VEGETABLES — PROCESSING

GREEN PEAS FOR PROCESSING
COMMENTS ON CROP DEVELOPMENT

May 1, 1962

MAINE: Precipitation the last week of April was frequent but total amount was near normal. Field work was general the first week of May. Planting of green peas for processing is expected to begin about May 12.

NEW YORK: Weather conditions were unfavorable for seeding until the last week of April during which planting activity was unusually concentrated. By the first of May, seeding had progressed to near-normal for the date. Presently growing conditions are generally good.

PENNSYLVANIA: Progress of seeding on May 1 ranged from nearly complete in the southern counties to just getting underway in the higher elevations of Potter and Cambria Counties. For the State as a whole, planting was about half completed. Moisture supplies are adequate and soil condition is good.

NEW JERSEY: Planting was expected to be finished by May 5. Early plantings are reportedly in only fair condition as a result of hard rains which caused a hard packed soil surface before seedlings broke ground. Stands are uneven and growth in the heavier soil areas has been slow. Acreage planted later is in fair to good condition.

DELAWARE AND MARYLAND: Most of the green pea acreage on the Delmar Peninsula was in the ground by April 1 and planting in the area was virtually ended by May 1. In northcentral Maryland, rains at mid-month delayed field work but seeding this season was earlier than last year. Early plantings on both sides of the Chesapeake Bay show generally good stands. Soil moisture supplies are mostly adequate in northcentral Maryland but on May 1, some fields on the Peninsula were needing rain.

VIRGINIA: Planting was later than usual this year as a result of excessively cold, wet ground during late February and much of March. Growing conditions during April, however, were excellent and the crop is about on schedule. Stands are uniform and prospects on May 1 were good. Harvest on the Eastern Shore is expected to start in late May.

OHIO: Despite much below normal April precipitation and unusually dry topsoil, planting in Ohio is progressing on schedule.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service
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Crop Reporting Board
Washington, D.C.
ILLINOIS: Unfavorable weather has interfered with planting and by May 1, progress of seeding ranged by areas from 25 to 100 percent complete. First plantings are up but topsoil moisture is short and seed beds are in poor condition for later peas. Subsoil moisture is adequate.

MICHIGAN: Spring weather was cold and dry until the last few days of April when a warming trend improved prospects. On May 1, progress of seeding was reported to be from normal to somewhat late.

WISCONSIN: Late spring snows and cold weather delayed early field work but normal to above normal temperatures the last week of April together with near ideal soil moisture conditions enabled growers to catch up to a nearly average planting schedule by May 1. About 15 to 25 percent of intended green pea acreage had been planted by that date. Earliest reported plantings were on April 16. Seeding was general by April 23.

MINNESOTA AND IOWA: The late spring has delayed planting by about one week. Unseasonably warm temperatures the last few days of April resulted in a rapid build-up of soil heat units, however, and seeding was progressing rapidly on May 1.

ARKANSAS AND TENNESSEE: Green peas are up to good stands and the crop is in good condition. Soil moisture is generally adequate. Harvest in both States is expected to begin about May 20, approximately a week later than last year. Completion of harvest is expected by June 1.

COLORADO: Planting has been completed in Colorado. Peas are up and the crop is off to a good start.

UTAH: Nearly all acreage was planted by May 1. Moisture conditions are favorable and germination has been good. A light frost occurred the night of April 28.

IDAHO: Planting was earlier than usual this year and was nearly complete by May 1. The crop went in under favorable conditions and good stands have been obtained from early plantings.

EASTERN OREGON AND EASTERN WASHINGTON: Conditions are good to excellent. Nearly all acreage was planted by May 1 with some early varieties up and in bloom by that date.

WESTERN WASHINGTON: Planting is progressing on schedule under generally favorable conditions. Some early fields are up and prospects are good.

CALIFORNIA: Crop development is good in the San Joaquin Valley, California's heavy producing area. Normal yields are expected. Earliest harvest in the Valley was on April 23 with cutting generally active by May 1. In Ventura County and along the central coast, condition of green peas is rated only fair. Yields from some fields already harvested were below average. Conclusion of harvest in Ventura County is expected by mid-May. In the central coast and San Joaquin Valley areas, cutting will continue until late May or early June.