

California Processing Tomato Report



California Department of Food and Agriculture

Cooperating with the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Pacific Regional Office-California

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As of May 15, California's tomato processors reported they have or will have contracts for 11.8 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2017. This production is a 1.7 percent increase from the January intentions forecast and a 5.8 percent decrease from the final contracted production total from last year.

The May contracted acreage of 235,000 is unchanged from the January intentions forecast and 9.6 percent below last year's final contracted acreage.

Fresno County remains the top California County in contracted planted acreage for 2017 with 79,800 acres. Yolo, Kings, San Joaquin, and Merced make up the remaining top five counties for contracted planted acreage. These counties make up 76 percent of the 2017 total contracted planted acreage for California.

After five years of drought, California experienced a wet winter and spring with precipitation ranging between 200% of normal in northern California and 150% of normal in Southern California. The wet weather eased drought concerns and increased available surface water from the state and federal water projects. It did however, lead to rain delays and flooded fields early in the planting season and a lag in crop maturity compared to 2016. Despite these issues, the crop is progressing well and harvest is expected to be on schedule with the San Joaquin Valley starting in early July. The harvest season is expected to last through mid-October.

This early processing tomato estimate is funded by the California League of Food Processors, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION (CONTRACT AND TOTAL) - CALIFORNIA									
		Total crop		Contract only					
Year	Planted	Harvested	Production	Planted	Harvested	Production			
	acres	acres	tons	acres	acres	Tons	Metric tons		
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	9,979,035		
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	281,000	279,000	11,822,000	278,000	276,000	11,691,000	10,605,900		
2009	312,000	308,000	13,314,000	308,000	304,000	13,148,000	11,927,668		
2010	271,000	270,000	12,297,000	269,000	268,000	12,212,000	11,078,543		
2011	255,000	250,000	11,941,000	254,000	249,000	11,900,000	10,795,501		
2012	260,000	258,000	12,640,000	258,000	256,000	12,540,000	11,376,100		
2013	263,000	260,000	12,100,000	259,000	256,000	11,900,000	10,795,501		
2014	292,000	289,000	14,010,000	289,000	285,000	13,965,000	12,668,839		
2015	299,000	296,000	14,361,000	297,000	295,000	14,307,000	12,979,096		
2016	262,000	258,000	12,647,000	260,000	256,000	12,527,000	11,364,306		
2017	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	235,000	(NA)	11,800,000	10,704,783		

(NA) Not available.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES BY COUNTY

County	Area planted	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production 1/	2017 Contracted
	Acres		7	acres	
Colusa	14,400	14,400	53.26	767,000	13,100
Fresno	80,000	79,600	50.03	3,982,000	79,800
Kern	14,900	13,900	46.40	645,000	9,100
Kings	27,200	27,000	54.74	1,478,000	25,000
Merced	23,000	23,000	47.74	1,098,000	16,900
Sacramento	2,200	2,100	46.81	98,300	1,000
San Benito	700	700	43.14	30,200	2/
San Joaquin	23,200	23,000	45.83	1,054,000	20,700
Solano	10,400	9,800	46.43	455,000	8,600
Stanislaus	7,600	7,500	39.80	298,500	6,300
Sutter	11,000	10,500	47.90	503,000	8,100
Yolo	36,000	35,800	46.90	1,679,000	35,400
Other					
Counties 2/	11,400	10,700	52.24	559,000	11,000
Total	262,000	258,000	49.02	12,647,000	235,000

^{1/} On the basis of "paid for tonnage" purchased from growers as reported by processors, dockage not included.

^{2/} To avoid disclosure of individual operations, "Other Counties" includes:

^{2016:} Butte, Contra Costa, Glenn, Madera, San Luis Obispo, Santa Clara, and Tulare.

^{2017:} Butte, Contra Costa, Glenn, Madera, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Clara, and Tulare.