contracted for 1998 harvest, 7 percent more than last year's final contracted production. Acreage contracted, at 285 thousand acres, is up 7 percent from last year.

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 9.

During the past five years, for which an early season processing tomato report has been available, June 1 contracted tonnage versus the final delivered contracted production is as shown in the chart.

Extreme weather continues to delay planting and growth, while bacteria and fungal problems increase. Most of the San Joaquin Valley expects to start harvesting by mid-July. Some processors anticipate receiving tomatoes until mid-October.



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	260,000	9,349,600	267,000	257,000	9,241,720
1998	---	---	---	285,000	---	9,900,000

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY

County	1997 Total Crop		1998 Contracted Acreage
	Planted	Harvested	
SACRAMENTO VALLEY:		--- Acres ---	
Colusa	22,200	22,000	24,400
Sacramento	5,300	5,200	5,300
Solano	14,500	14,400	12,800
Sutter	16,000	14,700	18,200
Yolo	52,900	49,200	61,000
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY:			
Fresno	95,500	92,700	78,600
Kern	2,300	2,000	2,000
Kings	---	---	7,800
Merced	10,900	10,400	15,500
San Joaquin	26,600	26,100	22,700
Stanislaus	13,000	13,000	23,400
Other Counties <u>1/</u>	10,800	10,300	13,300
STATE TOTAL	270,000	260,000	285,000

1/ Counties combined to avoid disclosure problems (less than three processors or one processor accounting for more than sixty percent of the acreage) include:
 1997 - Butte, Contra Costa, Glenn, Kings, Madera, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura.
 1998 - Contra Costa, Glenn, Madera, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura.

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