



California Processing Tomato Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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As of May 15, California's tomato processors reported they have or will have contracts for 11.7 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2008. This production is 2 percent less than the contracted production of last year.

The May contracted acreage of 277,000 is 4 percent less than the January intentions forecast of 288,000 acres and 7 percent below last year's level.

Fresno County retains the top spot over all the counties in contracted planted acreage for 2008 with 103,000 acres. Yolo County grabbed the number two position with 37,000 contracted planted acres. Rounding out the top five counties for contracted planted acreage in 2008 were San Joaquin, Kings, and Merced.

This year's processing tomato crop is reported to be about a week behind schedule. Transplanting of

tomatoes began in early March. The frost in mid-April caused spotty damage, with most of the damage in Colusa County. Also, greenhouses in Merced, San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties experienced frost damage which caused a waiting period for replacement plants. Dry conditions and high winds have had a negative effect on plants and increased irrigation costs. There was no indication of major quality issues or insect problems, but growers continued to apply spray applications.

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 Acres	Harvested Acres	Production Tons	Planted Acres	Harvested Acres	Production	
						Tons	Metric Tons
1991	322,000	312,000	9,893,520	320,000	310,000	9,820,000	8,908,557
1992	242,000	240,000	7,932,000	238,600	236,600	7,830,140	7,103,386
1993	282,000	274,000	8,951,707	280,000	272,000	8,890,240	8,065,092
1994	318,000	311,000	10,745,560	315,000	308,000	10,632,160	9,645,336
1995	331,000	317,000	10,605,787	329,000	315,000	10,472,980	9,500,930
1996	318,000	313,000	10,658,741	315,000	310,000	10,540,000	9,561,730
1997	270,000	260,000	9,342,309	267,000	257,000	9,241,720	8,383,950
1998	282,000	280,000	8,892,800	280,000	278,000	8,845,960	8,024,922
1999	337,000	329,000	12,239,300	332,000	324,000	11,990,270	10,877,393
2000	289,000	271,000	10,286,500	285,000	267,000	10,131,000	9,190,691
2001	258,000	254,000	8,640,140	255,000	251,000	8,563,570	7,768,742
2002	296,000	291,000	11,056,000	290,000	285,000	10,806,400	9,803,404
2003	289,000	274,000	9,252,000	286,000	271,000	9,141,000	8,292,578
2004	301,000	281,000	11,672,000	293,000	273,000	11,000,000	10,296,550
2005	267,000	264,000	9,600,000	263,000	260,000	9,440,000	8,563,826
2006	283,000	282,000	10,104,000	280,000	279,000	10,024,000	9,093,622
2007	301,000	296,000	12,082,000	298,000	293,000	11,965,000	10,854,468
2008	---	---	---	277,000	---	11,700,000	10,614,064

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY

County	2007 Total Crop		2008 Contracted Acreage
	Planted Acres	Harvested Acres	
Colusa	16,600	16,500	14,000
Fresno	119,000	116,700	103,000
Kern	12,500	12,200	13,000
Kings	24,800	24,500	25,000
Madera	5,800	5,600	2,000
Merced	18,300	18,200	16,000
Sacramento	2,100	2,000	2,000
San Joaquin	30,100	29,800	29,000
Solano	NA	NA	11,000
Stanislaus	13,900	13,700	13,000
Sutter	8,000	7,900	9,000
Yolo	37,600	36,600	37,000
Other Counties 1/	12,300	12,300	3,000
State Total	301,000	296,000	277,000

1/ Counties combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations include:

2007 - Contra Costa, Glenn, San Benito, and Solano

2008 - Contra Costa, Glenn, San Benito, and Santa Barbara

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