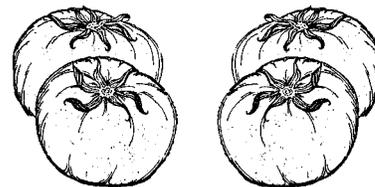


California Processing Tomato Report



Released: June 1, 2000



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATO CONTRACT TONNAGE

As of May 15, California's tomato processors reported they have or will have contracts for 10.0 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2000. This production is 17 percent less than the record contracted production of last year and slightly less than the relatively high contracted productions for 1994, 1995, and 1996.

The production for 2000 is expected to come from 282,000 acres producing an average 35.5 tons per acre. The estimated acreage is 15 percent less than last year's contracted planted acreage. The estimated yield is similar to the second highest yield established in 1997, but lower than the record yield for 1999.

Fifty-six percent of the estimated total planted acreage for 2000 is in Fresno (40%) and Yolo (16%) counties. San Joaquin (8%), Colusa (7%), Merced (6%), Solano (5%), and Stanislaus (5%) counties account for 31 percent. The remaining 14 counties account for 13 percent of the total estimated planted acreage.

In mid-January, beds were formed and fumigated for some of the fields allocated to processing tomato production. By early February, some fields were still in the preparation stages, while others were already being seeded. However, by mid-February, rain delayed some tomato planting. In early March, the wet weather was still delaying some tomato planting and slowing the development of those already in the ground. But a duration of warm weather in April improved the crop such that the progression of tomatoes was considered normal. As of May, the crop was reported in good condition and harvesting in some areas is expected to begin between the last week in June and the first week in July.

This early processing tomato estimate 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
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	8,951,707	280,000	272,000	8,890,240
1994	318,000	311,000	10,745,560	315,000	308,000	10,632,160
1995	331,000	317,000	10,605,787	329,000	315,000	10,472,980
1996	318,000	313,000	10,658,741	315,000	310,000	10,540,000
1997	270,000	260,000	9,342,309	267,000	257,000	9,241,720
1998	282,000	280,000	8,892,800	280,000	278,000	8,845,960
1999	337,000	329,000	12,239,300	332,000	324,000	11,990,270
2000	---	---	---	282,000	---	10,000,000

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY

County	1999 Total Crop		2000 Contracted Acreage
	Planted	Harvested	
	Acres		
Colusa	28,400	27,300	18,400
Contra Costa	2,600	2,600	2,300
Fresno	114,600	114,600	113,400
Kern <u>1/</u>	3,700	3,600	---
Kings <u>1/</u>	---	---	5,400
Madera <u>1/</u>	1,600	1,600	---
Merced	14,800	14,800	16,700
Sacramento	7,300	6,300	4,100
San Joaquin	31,700	31,200	23,600
Solano	18,700	16,800	14,100
Stanislaus	19,000	18,200	13,200
Sutter	18,700	17,500	10,600
Yolo	63,500	62,100	44,200
Other Counties	12,400	12,400	16,000
State Total	337,000	329,000	282,000

1/ Counties that were combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations (less than three processors or one processor with 60 percent or more of the acreage) include:

1999 - Alameda, Glenn, Imperial, Kings, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura.

2000 - Alameda, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, Madera, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura.

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