



California Processing Tomato Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

Released: May 29, 2009 12:00 p.m. PDT

As of May 15, California's tomato processors reported they have or will have contracts for 13.3 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2009. This production is 14 percent higher than the contracted production of last year.

The May contracted acreage of 308,000 is the same as the January intentions forecast.

Fresno County retains the top spot over all the counties in contracted planted acreage for 2009 with 102,000 acres. San Joaquin County grabbed the number two position with 44,000 contracted planted acres. Rounding out the top five counties for contracted planted acreage in 2009 were Yolo, Kern and Kings.

Processing tomato growers in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta are uncertain of the availability of irrigation water this season. In late January, many acres were bedded for tomatoes and set up with surface drip irrigation systems. Spring field preparations continued through February. Processing tomato fields were being planted in March. Ground preparation and the planting of tomato seed and transplants took place throughout the state April through May. There was no indication of major quality issues or insect problems.

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	281,000	279,000	11,822,000	278,000	276,000	11,691,000	10,606,006
2009	---	---	---	308,000	---	13,300,000	12,065,680

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES, ACREAGE BY COUNTY

County	2008 Total Crop		2009 Contracted Acreage
	Planted Acres	Harvested Acres	
Colusa	14,000	14,500	13,000
Fresno	103,000	102,500	102,000
Kern	13,000	13,000	25,000
Kings	25,000	24,900	24,000
Madera 1/	2,000	2,000	---
Merced	16,000	15,800	21,000
Sacramento	2,000	2,000	3,000
San Joaquin	29,000	28,800	44,000
San Benito 1/	---	---	4,000
Solano	11,000	10,500	12,000
Stanislaus	13,000	13,000	11,000
Sutter	9,000	8,500	9,000
Yolo	37,000	36,500	34,000
Other			
Counties 1/	4,000	4,000	6,000
State Total	278,000	276,000	308,000

1/ Counties combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations include:
 2008 - Contra Costa, Glenn, San Benito, and Santa Barbara
 2009 - Contra Costa, Madera, Monterey, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Yuba

VIC TOLOMEO, Director
KELLY KRUG & SARAH HOFFMAN, Deputy Directors

DOUG FLOHR & COURTNEY CHARLES, Statisticians
Estimates Group – (916) 498-5161