



Commercial Vegetables

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Washington, D. C.

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COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE CROPS FOR FRESH MARKET INDICATED ACREAGE--1954 WINTER SEASON

ARTICHOKES: The winter crop acreage of artichokes in California, which furnishes volume supplies from September to May, is 3 percent larger than in 1953 and 22 percent above average (1949-52). There are 8,900 acres for harvest in the 1954 season compared with 8,600 acres in 1953 and the 1949-52 average of 7,320 acres.

Progress of the crop has been satisfactory except that considerable dusting has been necessary to control insect pests. Harvest is light at present but should increase in volume during September.

CABBAGE: Intention-to-plant reports from the four winter crop States point to a reduction in acreage for the coming 1954 winter season. The 44,200 acres intended for 1954 is 9 percent below the 48,700 acres harvested during the 1953 winter season and 5 percent below the 1949-52 average of 46,580 harvested acres. In Texas, the heaviest reduction (about 25 percent) is indicated for the Coastal Bend area. Lower Valley growers expect a 9-percent decrease while other areas probably will have about the same acreage as a year ago. Prior to late August when rains improved moisture condition, planting was expected to be limited to irrigated areas. Plant supplies are limited and most acreage will be seeded. Flooding and excessive field moisture was expected to halt field work for a period of two weeks following the rains in the Lower Valley. There is expected to be some early season production from transplanted acreage at San Antonio and Winter Garden, but the bulk of the season's production will come direct from seeded acreage, most of which is still to be planted. Production for early December is expected to be light and unless field work starts fairly early in September supplies will be light until early in January. Planting of the cabbage crop in Arizona is in progress, and a slight increase over last year's acreage is anticipated. In California the winter acreage in the southern part of the State is expected to be reduced. Planting will be active in September and October. In Florida a reduction of 14 percent in winter cabbage acreage is indicated by growers' reports. Planting there will begin this month.

COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES: Reports on intentions to plant indicate 11,000 acres of winter potatoes in Texas and Florida-- 25 percent less than the 15,700 acres harvested in 1953. During the 10-year period, 1943-52, an average of 10,990 acres was harvested. Florida acreage is expected to be 25 percent less than in 1953. In Texas, with intentions reports indicating 100 acres less than in 1953, the winter acreage is expected to remain at the relatively low level of the last three years.

INDICATED ACREAGE 1953. TC-53: 902 September 10, 1953
 ACREAGE OF THREE COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE CROPS FOR THE 1954 WINTER SEASON,
 WITH COMPARISONS

CROP AND STATE	ACREAGE			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	4-YEAR AVERAGE 1949-52 1/	Revised 1953 2/	Ind. 1954	4-YR. AV. 1949-52 1/	Rev. 1953 2/	Ind. 1954	4-YEAR AVERAGE 1949-52 1/	Revised 1953 2/	Ind. 1954
<p>PUMPKINS:</p> <p>Winter:</p> <p>California..... 7,320 8,600 8,900 96 100 706 866</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Boxes - - 1,000 boxes -</p>									
<p>CABBAGE:</p> <p>Winter:</p> <p>Arizona..... 1,150 1,500 1,700 12.6 11.2 14,500 16,800</p> <p>Texas..... 21,880 25,000 23,000 4.4 5.0 108,200 125,000</p> <p>California..... 3,480 4,200 4,000 10.8 10.0 37,700 42,000</p> <p>Florida..... 17,080 18,000 15,500 10.4 10.0 178,000 80,000</p> <p>Group total 46,580 48,700 44,200 7.1 7.47 338,400 363,800</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Tons - - Tons -</p>									
<p>COMMERCIAL EARLY FRESH POTATOES:</p> <p>10-year AVERAGE 1942-51</p> <p>10-Yr. AV. 1942-51</p> <p>Winter:</p> <p>Texas..... 950 700 600 58 65 - 1,000 bushels -</p> <p>Florida..... 10,040 15,000 11,200 200 265 56 46</p> <p>Group total 10,990 15,700 11,800 189 256 1,986 3,975</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Bushels - - 1,000 bushels -</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2,042 4,021</p>									

1/ Group averages (including All States) are simple averages of annual data for the group.

2/ Some revisions of 1953 acreage shown on this report are not included in TC-53:901.