



California Processing Tomato Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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As of August 15, 2008, California's contracted processing tomato production is forecast at 11.6 million tons, down 1 percent from the May forecast and 3 percent below the 2007 season. Processors expected this production to come from 276,000 acres producing an average 42.03 tons per acre.

This year's processing tomato crop is about a week behind schedule. In January, processors were expecting acreage to fall due to water uncertainties and attractively priced alternative crops. The frosty weather in mid-April caused spot damage in tomato plants in some growing areas. Dry conditions and high winds during the spring delayed fruit setting. Some growers reported that the late July crop was slow in ripening and volumes were low which was unusual for that time of the year. In other areas, crop conditions have generally been excellent with no significant insect problems. Growers continued to apply spray applications when necessary. Growers reported that they have high to variable yields this year.

As of August 16 the total Statewide inspected tonnage of tomatoes delivered (4,439,504 tons) was 20 percent lower compared to the same time one year ago (5,567,988 tons).

This report is based on the results of a survey conducted in August. This particular survey asked processors for the amount of tomatoes they expect to process and the total harvested acreage required to achieve that amount.

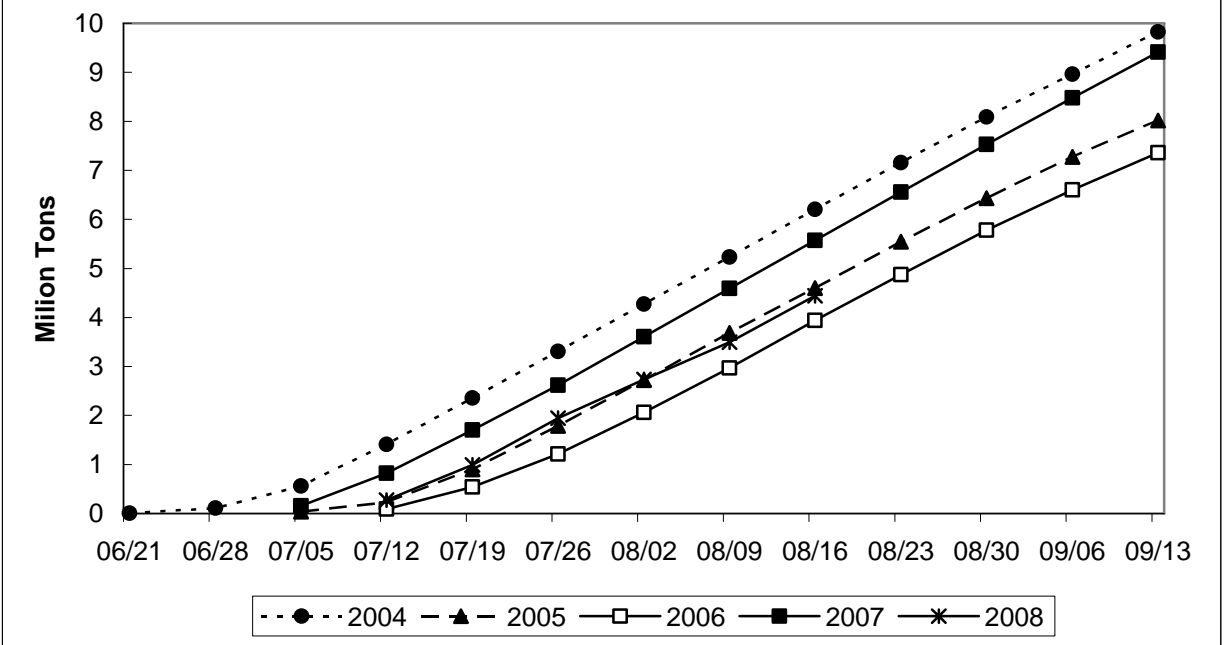
The USDA forecast for U.S. processing tomato production will be issued on September 4.

ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION (CONTRACT AND TOTAL) - CALIFORNIA

Year	Total Crop				Contract Only				
	Planted Acres	Harvested Acres	Yield Tons/Acre	Production Tons	Planted Acres	Harvested Acres	Yield Tons/Acre	Production	
								Tons	Metric Tons
1991	322,000	312,000	31.71	9,893,520	320,000	310,000	31.68	9,820,000	8,909,000
1992	242,000	240,000	33.05	7,932,000	238,600	236,600	33.09	7,830,140	7,103,000
1993	282,000	274,000	32.67	8,951,707	280,000	272,000	32.68	8,890,240	8,065,000
1994	318,000	311,000	34.55	10,745,560	315,000	308,000	34.52	10,632,160	9,645,000
1995	331,000	317,000	33.46	10,605,787	329,000	315,000	33.25	10,472,980	9,501,000
1996	318,000	313,000	34.05	10,658,741	315,000	310,000	34.00	10,540,000	9,562,000
1997	270,000	260,000	35.93	9,342,309	267,000	257,000	35.96	9,241,720	8,384,000
1998	282,000	280,000	31.76	8,892,800	280,000	278,000	31.82	8,845,960	8,025,000
1999	337,000	329,000	37.20	12,239,300	332,000	324,000	37.01	11,990,270	10,877,000
2000	289,000	271,000	37.96	10,286,500	285,000	267,000	37.94	10,131,000	9,191,000
2001	258,000	254,000	34.02	8,640,140	255,000	251,000	34.12	8,563,570	7,769,000
2002	296,000	291,000	37.99	11,056,000	290,000	285,000	37.54	10,806,400	9,803,000
2003	289,000	274,000	33.77	9,252,000	286,000	271,000	33.73	9,141,000	8,293,000
2004	301,000	281,000	41.54	11,672,000	293,000	273,000	41.58	11,000,000	10,297,000
2005	267,000	264,000	36.36	9,600,000	263,000	260,000	36.31	9,440,000	8,564,000
2006	283,000	282,000	35.83	10,104,000	280,000	279,000	35.93	10,024,000	9,094,000
2007	301,000	296,000	40.82	12,082,000	298,000	293,000	40.84	11,965,000	10,854,000
2008	---	---	---	---	277,000	276,000	42.03	11,600,000	10,523,000

California's Harvested Processing Tomatoes

Weekly Cummulative Totals for 2004 through 2008



Source: Processing Tomato Advisory Board

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