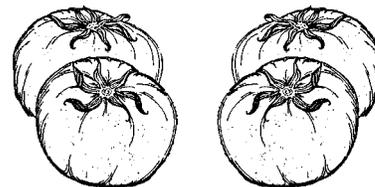


California Processing Tomato Report



Released: May 27, 2004



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 11.0 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2004. This production is 20 percent more than the contracted production of last year.

The production for 2004 is expected to come from 291,000 acres. The estimated acreage is 2 percent more than last year's contracted planted acres. The June acreage is unchanged from the January intentions forecast of 291,000 acres.

Fresno County retains the top spot over all the counties in contracted planted acreage for 2004 with 103,900 acres. Yolo County also held its number two position with 42,200 contracted planted acres. Rounding out the top five counties for contracted planted acreage in 2004 were San Joaquin, Kings, and Merced.

This season's processing tomato crop is reported to be in very good condition thus far. In some northern growing regions, wet conditions slightly hindered planting. However, generally warm spring weather has accelerated maturation, and many expect harvesting to begin one to two weeks earlier than last year, depending on how weather conditions develop through the remainder of May and into June. The higher temperatures had an adverse effect on late plantings in some areas, but so far there has been little need for replanting.

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 9.

ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION (CONTRACT AND TOTAL) - CALIFORNIA

Year	Total Crop			Contract Only		
	Planted	Harvested	Production	Planted	Harvested	Production
	Acres		Tons	Acres		Tons
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	296,000	291,000	11,056,000	290,000	285,000	10,806,400
2003	289,000	274,000	9,252,000	280,000	271,000	9,141,000
2004	---	---	---	291,000	---	11,000,000

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY

County	2003 Total Crop		2004 Contracted Acreage
	Planted	Harvested	
	Acres		
Colusa	18,800	16,900	16,900
Fresno	104,300	102,200	103,900
Kings	18,600	17,900	19,100
Madera	1,400	1,400	2,000
Merced	16,500	15,700	17,900
Sacramento	3,700	3,200	3,000
San Joaquin	34,400	33,500	40,400
Solano	11,000	10,600	1/
Stanislaus	14,800	14,600	15,300
Sutter	8,000	6,800	5,900
Yolo	39,200	34,400	42,200
Other Counties 1/	18,300	16,800	24,400
State Total	289,000	274,000	291,000

1/ Counties combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations include:
 2003 - Contra Costa, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara
 2004 - Contra Costa, Kern, San Benito, Santa Clara, Solano, and Tulare

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