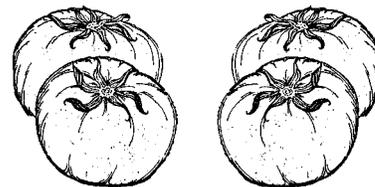


# California Processing Tomato Report



Released: May 31, 2002



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 10.5 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2002. This production is 23 percent more than the contracted production of last year.

The production for 2002 is expected to come from 282,000 acres. The estimated acreage is 11 percent more than last year's contracted planted acres. The June acreage is down from the January intentions forecast of 289,000 acres. Due to excellent weather, processors are expecting a high yielding crop and, thus, the expected production remains the same as January despite the slight decline in acreage.

Fresno County retains the top spot over all the counties in contracted planted acreage for 2002 with 109,000 acres. Yolo County also held its number two position with 37,300 contracted planted acres. San Joaquin, Colusa, and Merced round out the top five counties in 2002 for contracted planted acreage. Comparing 2001's total planted acreage to 2002's contracted planted acreage, Fresno and San Joaquin counties expect the largest increases from 2001, while Yolo and Colusa counties expect the largest declines.

Moderate weather has provided good growing conditions for processing tomatoes. Fruit setting was good with only minor infestations of beet leafhoppers reported. Stands are generally reported to be in excellent condition. Due to the good start of the season, there is the potential for an early start to the harvest. Final transplants of tomatoes were being planted near the end of May.

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 11.

## 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	289,000	271,000	10,286,500	285,000	267,000	10,131,000
2001	258,000	254,000	8,640,140	255,000	251,000	8,563,570
2002	---	---	---	282,000	---	10,500,000

**CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY**

County	2001 Total Crop		2002 Contracted Acreage
	Planted	Harvested	
	Acres		
Colusa	20,300	20,000	18,600
Fresno	93,800	92,600	109,000
Glenn	1,400	1,400	1,100
Kings	10,000	10,000	12,700
Merced	18,300	18,300	16,700
Sacramento	2,600	2,600	3,200
San Joaquin	25,000	24,200	30,800
Solano	11,200	11,200	11,900
Stanislaus	13,700	13,600	14,400
Sutter	9,600	9,500	8,900
Yolo	39,000	37,700	37,300
Other Counties <u>1/</u>	13,100	12,900	17,400
<b>State Total</b>	<b>258,000</b>	<b>254,000</b>	<b>282,000</b>

1/ Counties combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations include:  
 2001 - Contra Costa, Imperial, Kern, Madera, San Benito, Santa Clara, and Ventura  
 2002 - Contra Costa, Kern, Madera, San Benito, Santa Clara, and Tulare.

**VIC TOLOMEO, State Statistician**  
**JACK RUTZ, Deputy State Statistician**  
**GARY NELSON -- DOUG FLOHR**  
**Agricultural Statisticians, Estimates Group, (916) 498-5161**