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The VEGETABLE SITUATION

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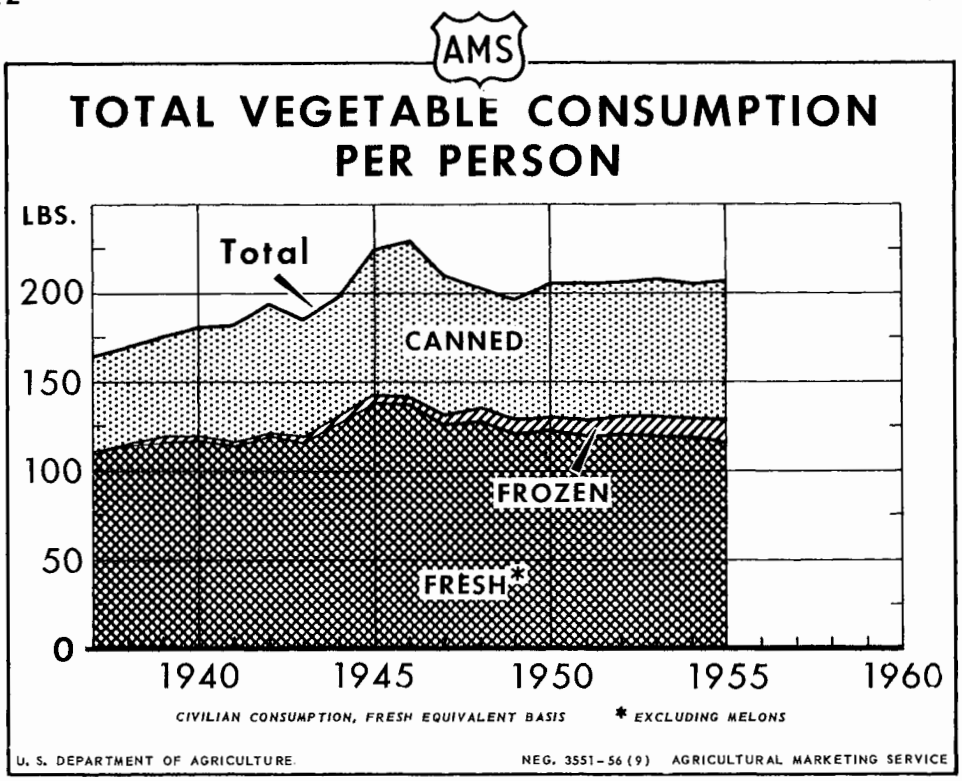
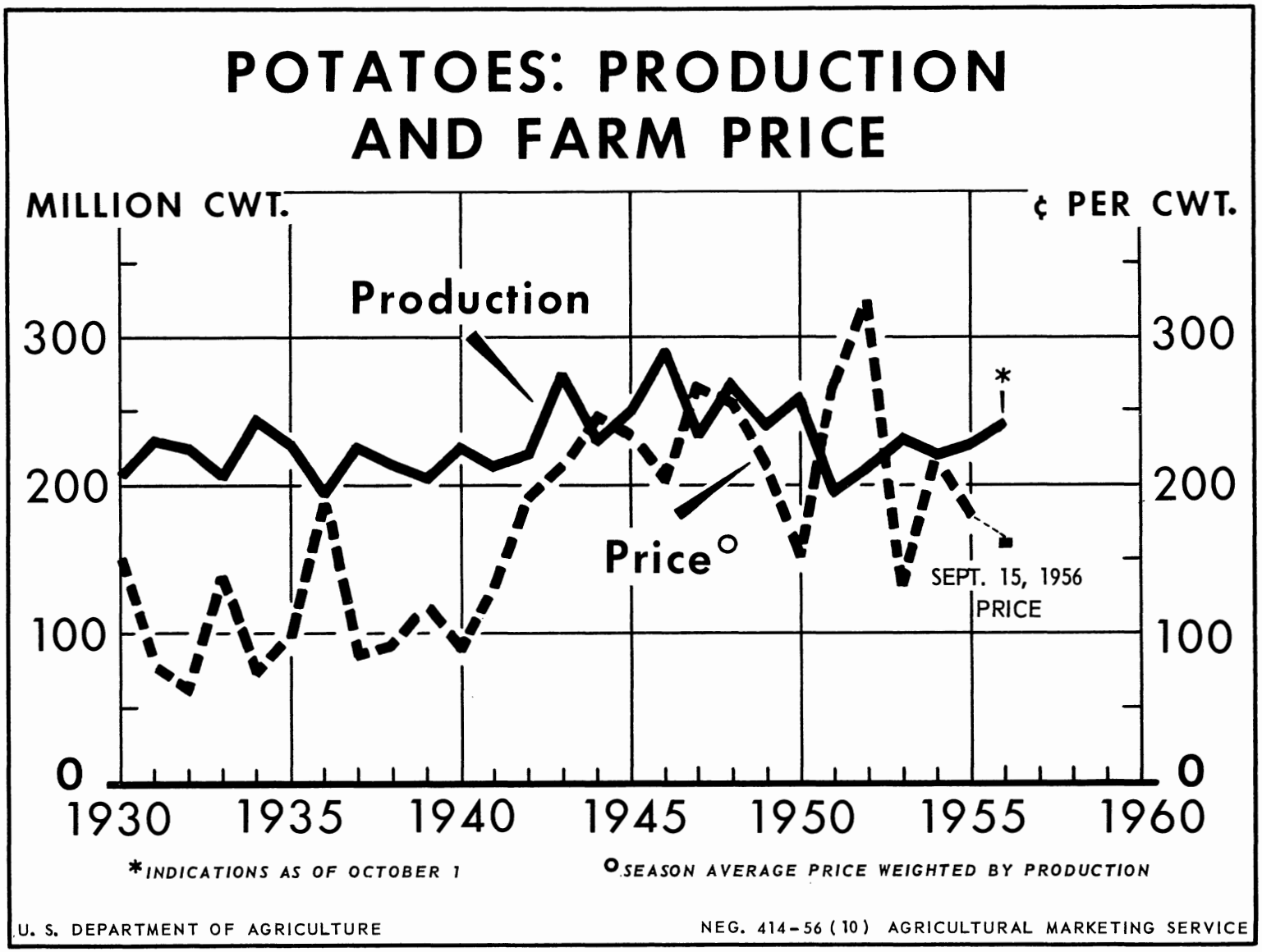


Civilians are eating considerably more commercially produced vegetables per person than 15 or 20 years ago. Consumption of fresh and processed vegetables per person (fresh weight equivalent) increased from an average of 171 pounds in 1937-39 to 207 in 1953-55, an increase of 21 percent. Most of the uptrend occurred in the 1940's. Since 1950 consumption per person has remained relatively stable. Consumption per person is now below that of 1945-46 when record levels were reached, largely as a result of factors generated by the war. But total consumption is moderately higher because of the growth in population. Most of the increase in per capita vegetable consumption over prewar levels has been in processed items. In 1953-55 canned and frozen vegetables accounted for 43 percent of total consumption compared with only 33 percent in 1937-39.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

AGRICULTURE-WASHINGTON



Potato farmers generally receive relatively high prices for small crops and low prices for large crops. Production from the important fall crop is again considerably in excess of normal requirements, prices again are low, and the Department has put into operation a potato diversion program to assist the industry in disposing of the large supplies. In areas which adopt a marketing plan that meets the requirements of the program, supplementary payments will be made for potatoes of U. S. No. 2 or better quality diverted to starch, feed or flour, provided such potatoes meet minimum diameter or weight requirements.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 24, 1956

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SUMMARY

Disposable income is expected to remain at or near record levels during 1957, and consumer demand for vegetables and other foods is expected to continue strong. Thus, prices received by producers of vegetables for fresh market sale in 1957 compared with 1956 will depend largely on the quantity produced and marketed.

Supplies of vegetables for fresh market sale this fall promise to be substantially larger than last fall or the 1949-54 average. A 50 percent larger crop of early fall cabbage, an item in short supply last fall, accounts for about two-thirds of the increased tonnage. But substantially more lima beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, spinach and early fall tomatoes, and slightly more celery are also in prospect. Materially smaller supplies of lettuce, green peas, green peppers and eggplant will be available this fall than last, and slightly fewer snap beans. With larger supplies of most fresh vegetables in prospect, prices received by growers are expected to average lower this fall than last.

Supplies of canned and frozen vegetables available for distribution into mid-1957 probably will be substantially larger than a year earlier. Among the more important canned items, biggest increases appear in prospect for tomato juice, sweet corn and sauerkraut, all of which were in relatively tight supply in the 1955-56 marketing season. More moderate increases over last season are expected for snap beans, green peas, tomatoes and most tomato products. Processing and distribution costs are up for the 1956 pack. But because of the larger supplies, retail prices in the current season are expected to average a little lower than a year earlier.

Potatoes are expected to be in heavier supply into the spring of 1957 than a year earlier. The late fall crop, from which supplies are available into spring, is about a tenth larger than last year and considerably in excess of normal trade requirements. The United States Department of Agriculture announced in late September a potato diversion program designed to help growers dispose of the large crop. Federal marketing orders and agreements which restrict marketings of tablestock potatoes to certain grades and sizes are also in effect in several important producing areas. These measures are expected to lighten somewhat the pressure on potato markets. But with the indicated large supplies, prices received by growers this fall and winter are expected to remain at fairly low levels. Farmers probably can contribute most to moving the large supplies and maintaining best overall market conditions by consistent and orderly shipments of good quality potatoes throughout the marketing season.

The sweetpotato crop is down about a fifth from 1955, a year in which market supplies were burdensome. With demand about the same as last year, prices received by farmers for 1956 crop sweetpotatoes are expected to average substantially above the low levels of a year earlier.

Total supplies of dry edible beans available in the 1956-57 marketing year promise to be a little smaller than a year earlier because of smaller carryover stocks. But most classes appear to be in ample supply, and overall prices for the season are expected to average near those of last season. Some classes, particularly pea beans, red kidneys and small reds are expected to be in surplus supply.

Supplies of dry field peas available for distribution into the summer of 1957 will be much larger than a year earlier and substantially above the 1945-54 average. However, good domestic demand and a much larger export market, as a result of weather damage to the European crop, is expected to hold prices only moderately below the high level of last season. An acreage in 1957 as large as this year, with normal weather, would produce a crop well in excess of domestic and normal export requirements and would be expected to result in a sharp price decline.

Taking a look at the years just ahead, recent trends indicate that total production of all vegetables, fresh and processed combined (fresh weight equivalent), is likely to increase at the same or a slightly faster rate than population. While per capita consumption of fresh market vegetables may show a slight decline in the next 4 to 6 years, the increasing population will mean a total market requirement at least moderately larger than the 1953-55 level of production. Per capita consumption of processed vegetables is expected to rise slightly with consumption of frozen rising more rapidly than canned. Prospects appear good for maintaining per capita potato consumption near present levels for the next few years. Because of overproduction in recent years, however, no increase in production over 1953-55 levels will be needed to meet this larger total requirement. Consumption of sweetpotatoes per person is expected to decline further in the next several years. Total market requirements 4 to 6 years from now probably will be near the 1953-55 level of production. Domestic demand for dry peas and dry beans during the next 4 to 6

years is expected approximately to keep pace with population growth. As production of dry beans in most recent years has been in excess of normal market requirements, little or no increase over 1953-55 levels of production will be necessary to meet anticipated requirements.

In the longer run, 15 to 25 years, total requirements for vegetables are expected to increase at a slightly faster rate than population. Advances in food technology and changes in modes of living may alter significantly the relative importance of the fresh and processed components. In the longer run, total requirements for dry edible beans, dry peas, potatoes and sweetpotatoes are likely to increase but at a slower rate than population. Higher consumer incomes, increased competition from other foods, and the trend in consumption away from most starchy-type foods are expected to contribute to the decline.

THE LONG RANGE OUTLOOK

Since an attempt will be made to appraise the production prospects for vegetables in the short-run 4 to 6 years, and the longer term, 15 to 25 years, certain assumptions have been made for the more important factors influencing economic activity and general demand in the years ahead. Rate of population growth and level of real incomes are major factors influencing aggregate demand for vegetables. Under assumed rates of growth, population would reach 176-178 million in 1960, and by 1975 would reach 210-220 million persons, about a third above 1955. This growth in population is expected to be the major force contributing to the increase in total requirements for vegetables. Real income will increase at an even faster rate with per capita income in 1960 expected to be at least moderately above 1955 levels. By 1975 real income per person is expected to be at least 50 percent above that of 1955. Rising incomes are not expected to result in much increase in total consumption but will cause differences in the rate of growth in demand for individual items.

Obviously, some assumptions may not prove correct, thereby altering the production prospects for vegetables. Further, in an appraisal such as this, trends may be accelerated, slowed or even reversed by factors such as technological developments, nutritional findings and changes in modes of living, which do not lend themselves either to sharp statistical measurement or projection. Recognizing these limitations an attempt is made to set up some guide posts of probable future requirements.

Consumption of all vegetables per capita, fresh and processed combined (fresh weight equivalent) increased rapidly in the war and immediate postwar years, and in 1953-55 was about one-fifth higher than in 1937-39. About three-fourths of the increase was due to increased use of processed items as use of fresh vegetables increased only moderately. Most of the uptrend in consumption per person occurred in the 1940's and since 1950 consumption per person has been relatively stable at a little more than 200 pounds. For the longer term, 15 to 25 years, per capita consumption of vegetables is likely to show a slight increase. However, the form in which these vegetables will be

marketed may differ materially from present practices. Advances in food technology and changes in modes of living may alter significantly the relative importance of what we now classify as fresh and processed components.

The short term requirements for vegetables, and the short and long run requirements for potatoes, sweetpotatoes and dry beans and peas are discussed in the commodity sections.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

Outlook

Consumer demand for fresh vegetables in 1957, is expected to be strong. But the market will absorb only a certain quantity of a product at prices which permit the farmer a fair return for his investment, labor and management. Prices received by farmers for vegetables for fresh market in 1957 compared with 1956 will depend largely on the volume produced and marketed. Should market supplies be about the same as in the previous year, prices in 1957 are expected to average near those of 1956.

Materially larger supplies of fresh market vegetables are expected to be available this fall than last. A 53 percent larger crop of early fall cabbage, an item in short supply last fall, accounts for about two-thirds of the increased tonnage. But substantially more carrots, cauliflower, cucumbers, spinach, lima beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, sweet corn, early fall tomatoes and slightly more celery are also in prospect. Supplies of lettuce, green peas, eggplant and green peppers will be materially smaller than last fall and slightly fewer snap beans will be available. The important late summer crop of onions is a little larger than last year and marketings through March are expected to equal or exceed those for the same period last season. With generally larger supplies of vegetables anticipated, prices received by growers are expected to average lower this fall than last.

Annual consumption of fresh vegetables per person (excluding melons) has trended downward in the postwar years and in 1953-55 was only slightly higher than in the immediate prewar period. While per capita consumption may show a further slight decline in the next 4 to 6 years, the increasing population suggests a total market requirement at least moderately larger than the 1953-55 level of production. Consumption of melons in the next few years is expected to continue to increase at a faster rate than population with most of the increase in watermelons.

Foreign Trade Prospects

Foreign trade in fresh vegetables is relatively unimportant compared with production, but exports and imports are important to certain areas, particularly in the winter and spring seasons. Cabbage, carrots, celery, lettuce and tomatoes make up a large percentage of our exports, most of which go to Canada. In the first 7 months of 1956 total U. S. exports of fresh vegetables amounted to about 553 million pounds, about 6 percent more than in the first 7 months of 1955. Foreign demand is expected to continue strong, and exports in the last half of 1956 and the first half of 1957 are likely to be a little higher than those of a year earlier.

A large proportion of annual United States imports of fresh vegetables arrive in the winter and spring seasons, originating for the most part in Mexico and Cuba. Principal items imported are tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, cantaloups, and watermelons. In the first 7 months of 1956 imports of fresh vegetables amounted to 321 million pounds, 18 percent more than the relatively light volume in the corresponding months of 1955. Most of the increase was in larger imports of cantaloups and watermelons. Despite a short winter crop of tomatoes in Florida and strong U. S. prices, tomato imports were light, reflecting heavy February frost damage to the crop in Mexico.

Indications are that imports of fresh vegetables, particularly tomatoes, in the first 6 months of 1957 are likely to be substantially larger than in the first half of 1956. Preliminary reports indicate that in the West Coast and El Mante Districts of Mexico acreage of vegetables for 1957 winter harvest is likely to be more than a fourth larger than last winter. Vegetables in these Districts are grown principally for export to the United States and Canada. Plantings of tomatoes, which make up about three-fourths of the winter-season acreage, account for almost 70 percent of the increase. But acreages of Bell peppers, cantaloups and watermelons are also up materially. Prospects are reported to be good on the East Coast of Mexico. First reports from Cuba also indicate a substantial increase in acreage of tomatoes for winter harvest, with the greatest expansion expected in staked or pole tomatoes, from which growers plan to market vine-ripened fruit.

Outlook for Major Fresh Vegetables

Cabbage

Supplies of cabbage available for market this fall and winter promise to be substantially larger than a year earlier. Acreage of cabbage for early fall harvest is up almost 11 percent from 1955 and prospective yields are up a third. Thus, production from the important early fall crop, which is about twice as big as the late fall and winter crops combined, is expected to approximate 637,500 tons, more than 50 percent larger than last year and 17 percent above the 1949-54 average. Production of fall cabbage for kraut on contract acreage, which makes up about a fifth of the total, is up sharply from 58,500 tons last year to 106,300 tons. Consequently, open market purchases by kraut manufacturers may be smaller than the 62,500 tons bought from the early fall crop last year. Thus, it is likely that most of the 531,000 tons of early fall cabbage available for purchase on the open market will have to be disposed of to fresh market outlets. The late fall cabbage crop is very small, typically only 5 percent as large as early fall production. Although acreage planted for late fall harvest is about the same as a year earlier, acreage harvested is likely to be up sharply and yields are expected to be much higher than the low level of 1955. Last year hurricanes destroyed a substantial acreage in Virginia and North Carolina and also reduced yields on harvested acreage. Yields near the average of recent years on the 1956 indicated acreage would result in a larger late fall tonnage.

Intentions reports as of September 1 indicate that farmers plan to plant a 13 percent smaller acreage of cabbage for winter harvest than last year and about 15 percent less than the 1949-54 average. Most of the reduction is in Texas where intended acreage is about a fourth less than last year because of lack of irrigation water and inadequate rainfall in the Lower Valley. However, the pattern of marketings from Texas is not likely to reflect fully the sharp cut in the Lower Valley. Growers in the Winter Garden, Laredo, Eagle Pass and San Antonio areas, where water is available, have increased their acreage somewhat and have planned their plantings to be in production throughout the winter season. Acreage changes in the other winter States -- Florida, Arizona and California -- are relatively small. Although no production estimate is available for the winter crop, yields near the average of recent years would result in a tonnage substantially below last winter or the 1949-55 average. However, the smaller supplies of winter harvested cabbage will be supplemented at least in the early part of the season by cabbage from the large fall crop. Although winter production in Southern States will be supplemented by much larger carryover stocks of Danish cabbage from the early fall crop, the size of the winter season crop will be the dominant factor in the cabbage market in the early months of 1957.

Supplies of cabbage last winter and early spring were substantially above those of a year earlier and for the most part prices averaged lower than in the corresponding months of 1955. Supplies in late spring and early summer continued relatively large and prices, though higher than earlier in the year and frequently above those of a year earlier, nevertheless remained at very moderate levels. Then the large late summer output and the early fall crop began to weigh on the market and prices again declined. The mid-September price averaged $31.20 per ton compared with the relatively high price of $41.90 in September 1955. The Department of Agriculture in mid-October announced a purchase program to assist producers in moving the large crop into consumption. Purchases will be made with Section 32 funds and the cabbage bought will be distributed to non-profit school lunch programs and other eligible outlets. With the indicated heavy fall production, prices received by farmers for cabbage during the fall and into early winter are likely to average substantially below the relatively high levels of a year earlier. But if the smaller winter crop materializes, prices from early winter into early spring are expected to average at least moderately above those of a year earlier.

During the last three decades there has been a marked, and with the exception of the war years, a fairly consistent decline in annual per capita consumption of fresh cabbage. This downward trend is expected to continue for the next 4 to 6 years. The declinning rate, however, will be about offset by increasing population so that total requirements of cabbage for fresh market are expected to be about the same 5 years from now as in 1953-55.

Carrots

Production of carrots in 1956 promises to be moderately larger than last year but about in line with 1949-54 average. Supplies in the first 9 months of 1956 were about the same as in 1955 and prices received by growers

also averaged about the same but were slightly below the 1949-54 average. Price comparisons with the recent 6 year period have little meaning, however, because of the growing use of film packaging. In earlier years, prices were heavily weighted with price quotations on bunched carrots.

Production of carrots for early fall harvest this year is estimated at approximately 249,000 tons, a fourth above last year and moderately above the 1949-54 average. However, a large part of the early fall crop goes to processors, particularly in the East and Midwest, and a fairly heavy movement to freezers in the Northwest. And almost two-thirds of the prospective increase in tonnage is in important processing areas. This fact, together with light carryover stocks at the beginning of the season, suggests that processor demand may be larger than last year. Thus, supplies of carrots moving into fresh market outlets may be about average, though larger than a year ago. The crop for late fall harvest is estimated at 126,500 tons, slightly smaller than last fall but moderately above the 1949-54 average. Information is not available on the probable size of the crop for winter harvest. The Department has recommended a 5 percent cut in acreage from a year earlier with the objective of 10 percent less tonnage.

Should the indicated fall tonnage materialize and winter production be near the guide objective, prices this fall and winter would probably be more normal than last year. Expected prices from mid-November into early winter would be lower than last year. Supplies were then relatively light because of a less than usual overlap with the California late fall crop and a delay in harvest of the Texas crop. Supplies from mid-winter into early spring would be smaller than last year and prices probably would be substantially above the low levels of a year earlier.

The demand for fresh carrots in the postwar years has not kept pace with the increasing population. The rate of consumption per person is expected to decline further in the years just ahead. Because of population growth, however, total requirements of carrots for fresh market sale probably will be about the same in 1960 as in 1953-55.

Celery

Acreage planted to celery in the postwar period has trended downward, but the uptrend in yields has resulted in increased production. Output in 1956 is estimated at approximately 786,000 tons, about 4 percent more than last year and 12 percent above the 1949-54 average. Per capita consumption of celery increased significantly during the war and immediate postwar years. Consumption per person was relatively stable in the 1953-55 period. This pattern suggests that in the next few years, total requirements for celery are likely to increase at the same or a slightly faster rate than population.

Harvesting of the 1955 early fall crop of celery was delayed somewhat by unfavorable summer weather and, although production of the combined early and late fall crops was about the same as the previous year, prices averaged well above those of the previous fall. Supplies during the 1956 winter season

were moderately to materially heavier than those of 1955, and prices received by growers were severely depressed, averaging almost a third below those of a year earlier or the 1949-54 average. Spring production was a little smaller than last year and prices into early summer showed a good recovery. But heavy marketing from the summer crop, which was about a fifth larger than last year again depressed prices. Growers received an average of $1.75 per crate in mid-September compared with $3.40 a year earlier.

The early fall crop of celery is estimated at 49,600 tons, slightly less than last year. The more important late crop is expected to approximate 178,000 tons, about 5 percent more than a year ago. Thus, total fall supplies would be about 3 percent larger than last year. Shipments of celery during the second week of October were substantially larger than in the corresponding week last year and f.o.b. prices in the Salinas-Watsonville District of California were much lower than those of a year earlier and below average. These heavy shipments have been due partly to overlapping of early plantings, on which harvest was deferred because of market conditions, and late plantings which are being cut pretty much on schedule. With plentiful supplies of celery in prospect through the remaining fall months, prices received by growers are expected to remain at moderate to low levels. Prices during the first half of the 1957 will depend primarily on the quantity produced and the pattern of marketings. Large winter and spring crops, such as those of last year, would again be expected to bring relatively low prices to producers.

The Department has recommended a 10 percent smaller acreage of celery for winter harvest in Florida, 5 percent smaller in California and the same acreage in Arizona. The suggested acreage with 1952-56 average yields would result in a production 7 percent less than in 1956, but moderately above the 1949-54 average. However, reports of acreage planted prior to October 1 indicates that acreage for early winter harvest in Florida is likely to be about as large as last year.

Lettuce

The demand for lettuce is expected to continue strong in 1957. However, prices received by growers will depend largely on the quantities marketed and on the timing of harvest. A level of production as high as in 1956 would probably mean another year of relatively low prices.

Lettuce production last fall was near record levels and prices were at moderate levels during most of the marketing season. Then winter production was at an all time high and, as shipments from California became heavy in mid-December, prices declined sharply and remained low throughout January. In February frosts and winds reduced supplies somewhat and prices moved up to moderate levels. Although spring output was somewhat larger than last year, demand was good and prices for the season averaged about the same as last spring and only slightly below the 1949-54 average. Supplies from the summer crop were substantially larger than a year arlier and prices averaged materially lower. In recent weeks, however, supplies have declined and prices have strengthened.

The early fall crop of lettuce is estimated at 258,500 tons, 12 percent smaller than last year and slightly below the 1949-54 average. Acreage was down about 5 percent from a year earlier, with most of the cut in Texas where acreage is only half as large as in 1955. The sharp cut in Texas appears to be the result of several unprofitable crops. In California, which accounts for about 80 percent of early fall tonnage, acreage is about the same as last year but yield and production are down about 14 percent from last year's high level. Production of late fall lettuce which is about a fourth as important as the early fall crop, is expected to be slightly larger than last year. Indications are not yet available on acreage or production of lettuce for winter harvest. The Department acreage-marketing guide suggests an acreage 15 percent less than the record plantings in 1955. The suggested acreage with 1952-55 average yields would result in an output about 5 percent less than last winter but substantially above the 1949-54 average. With the prospect of substantially smaller supplies of lettuce in the months just ahead, prices are expected to average significantly above those of a year earlier.

Except for the immediate postwar period, during which some reaction from high wartime levels was experienced, annual production of lettuce in the last two decades has expanded rapidly. During the next 4 to 6 years demand for lettuce will continue to expand, and production is expected to increase at a faster rate than population.

Onions

The late summer crop is by far the largest of the onion crops, typically amounting to about three-fourths of total annual production. A large part of this crop goes into storage each year to provide market supplies through the fall and winter. Acreage of onions planted for late summer harvest has trended downward in the postwar period. However, the increase in average yields has about offset the decline in acreage, so that production has shown no definite trend. The acreage farmers plant to late summer onions in 1957 will be influenced by market conditions and prices received for the crop now moving and by alternatives. Past experience and the prospect of moderate to low price levels for the present crop indicate that growers are likely to plant no larger acreage in 1957 than in 1956, perhaps a little less.

Acreage of onions planted for late summer harvest this year was fractionally smaller than in 1955, but indicated yields are moderately higher. Production is estimated at 33.8 million 50-pound bags, about 6 percent more than last year and slightly above the 1949-54 average. Growing conditions in New York State have been more favorable than a year earlier, and the New York crop which usually accounts for about a fourth of the total, is estimated at 9.8 million sacks, about a third more than last year. Estimated production of 9.5 million sacks in the Central States is moderately above last year. Indicated production of 14.4 million sacks in the Western States is 5 percent smaller than in 1955. Among the more important States, production is up in Colorado and California, but is smaller than a year earlier in Idaho, Washington and Eastern Oregon.

In the period 1949-55 storage stocks of onions on January 1 have fluctuated between a fourth and a third of the preceding late summer production. This relationship suggests that stocks on January 1, 1957 are likely to be between 8 and 10 million sacks. Stocks on January 1, 1956 amounted to about 8.2 million sacks.

An estimated 44,500 acres of onions are expected to be available for early spring harvest in Texas. This would be 11 percent less than last spring, but a fourth above the 1949-55 average. Most of the anticipated reduction is in the Raymondville and Coastal Bend areas where moisture is critically short.

Supplies of onions last fall and early winter were plentiful but not particularly burdensome and prices for the most part were at moderate levels, though lower than would usually be expected for the supplies available. But Texas increased sharply the acreage planted to early spring onions, yields were extremely high and the early spring crop was almost twice as large as in 1955. This large crop began to influence the market even before harvest and prices declined to an average of 75 cents per sack for the month of March. Then the late spring and early summer crops were smaller than a year earlier or average, and prices from May through August were at relatively high levels. As more onions became available from the late summer crop prices again declined. In mid-September average price received by farmers was $1.00 per 50-pound sack, 10 cents lower than a year earlier or the 1949-54 average. With moderately more onions in prospect than last year, prices received by farmers during the next 3 months are likely to average a little lower than a year earlier.

In the last few years per capita consumption of onions has declined somewhat from the high levels attained in the immediate postwar years. During the next 4 to 6 years annual per capita consumption of onions is expected to show a further slight decline. But as population is growing rapidly, total requirements in 1960 are likely to be at least as high as the 1953-55 level of production.

Tomatoes

Indications are that production of tomatoes for fresh market use in 1956 will set a new record, slightly above last year's large output and about a sixth larger than the 1949-54 average. Consumption of fresh tomatoes per person has remained remarkably stable in the last 5 years at around 13.6 pounds. This rate is expected to increase slightly during the next few years. Consequently, production during the next 5 years is likely to increase slightly faster than population.

Although 1956 production in each season except late summer has been above average, it differed notably in some details from the 1955 pattern. Production of tomatoes for winter-season harvest was down 40 percent from last year as a result of severe January freeze damage to the South Florida crop. Imports of winter-season tomatoes from Mexico and Cuba were again

light and January-March prices averaged almost a third higher than in 1955. Although the spring crop was up slightly from last year and the early and late summer crops were up substantially, weather was not favorable and maturity was delayed. Consequently, except for a few weeks in early summer shipments of tomatoes in the spring and summer of 1956 were lighter than in corresponding weeks of 1955. Demand for tomatoes has been strong, and spring and summer prices generally were higher than a year earlier.

The early fall tomato crop this year is estimated at 196,800 tons, 8 percent larger than last year, and almost 50 percent above the 1949-54 average. But acreage of the less important late fall crop is down about 6 percent and tonnage is expected to be down moderately. Acreage in Texas is little more than half that of last year, as a shortage of water for irrigation in the Lower Valley forced a drastic cut in that section. Total acreage in Florida is about the same as last fall but at the present time outturn of this crop is in doubt because of recent heavy rains which have reduced production prospects.

Demand for tomatoes in the coming year is expected to continue strong. Prices received by growers during the first half of 1957 compared with a year earlier will depend largely on the quantity marketed. Although estimates of tomato acreage for winter harvest is not available, the expansion of the South Florida industry in recent years suggests that acreage is likely to be at or near record levels. Barring severe weather damage such as occurred in the January 1956 freeze, production is expected to be much larger this winter than last. Also, unless Mexico experiences an unfavorable growing season, such as that occasioned by heavy frosts last February, imports of tomatoes from that country are likely to be heavier than the light volume of last winter. Should the larger expected supplies materialize, prices this winter are expected to average substantially below the high levels of a year earlier.

A Federal marketing agreement and order regulating the marketing of tomatoes grown in Florida south or east of the Suwannee River was issued in October 1955. Under the program, a committee of 15 tomato producers recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture the particular grade, size, quality and maturity restrictions which should be imposed in putting the program into operation. Hearings have been held in Texas regarding the desirability of establishing authority for a similar program for that State. The record is now under study to determine whether the Secretary should recommend a marketing agreement and order and submit it to growers for approval or disapproval, through a grower referendum.

VEGETABLES FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

Outlook

Supplies of processed vegetables available for distribution into mid-1957 are expected to be materially larger than a year earlier. Carryover stocks into the current year were substantially smaller than last year, but indications are that the pack will be considerably larger this year than last.

Among the major items -- snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, tomatoes and tomato juice -- biggest increases over a year earlier appear to be in prospect for sweet corn and tomato juice both of which were in tight supply in the 1955-56 marketing season. More moderate increases over last year are expected for snap beans, green peas, tomatoes and most tomato products. For other processed vegetables, lima beans, beets and sauerkraut probably will be in substantially larger supply than a year earlier, while carrots and spinach are likely to be in at least moderately larger supply.

Demand for processed vegetables is expected to continue strong through the first half of 1957. Generally higher raw material costs and wage increases mean higher unit cost to the processor this year than last. But with the larger supplies in prospect it seems unlikely that processors will be able to pass along all of the increase in costs. Distribution costs are also up. But with larger supplies available retail prices of processed vegetables during the current marketing season are expected to average a little lower than a year earlier.

Though as yet we have no indication of the 1957 acreage of vegetables for commercial processing, past experience suggests that processors are likely to contract a smaller acreage next year. The Department will release early in the year a suggested acreage and marketing guide for vegetables for processing in 1957.

Per capita consumption of canned vegetables rose rapidly during the war and immediate postwar years. But in the last 5 years consumption per person has increased more slowly. Demand for processed vegetables in the next 4 to 6 years is expected to rise at a slightly faster pace than population, with requirements rising more rapidly for frozen products than for canned.

Production for Processing
Substantially Larger Than in 1955

The good disappearance rate of processed vegetables in 1955 and early 1956, the prospect of a relatively small carryover, and the expectation of continued strong consumer demand led packers to plant and contract about a tenth more acres of 8 major crops for processing in 1956 than a year earlier. The growing season in general has been more favorable for crop growth than last year and it appears that average yields of most crops will be substantially above those of 1955. The larger acreage and higher yields add up to a prospective production of these crops more than a third larger than last year or the 1949-54 average. The 8 crops on which production estimates are available on October 1, usually account for about 90 percent of the total tonnage of the 11 processing vegetables for which the Crop Reporting Board makes estimates.

CANNED VEGETABLES

Outlook

Packer and distributor stocks at the beginning of the current pack year were substantially smaller than a year earlier. Stocks of the 5 major canned

vegetables--snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, tomatoes and tomato juice--amounted to the equivalent of about 27 million cases of 24/2's. This was about a fourth smaller than a year earlier or the 1949-54 average. Stocks of sweet corn and tomato juice were little more than half as large as those of a year earlier or average. Stocks of snap beans were substantially smaller than a year earlier but well above the 1949-54 average, while carryover of tomatoes was moderately smaller than a year earlier and substantially below average. Holdings of green peas were slightly above the low levels of a year earlier, but more than a third below average. Among other canned items, stocks of carrots and sauerkraut were significantly smaller than a year earlier, stocks of lima beans and beets were about the same, while holdings of pumpkin and squash and most tomato products were larger. Prospective production of vegetables for processing is up sharply from that of 1955 and the pack is expected to be well above that of last year.

Thus, total supplies of canned vegetables available in the 1956-57 marketing seasons will be substantially larger than those of a year earlier. Supplies of sweet corn, tomato juice and sauerkraut are expected to be much larger than the short supplies of a year earlier. All other items are expected to be in plentiful supply. It appears likely that carryover stocks of most important items will be larger at the end of the current marketing year than at the beginning. With packers in some lines expected to undergo a cost-price squeeze in attempting to market the larger pack, canners probably will plant and contract less total acreage in 1957.

During the war and early postwar years the production of canned vegetables rose sharply. In the last 5 years, however, the increase has little more than kept pace with population. During the next 4 to 6 years per capita consumption of canned vegetables is expected to remain relatively stable, with total requirements growing at about the same rate as population.

Canned Peas

Supplies of canned peas available for distribution in the 1956-57 marketing season are somewhat larger than the relatively small supplies available a year earlier. June 1 carryover stocks were slightly larger than last year and the 1956 pack was up moderately. The green pea pack has been reported by the National Canners' Association as equivalent to 29.2 million cases of 24/2's. This is about 7 percent above the 1955 pack and slightly above the 1949-54 average. But beginning stocks were substantially below average. Thus, despite the larger packs, supplies of peas per capita are only moderately larger than a year ago and below the 1949-54 average. Indications are that the disappearance rate for green peas has been good. Despite larger supplies, wholesale and retail prices have held up well and are expected to continue near year earlier levels into late spring or early summer. During the next 4 to 6 years, production of green peas for processing is expected to about keep pace with the growth in population. Canned peas, however, will continue to decrease in relative importance as use of the frozen item continues to increase.

Snap Beans

Canner and distributor stocks of snap beans were substantially smaller at the beginning of the 1956 season than a year earlier, but the smaller stocks are expected to be more than offset by a moderately to substantially larger pack. The Crop Reporting Board in early September estimated the production of snap beans for processing at 346,500 tons. This is a new record, 12 percent larger than a year earlier and 39 percent above the 1949-54 average. About a fifth of the increased tonnage over last year is due to a slightly larger acreage with four-fifths due to substantially higher yields.

If the pack is as large as indicated, supplies of canned snap beans in the 1956-57 season will be the largest of record. Stepped-up promotion in the last few years has increased movement of this item; record large quantities were moved into consumption in each of the last two seasons. During the current marketing year, however, keener competition than a year earlier is in prospect from other canned vegetables. Thus, another year of intense promotions including some price concessions appear to be necessary if the large 1956 pack is to be moved into consumption.

Demand for snap beans is likely to continue strong in the years just ahead. For the next 4 to 6 years, production of snap beans both for canning and freezing is expected to grow at a faster rate than population. Total production of beans for processing by 1960 probably will be about a fifth larger than in 1953-55.

Sweet Corn

Supplies of canned corn available in the 1956-57 season promise to be substantially above the short supplies of a year earlier and moderately above the 1949-54 average. Beginning stocks at 4.7 million cases, 24/2's equivalent, were little more than half those of a year earlier. But production of corn for processing is up an estimated 48 percent from 1955, much more than enough to offset the smaller stocks. Roughly two-fifths of the increase in prospective tonnage over a year earlier is due to increased acreage and three-fifths to record yields. The demand for canned corn into 1957 is expected to be about the same as a year earlier. The larger supply, however, will be competing with generally increased supplies of other processed vegetables and canners are likely to be caught in a cost-price squeeze. Thus, despite higher processing and distribution costs, prices at retail during the current season are expected to average moderately below the levels of a year earlier.

Per capita consumption of canned corn has varied from year to year but has shown no definite trend in the postwar period. Projecting this pattern, production of corn for canning is expected to about keep pace with population growth. But production for freezing will continue to increase more rapidly.

Tomatoes

Stocks of tomato juice at the beginning of the pack year were almost 4 million cases, 24/2's equivalent, smaller than a year earlier, and stocks of canned tomatoes and pulp and puree were moderately smaller. For other tomato products on which information was available, beginning stocks were larger. Total holdings of tomatoes, tomato juice and tomato products were about 3 million cases smaller than those of a year earlier. Production of tomatoes for processing in 1956 is estimated at 4.5 million tons, largest of record. About a third of the increase in tonnage over a year earlier is due to a larger acreage and about two-thirds to higher average yields. Plantings in California accounted for most of the increase in acreage, while largest increases in yields occurred in the Northeast and the DelMarVa area.

Consumption of processed tomatoes and tomato products has increased rapidly during the postwar years. Demand is expected to be strong again this year. But if the pack of tomatoes and tomato products is up anywhere near as much as the indicated production of raw stock, supplies will be at or near record levels. The larger supplies available into mid-1957 are expected to result in prices moderately lower than those of a year earlier.

Per capita consumption of processed tomatoes and tomato products is expected to increase slightly during the next 4 to 6 years. Thus, production of raw stock in 1960 is likely to be 15 to 20 percent above the 1953-55 level.

Cucumbers for Pickles

Production estimates on cucumbers for pickles will not be available until November 9. However, acreage planted and condition of the crop as of October 1 indicate that about the same quantity of pickles is likely to be available as a year ago. Acreage is down 7 percent from a year ago, but yields promise to be higher. Acreage was up slightly in the important group of Midwestern States and up substantially in the less important Pacific Coast States. These increases were not sufficient to offset a 16 percent decline in the South Atlantic States. The average crop condition on September 1 was reported at 76 percent, the same as last year. But the increased acreages were generally in the higher yielding areas. Prospective higher average yields thus promise to offset the smaller acreage, resulting in about the same output as last year.

Consumption of cucumber pickles per person has shown a marked increase during the last few years, partly as a result of more intensive promotion and merchandising. This uptrend in consumption is likely to continue in the years just ahead. Five years from now production of cucumbers for pickles probably will be 15 to 20 percent above 1953-55 levels.

Cabbage for Kraut

The Crop Reporting Board in early October estimated that on contract acreage and other acreage controlled by packers, 1956 production of cabbage for kraut will approximate 158,600 tons. This is three-fourths larger than

production last year and almost 60 percent above the 1949-54 average. About half of the increase in tonnage over 1955 is due to increased acreage and the remainder to higher yields, particularly in Wisconsin and New York. In most years open market purchases amount to from 40 to 50 percent of the total cabbage used for kraut. These purchases can be used to balance supply by supplementing production from contract acreage. Production of fall cabbage for open market sales is expected to be substantially above the 1949-54 average and about a third larger than last year's small crop. But open market purchases have been fairly light during the last two seasons and with much larger indicated pack of kraut from contract acreage, open market purchases by processors this fall are expected again to be relatively light. Demand for sauerkraut in the current season is expected to be about the same as a year ago. With materially larger supplies indicated, retail prices are expected to average a little lower this season than last.

Consumption of sauerkraut is relatively small, amounting in most postwar years to less than 2 pounds per person. The consumption pattern of the last few years suggests a further slight decline in per capita consumption. Should this occur, only a moderate increase in total production over that of 1953-55 would be needed to meet requirements 5 years from now.

Other Vegetables For Processing

It appears that more green lima beans will be available in the current season than a year ago. Carryover stocks were about the same as in 1955, but prospective production is about a fourth larger than last year. Largely responsible for the increase was a sharp expansion of acreage in California, which produces more than a third of the total tonnage. Also, yields in California are much higher than the national average. Production in the DelMarVa area was also much larger than in 1955, because of higher yields.

Spinach probably will be in at least moderately larger supply this season than last. The winter and spring crops of spinach for processing amounted to 105,400 tons, about a third more than the 1949-54 average and 12 percent more than a year earlier. These crops typically make up about three-fourths of the annual total. The first estimate of fall production of spinach for processing will be available November 9.

On October 1, indicated production of beets for canning at 224,300 tons was about 60 percent above last year or the 1949-54 average. Practically all of the prospective increase occurred in the important States of New York and Wisconsin. In these States both acreage and estimated yield are up materially.

FROZEN VEGETABLES

More frozen vegetables are expected to be available in the current season than a year ago. Stocks at the beginning of the marketing year were substantially larger than a year earlier. Although total pack figures are not

available for 1956, indications are that the pack will be materially larger than last year. The 1956 frozen asparagus pack at 36 million pounds was an all time high and about a fourth larger than last year. The spring pack of frozen spinach, which typically accounts for almost two-thirds of the total pack of spinach, was reported by the National Association of Frozen Food Packers at 81 million pounds. This was about a third larger than in 1955 and almost a third above the 1949-54 average. Estimates of total tonnage for processing and preliminary estimates of acreage for canning and freezing indicate that the frozen packs of green peas, sweet corn and lima beans are likely to be substantially larger than last year. More potato products are expected to be frozen, continuing the marked growth of these items in recent years.

Stocks of frozen vegetables on October 1 amounted to almost 875 million pounds, about 30 percent more than a year ago and 41 percent above the 1951-55 average. Holdings of asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, broccoli, cauliflower, sweet corn, green peas and spinach were substantially larger than a year earlier. Only Brussels sprouts and "other vegetables" as a group were in a substantially lighter stock position than a year ago.

Consumer demand for frozen vegetables in the 1956 season is expected to remain strong, and, with indicated larger supplies, consumption is expected to be larger than a year earlier. Retail prices of most frozen items into mid-1957 are expected to average near year-earlier levels. The pack in 1957 is expected to be at least moderately larger than in 1956. The demand for and supply of frozen vegetables in the short term, 4 to 6 years, is expected to continue to increase at a substantially faster rate than population.

POTATOES

Outlook

The 1956 fall crop is considerably in excess of anticipated trade needs, and the Department of Agriculture is again making supplementary payments under a diversion program in those areas where a satisfactory marketing plan is in operation. With heavy supplies available during the next few months, prices received by growers are expected to remain at relatively low levels. Farmers can best contribute to cleaning up the burdensome supplies and maintaining the best overall market conditions by consistent and orderly shipments of potatoes thoughout the season.

Demand for and per capita consumption of potatoes declined sharply from the late 1920's to the early 1950's. With the introduction of new processing items, improvements in technology and stepped-up merchandising both of processed and fresh products, prospects appear good for maintaining consumption rates near 1953-55 levels during the next 4 to 6 years. For the longer term, 15 to 25 years, however, indications are that per capita consumption will decline at least moderately. Higher consumer incomes with less emphasis on cheaper foods, increased competition from other foods, and the trend in consumption away from most starchy-type foods are expected to be important

factors contributing to the decline. From the standpoint of producers, the outlook depends largely on whether they bring production in line with anticipated requirements. These total requirements are expected to be somewhat higher in 1960 than in the 1953-55 period. But potatoes have been in oversupply in recent years and no increase in production from the 1953-55 level would be needed to meet this larger total demand.

Supplies Short, Prices High
This Spring and Summer

Stocks of potatoes on January 1, 1956 were a little larger than a year earlier and both winter and early spring production exceeded that of a year earlier. But the important late spring crop was 11 percent smaller than in 1955 and early summer production was 15 percent smaller. The larger supplies early in the year held prices to growers below year earlier levels during most of the winter. But old crop potatoes in many areas began to clean up earlier than usual, and by mid-March prices were above those of a year earlier. Prices during April remained at a relatively high level and by mid-May prices were at a record high level for that date. Supplies continued tight, potatoes in distribution pipelines were cut to a minimum and the market reacted sharply to temporary interruptions in harvesting. Prices continued to advance and in mid-July the United States average price received by farmers stood at $5.19 per hundredweight, an all time high. Not until early August when supplies began to be available from the late summer crop was there any appreciable decline in prices. With increasing supplies prices received by growers continued to drop and in mid-September averaged $1.66 per hundred pounds. This was only a third of the record high level of mid-July, but 44 cents per hundredweight higher than a year earlier.

Late Summer and Fall Crops Larger Than
Last Year and Above Normal Requirements;
Planting Intentions Up For Winter Crop

Potato acreage planted for harvest in both late summer and fall States was fractionally larger than that of a year earlier. As weather has been generally favorable for late crop potatoes, record yields are in prospect. Combined late summer and fall crop production is estimated at almost 199 million hundredweight, about 10 percent more than last year. The late summer crop at 33.5 million sacks was 6 percent larger than last year, and the estimated fall production of 165.3 million sacks is 11 percent larger. The late summer crop began moving into markets not burdened with supplies from previous crops, as happened last year. But total late crop production is substantially in excess of normal market requirements, and this is being reflected in the downward pressure on prices.

If growers in Florida and California stick close to their September 1 intentions, acreage of potatoes planted for winter harvest in 1957 will be about a third larger than last winter and a little more than double the 1949-55 average. Growers in Florida reported intentions to plant 47 percent more potatoes than last winter, while California producers intended to plant

26 percent more. The winter crop is relatively small compared with winter consumption and is used to supplement storage potatoes from the late summer and fall crops. Nevertheless, the larger prospective production of winter-season potatoes would tend to weigh on markets already attempting to absorb large storage stocks.

Geographic Distribution of Fall Production More Normal Than Last Year

From a marketing standpoint the geographic distribution of the crop is more favorable than last year but,the fall crop promises to be almost 17 million sacks larger. Approximately 9.5 million sacks of the total prospective increase is in the 9 Central States in which last year's crop was very short due to unfavorable weather. Total acreage is down slightly but average yield is expected to be much higher than the low 1955 yield.

In the East, New York State and Pennsylvania cut acreage back substantially from a year earlier as did some of the less important States. But growers in Maine, which accounts for about 60 percent of the total production in the Eastern group of States, planted about 3 percent more acreage. The net result was a moderate reduction in acreage in the 8 Eastern States. But the larger acreage in Maine with its heavier than average yields, and increased yields in most of the other States has resulted in a prospective production of more than 65 million sacks, about 6 percent more than the large output of 1955.

Potato planting in the 9 Western States continued its uptrend, with 1956 acreage for harvest up almost 7 percent from 1955. Yields in this area are almost as large as last year and total estimated production is up about 6 percent. About a third of the increase in prospective production is in the Pacific Coast States. Acreage is up substantially in Idaho, which produces about half the total output in the Western area and estimated production is up moderately.

The 1956 Potato Diversion Program

With prices skidding and the large fall crop still to be harvested, the Department of Agriculture on September 21 announced a potato diversion program to assist the industry in disposing of the large supplies. The program will be available in States or areas where the industry develops and submits a marketing plan which meets the requirements of the program. In areas where the plan is approved supplementary payments will be made for potatoes of U. S. No. 2 or better quality diverted to starch, feed, or flour, provided such potatoes have a minimum diameter of two inches, or in the case of long varieties a two inch diameter or a minimum weight of four ounces. Payment for diversion of 1956 crop potatoes will be at the same rates as under the 1955 program. Rates are 50 cents per hundredweight for 1956 crop potatoes diverted through December 31, 1956; 40 cents per hundredweight through March 31, 1957; and 30 cents per hundredweight until termination of the program, but in no event later than June 30, 1957.

Marketing Agreements and Orders

In recent years marketing agreements and companion marketing orders have been in effect in several important potato producing areas. The purpose of these agreements and orders is to promote more orderly marketing of the crop and increase returns to growers. The orders authorize certain size, quality and maturity restrictions relating to the marketing of tablestock potatoes from areas in which the agreements and orders are in effect. Five Federal marketing orders for potatoes are now in operation in the following areas: Maine; Colorado; Washington; Idaho--Malheur County, Oregon; and all of Oregon, except Malheur County, and the counties of Modoc and Siskiyou in Northern California. Based on the distribution and prospective size of the 1956 crop, about 38 percent of the total potato crop and 56 percent of combined late summer and fall production are covered by the Federal marketing agreements and companion marketing orders. Federal agreements and orders are authorized in several other areas but are not operative. In addition to Federal agreements and orders, there are in several areas State agreements and orders which restrict marketings of tablestock potatoes.

Foreign Trade

United States foreign trade in potatoes is very small compared with production and is conducted principally with Canada. An unusual export outlet for 1955 crop potatoes developed because of cold damage in parts of Europe, and in late winter about 520,000 sacks of Maine potatoes were sold to Spain and 60,000 sacks to Sweden. Then in late June New Zealand, an infrequent customer, bought 269,000 sacks of 1956 crop potatoes from California. Despite the large domestic production and some unusual export outlets, in the period July 1955 through June 1956, United States exports amounted to a little less than 4 million sacks, about 600,000 sacks less than shipments in the previous crop year. Canada had a large crop in 1955 and took fewer U. S. potatoes than a year earlier; she also increased her exports to United States markets. Our imports rose from about 1 million sacks in the 1954-55 season to more than 2 million sacks in the year ended June 30. The crop in Canada is expected to be a little smaller this year than last, and not as much pressure for exports to this country is likely.

Continued Low Level of Prices in Prospect for 1956 Crop Potatoes

Supplies of potatoes are burdensome and prices are depressed. With supplies from the late fall crop estimated to be up almost 17 million hundredweight from last year, January 1 stocks of old crop potatoes are likely to be at least moderately larger than a year earlier. And indications are that growers in Florida and California will plant a larger acreage of potatoes for winter harvest. The potato diversion program and marketing agreements and orders in many important producing areas will tend to lighten somewhat the pressure on fall and winter markets. Nevertheless, heavy supplies will continue to be available for distribution in regular trade channels, and prices

received by farmers into next spring are likely to remain at relatively low levels. Best overall market conditions probably can be attained by an orderly shipment of good quality potatoes throughout the marketing season.

SWEETPOTATOES

Outlook

Sweetpotato production probably will be larger in 1957 than in 1956. Past experience strongly suggests that farmers are likely to plant a larger acreage next year. Should yields be near those of 1956, which are not out of line with the average of recent years, production is expected to be at least moderately larger than in the current year. Meantime, the small 1956 crop will be moving to market. Much of the cut in acreage and production this year occurred in commercial areas having storage facilities. Thus, supplies of sweetpotatoes moving into Northern markets this winter and spring are expected to be substantially smaller than a year earlier. The demand for sweetpotatoes during the next 7 or 8 months is expected to be about the same as a year earlier. But with the sharply curtailed supplies available for distribution in this period, prices received by farmers are likely to average substantially above the low levels of a year earlier.

The rapid decline in sweetpotato production in the postwar period appears to have been due partly to a decline in demand, and partly to factors associated with production aspects of the industry. Some of these factors are high labor requirements, lack of sufficient satisfactory storage, quality problems and increasing prosperity in the South with decreasing production of sweetpotatoes for home use. Influence of some of the production factors cited may have about reached their maximum effect, so that 4 to 6 years from now production may be near the 1953-55 level. For the longer term, 15 to 25 years, total requirements may be moderately larger, but production probably will increase at a much slower rate than population.

Crop Smaller Than Last Year

The 1956 sweetpotato crop is estimated in early October at 16.3 million hundredweight. This is about a fifth smaller than last year and the smallest crop since 1952. About two-thirds of the cut in production was due to a cut in acreage and a third to lower average yields.

Total acreage in 1956 is down 16 percent from 1955. The cut in plantings was general, and probably was largely the result of the low prices received for 1956 crop sweetpotatoes. All except four States reported a smaller acreage for harvest than last year. Kansas, North Carolina and California reported the same acreage for harvest as a year earlier and only Georgia reported a larger acreage. Growers in Louisiana, by far the most important

producing State, cut acreage a fourth from that of 1955 with estimated production down almost a third. Because of a sharp reduction in acreage and poor yield prospects, production in Texas is expected to be less than a third that of a year earlier. The smaller crops in Louisiana and Texas account for two-thirds of the prospective reduction in total output. Among other important States, production promises to be substantially smaller in South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi, and moderately smaller in New Jersey.

Higher Prices in Prospect for 1956 Crop

Demand for sweetpotatoes in the 1956-57 marketing season is expected to be about the same as a year earlier. But the substantially smaller supplies in prospect are expected to result in a stronger market. In mid-September the United States average price received by farmers was $3.47 per hundredweight compared with $2.84 a year earlier. Later data indicate that the market continues much stronger than in the corresponding period last year. In the week ended October 13, shipping point prices in Southern Louisiana averaged $5.24 per 100-pounds for U. S. No. 1 Porto Rican type sweetpotatoes, about $1.25 higher than in the corresponding week of 1955. Prospects are for prices received by farmers for sweetpotatoes to rise seasonally this winter and into spring, with average prices remaining well above the low levels of a year earlier.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Outlook

Slightly fewer dry edible beans are expected to be available for distribution in the 1956-57 marketing season than in the previous season. Both exports and domestic use were larger in 1955-56 than a year earlier. Thus, despite larger total supplies for the year, carryover stocks were reduced by about 1 million bags, to the lowest level since 1948. Crop prospects improved materially during September and total production this year is expected to be slightly larger than in 1955. But there are likely to be some marked differences in production by class of beans. The biggest increase in estimated production over a year earlier or the 1949-54 average is in the Northeast where pea beans are the predominant class. Sharpest cuts in prospective production occurred in areas that produce pintos and this class is expected to be in tight supply. But supplies of some classes -- particularly pea beans, red kidneys and small reds -- will be above trade requirements and a substantial quantity of beans is likely to be placed under price support. Like supplies available, prices received by farmers in the 1956-57 marketing season compared with a year earlier will vary by classes. But overall prices for the crop are expected to average about the same as a year earlier. Farmers cut acreage moderately in 1956, and are likely to make some slight cut next year.

Per capita consumption of dry edible beans in the postwar period has fluctuated from 6.5 to 8.5 pounds, but has shown no definite trend. During the next 4 to 6 years domestic demand for dry edible beans is expected approximately to keep pace with increasing population. Any significant increase in foreign demand appears unlikely. Production of dry beans in 1953-55 was somewhat larger than normal trade requirements and significant quantities were delivered under the Government price support program. Little or no increase in production of dry edible beans will be required to meet anticipated requirements in 1960. In the longer run, 15 to 25 years, total demand for dry beans is expected to rise somewhat, but probably will increase at a less rapid rate than population. The trend toward foods with more built-in convenience, and rising incomes with increased ability of consumers to buy more expensive foods are expected to contribute to the decline.

Supplies A Little Smaller Than A Year Earlier

Stocks of dry edible beans at the beginning of the crop year were estimated at slightly less than 2 million bags. This compared with about 3.0 million bags a year earlier, and was the smallest carryover in 8 years. In contrast to last year when CCC carryover stocks were heavy, Government holdings at the beginning of the current crop year were very light and consisted mostly of small red beans. And all these stocks were committed for sale or donation early in the crop year. The prospective production of dry edible beans this year is estimated at 17 million 100-pound bags, fractionally larger than last year, and 6 percent above the 1945-54 average. Thus, total supplies available for distribution in the current season are a little smaller than in the 1955-56 season. Production estimates for 1956 crop beans are not available by classes. However, an examination of estimates by areas gives some indication of production of the various major classes.

Production in the Northeast is estimated at 7.0 million bags, almost a fourth larger than last year and a third larger than the 1949-54 average. In Michigan, the main producer of pea beans and by far the most important bean State in the Northeast, prospective production is 5.5 million bags, up 18 percent from a year earlier and 50 percent larger than the 1945-54 average. Production in New York State, where red kidney is the principal class, is estimated at 1.4 million bags, about 50 percent more than the light crop of 1955 and slightly above average.

Production in the Northwest is expected to be 4.8 million bags, 7 percent less than last year but 4 percent above the 1949-54 average. In Idaho where Great Northerns, Pintos and Small Reds are the main classes, estimated production is down 13 percent from 1955 and moderately below average. In the Southwest where the Pinto is the predominant class, prospective production is 1.6 million bags, a fourth smaller than last year and almost a third below the 1945-54 average.

Production of all dry beans in California is estimated at 3.7 million bags, about one-tenth less than in 1955 or the 1945-54 average. The crop of dry Baby Limas is estimated at 418,000 bags, 100,000 bags more than the small crop of 1955, but less than half the recent 10-year average. Prospective production of Large Limas at 900,000 bags is down 16 percent from last year and about 20 percent below average. For other dry beans in California, mostly Blackeye, Pink and Small White, estimated production is 2.4 million bags, down 13 percent from last year, but 12 percent above average.

Support Prices For 1956 Crop Beans Near Those For 1955 Crop

The Department of Agriculture in late March set the prices of 11 classes of dry edible beans at a level designed to return to growers the national average support price of $6.31 per hundred pounds. This is 5 cents lower than the support rate for 1955 crop beans.

The following support rates will apply to the various classes of 1956 crop dry beans (U. S. No. 1 beans): Pintos $5.63 to $6.13 depending on area; great northerns $6.28 to $6.78; pea and medium white $6.63 to $7.13; small white and flat small white $6.71; red kidney $8.14; pink $6.76; small red $6.86; large lima $9.71; and baby lima $4.96 per hundred pounds. All price relationships remain the same as under the 1955-crop program, except for red kidney beans. The support rate for this class has been moved up 18 cents per hundredweight to more nearly reflect historical price relationships. Premiums for U. S. Choice, Hand picked and U. S. Extra No. 1 beans will be 10 cents per hundredweight, except for pea beans on which the premium will be 25 cents. Discounts for U. S. No. 2 beans will be 25 cents per hundred pounds.

Prices Expected to Average About the Same as a Year Earlier

Supplies of dry beans in prospect for the 1956-57 marketing season are a little smaller than a year earlier but overall supplies appear ample. As a group colored beans will be in lighter supply than a year earlier whereas white beans will be in heavier supply. Some classes, particularly pea beans, red kidneys and small reds, promise to be in surplus supply and substantial quantities of beans will be placed under price support. About 3.6 million bags of 1955 crop beans were placed under price support and approximately 1.9 million bags of these were delivered to the Government. Exports in 1956-57 are expected to be somewhat smaller than last season when a substantial quantity of CCC beans were exported under the Foreign Donation Program.

Prices received by farmers for 1956 crop beans, compared with last season, will depend largely on the relatively supplies of the various classes. Among the major classes, prices for Pintos are likely to be substantially higher and prices for pea and Red kidney beans somewhat lower than a year earlier. On the whole, however, prices for the 1956 crop are expected to average about the same as a year earlier.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Outlook

Much larger supplies of dry field peas are expected to be available for distribution in 1956-57 than a year earlier. However, both domestic and export outlets are expected to take more peas in the current year. Domestic consumption is likely to be substantially higher than a year earlier when supplies were short. The pea crop in Europe has been sharply reduced as a result of adverse weather, and exports are expected to be several times as he heavy as the light volume of the previous season. This looks like a year in which export demand is likely to take most of the pressure of large supplies off domestic markets and help to hold prices at favorable levels. Past experience and the expectation of relatively high prices for the current crop suggest that farmers may be inclined again to plant a large acreage of peas for 1957 harvest. An acreage as large as 1956 would, with normal growing conditions, produce a crop considerably in excess of domestic and normal export requirements. If farmers are to avoid the risk of excessive production and a sharp price break they would do well to cut acreage back substantially in 1957.

Consumption of dry field peas per person is well below the high levels of the war and early postwar years. However, in the last 4 years consumption has been relatively stable at about half a pound per person. This rate is expected to remain fairly stable during the next 4 to 6 years, with total requirements about keeping pace with population growth. But requirements in 1960 will be materially below the current crop. For the longer term, 15 to 25 years, total demand for dry peas is likely to increase at a slower rate than population. Increasing incomes and more competition from other foods are expected to contribute to a decline in per capita consumption.

1956 Crop Largest Since 1947

In the last three of four years prices for dry peas have been high relative to prices for alternative crops. These favorable prices plus the short 1955 crop appear to be largely responsible for the big increase in acreage planted this year. Acreage is up almost a third from that of a year earlier and, despite a long time downtrend, is moderately larger than the 1945-54 average. Washington and Idaho, the two most important producing States, planted 26 percent and 42 percent, respectively, more acreage than in 1955. Weather has been generally favorable for development of the crop, and 1956 yields are expected to be almost 50 percent higher than the poor yields of 1955, and substantially above average. Large acreage and relatively high yields have boosted prospective production to 4.9 million bags, almost twice that of last year and about a fourth above the 1949-54 average.

Prices for 1956 Crop Likely to Remain Favorable, But Below Those of 1955

Export demand will be a very important factor in the dry pea market during the current season. Foreign demand is expected to be strong, as production in The Netherlands has been cut back severely from the 2.8 million bags produced last year. The Netherlands typically account for about a third of the total output in Europe. Despite the anticipated stronger export demand and the need for larger supplies domestically, prices received by farmers for the large 1956 crop are expected to average moderately below the high levels of the 1955-56 season.

The Vegetable Situation is published 4 times a year, in January, April, July and October. The next issue will be released in late January.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 .- Commercially produced vegetables: Civilian per capita consumption, United States, 1937-1955

Year	Fresh equivalent					As percentage of annual total			
	Total fresh and processed	Fresh 1/	Processed 2/			Fresh	Processed		
			Total	Canned	Frozen		Total	Canned	Frozen
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1937	165.2	111.0	54.2	53.2	1.0	67.2	32.8	32.2	.6
1938	171.3	114.3	57.0	56.0	1.0	66.7	33.3	32.7	.6
1939	175.8	117.2	58.6	57.3	1.3	66.7	33.3	32.6	.7
1940	180.6	117.4	63.2	61.8	1.4	65.0	35.0	34.2	.8
1941	181.9	114.4	67.5	65.9	1.6	62.9	37.1	36.2	.9
1942	193.7	119.5	74.2	71.6	2.6	61.7	38.3	37.0	1.3
1943	185.3	116.2	69.1	67.4	1.7	62.7	37.3	36.4	.9
1944	197.9	127.1	70.8	67.0	3.8	64.2	35.8	33.9	1.9
1945	225.0	138.5	86.5	82.2	4.3	61.6	38.4	36.5	1.9
1946	229.4	136.8	92.6	87.9	4.7	59.6	40.4	38.3	2.1
1947	208.6	126.3	82.3	76.3	6.0	60.5	39.5	36.6	2.9
1948	203.4	128.3	75.1	68.4	6.7	63.1	36.9	33.6	3.3
1949	197.3	121.2	76.1	69.4	6.7	61.4	38.6	35.2	3.4
1950	205.8	122.9	82.9	75.6	7.3	59.7	40.3	36.7	3.6
1951	206.3	119.2	87.1	77.9	9.2	57.8	42.2	37.8	4.4
1952	206.5	120.1	86.4	75.2	11.2	58.2	41.8	36.4	5.4
1953	208.3	119.5	88.8	77.2	11.6	57.4	42.6	37.1	5.5
1954	205.1	117.5	87.6	75.4	12.2	57.3	42.7	36.8	5.9
1955 3/	207.1	115.5	91.6	78.2	13.4	55.8	44.2	37.8	6.4

1/ Excluding melons.

2/ Data include pickles and sauerkraut in bulk; exclude canned and frozen potatoes, canned sweetpotatoes, canned baby foods and canned soups.

3/ Preliminary.

Table 2.- Civilian per capita consumption of selected commercially produced fresh and processed vegetables 1/, United States, calendar years 1937-55

Commodity	Fresh equivalent basis																		
	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Asparagus																			
Fresh	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Canned	.69	.60	.75	.82	.81	.91	.82	.83	.48	1.28	.75	.93	.85	.86	.93	.87	1.02	.98	.87
Frozen	.06	.10	.06	.10	.10	.08	.12	.20	.28	.24	.22	.28	.24	.24	.26	.30	.32	.32	.30
Beans, lima 2/																			
Fresh	.7	.8	.9	.8	.8	.7	.6	.6	.6	.7	.6	.6	.5	.5	.4	.4	.3	.3	.3
Canned	.48	.46	.55	.72	.77	.79	.59	.32	.46	.48	.48	.51	.51	.81	.69	.65	.65	.69	.72
Frozen	.22	.20	.24	.29	.24	.53	.31	.38	.38	.60	.82	.83	1.09	1.11	1.20	1.56	1.60	1.44	1.58
Beans, snap																			
Fresh	3.9	4.7	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.9	5.5	5.0	5.2	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0
Canned	1.27	1.47	1.53	1.68	1.66	1.90	1.91	2.10	2.41	2.36	1.98	2.06	2.13	2.46	2.33	2.48	2.54	2.63	2.90
Frozen	.06	.06	.05	.05	.09	.13	.06	.19	.24	.25	.32	.36	.35	.44	.56	.66	.71	.80	.82
Broccoli																			
Fresh	.6	.7	.8	.6	.7	.6	.7	1.0	.9	1.0	.9	.9	.9	1.0	.7	.9	.8	.8	.9
Frozen	.01	.03	.03	.01	.04	.04	.04	.04	.11	.17	.14	.23	.28	.28	.40	.57	.57	.61	.71
Cabbage																			
Fresh	17.5	19.5	16.2	18.3	16.0	18.6	16.8	19.5	20.3	17.5	16.8	16.4	14.7	14.4	13.7	13.3	13.5	13.1	11.9
Canned 3/	1.81	2.39	2.59	2.64	2.90	2.74	2.30	.84	1.35	2.96	3.09	1.46	2.52	2.40	2.94	2.51	2.02	2.28	2.00
Corn 4/																			
Fresh	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.6	6.2	6.7	6.2	6.6	7.8	7.6	7.6	8.6	7.5	8.0	7.8	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.5
Canned	9.71	10.09	10.70	11.15	11.89	13.91	13.40	12.54	13.93	15.60	14.59	12.42	12.19	13.02	12.19	12.09	12.92	13.02	13.30
Frozen	.17	.13	.21	.25	.21	.29	.10	.48	.50	.63	1.01	.86	.93	.89	1.27	1.60	1.83	1.70	2.37
Cucumbers																			
Fresh	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.8	2.4	2.9	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1
Canned 5/	1.99	2.20	2.18	2.08	2.43	2.75	2.41	2.17	2.23	2.82	3.15	3.27	3.21	3.20	3.00	3.46	3.74	3.83	3.80
Peas, green 2/																			
Fresh	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.1	.9	.8	.7	.5	.5	.4	.4	.4
Canned	7.66	8.06	8.28	9.14	10.23	10.58	9.73	8.77	11.89	12.65	9.71	9.64	8.84	9.04	8.87	8.52	8.22	8.15	7.96
Frozen	.42	.42	.62	.59	.87	1.12	.73	1.57	1.74	1.66	2.25	2.52	2.08	2.39	2.81	3.20	3.46	3.88	3.74
Spinach																			
Fresh	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0	.6
Canned	.87	.81	.80	.97	.80	1.12	.75	1.23	.97	1.44	.99	.90	.99	.82	1.06	.92	.90	.67	.82
Frozen	.04	.04	.02	.07	.02	.24	.20	.31	.47	.36	.39	.55	.51	.67	.89	.89	.93	.93	1.05
Tomatoes																			
Fresh	12.6	13.7	13.9	13.1	12.9	14.1	14.4	14.8	17.0	16.4	14.7	14.9	14.0	13.4	13.8	13.7	13.5	13.8	13.6
Canned 6/	24.91	25.79	25.99	28.31	30.02	32.76	31.48	34.01	43.39	42.82	36.60	32.10	33.64	37.09	40.42	38.17	39.65	37.73	40.74

1/ Data for processed vegetables include pickles and sauerkraut in bulk, and exclude quantities consumed in commercially produced soups, baby foods, and vegetable mixtures such as peas and carrots, and succotash. 2/ "In-pod" basis. 3/ Sauerkraut, canned and bulk. 4/ "On-cob" basis. 5/ Pickles, canned and bulk. 6/ Including canned whole tomatoes and tomato products other than soup.

Consumption of Food in the United States, 1909-52 (Agriculture Handbook No. 62) and the July-September 1954 issue of The National Food Situation. Data for the processed vegetables were converted to a fresh equivalent basis using factors presented in Conversion Factors and Weights and Measures for Agricultural Commodities and their Products (May 1952 edition), with the following exceptions: frozen broccoli, 1.333 beginning 1948; Brussels sprouts, 1.282 beginning 1937.

Table 3 .- Fresh vegetables, commercial: Per capita consumption, farm weight, 1919-55 1/

Year	Leafy, green, and yellow vegetables																Other fresh vegetables									Melons			Total
	Toma-toes	Arti-chokes	Aspar-agus	Lima beans (un-shelled)	Snap beans	Broc-coli	Brus-sels sprouts	Cab-bage	Car-rots	Kale	Let-tuce and esca-role	Green peas (un-shelled)	Pep-pers	Spin-ach	Minor	Total	Beets	Cauli-flower	Celery	Corn	Cucum-bers	Egg-plant	Garlic	Onions and shal-lots 2/	Minor	Total	Water-melons	Canta-loups	Total	
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1919	10.6	0.1	0.5	0.2	2.9	3/	0.1	17.1	2.1	0.1	5.1	0.3	1.2	0.9	4.6	35.2	0.8	1.1	5.1	2.8	2.6	0.3	4/	11.6	6.1	30.4	15.5	9.0	24.5	100.7
1920	11.0	.1	.5	.2	3.0	3/	.1	27.0	2.3	.1	7.3	.4	1.2	1.0	5.6	48.8	.8	1.2	5.4	2.7	2.4	.4	0.1	14.1	7.2	34.3	22.3	9.1	31.4	125.5
1921	9.8	.1	.5	.2	3.0	3/	.1	18.2	2.4	.1	6.9	.6	1.3	1.3	5.1	39.8	.8	1.2	5.5	2.5	2.5	.4	.1	12.0	6.7	31.7	25.2	9.3	34.5	115.8
1922	11.5	.2	.5	.2	3.1	3/	.1	22.7	2.7	.1	7.9	.7	1.3	1.4	5.9	46.8	.7	1.3	5.4	2.4	3.0	.4	.1	12.8	7.8	33.9	27.1	9.7	36.8	129.0
1923	11.5	.2	.6	.2	3.4	3/	.1	19.2	3.0	.2	8.3	.9	1.4	1.7	5.4	44.6	.8	1.5	5.7	2.2	2.7	.4	.1	13.1	7.0	33.5	19.9	8.8	28.7	118.3
1924	11.7	.4	.7	.2	3.5	3/	.1	23.7	3.1	.1	9.5	1.0	1.3	1.9	6.4	51.9	1.1	1.3	6.1	2.8	3.2	.4	.1	13.6	8.3	36.9	25.4	9.8	35.2	135.7
1925	12.4	.4	.8	.2	3.6	3/	.1	21.6	2.9	.1	10.0	1.1	1.3	2.1	6.4	50.6	1.1	1.5	6.5	3.0	3.4	.4	.2	13.5	8.4	38.0	23.8	10.1	33.9	135.9
1926	10.4	.5	1.0	.2	3.5	3/	.1	21.9	3.3	.2	10.6	1.4	1.3	2.1	6.4	52.5	.9	2.3	6.0	3.1	3.1	.3	.2	13.3	8.2	37.4	26.2	9.8	36.0	136.3
1927	12.1	.4	1.0	.2	3.7	3/	.1	22.8	4.0	.2	11.5	2.0	1.3	2.3	6.5	56.0	1.2	1.8	6.1	3.0	3.2	.3	.1	13.3	8.5	37.5	20.4	9.9	30.3	135.9
1928	11.8	.3	1.1	.2	3.7	3/	.1	19.5	3.9	.2	12.2	2.1	1.3	2.2	6.5	53.3	1.4	2.0	7.3	3.3	3.1	.3	.1	13.2	8.5	39.2	19.8	10.4	30.2	134.5
1929	13.3	.3	1.0	.3	4.5	0.1	.1	20.7	5.8	.2	13.0	2.3	1.3	2.6	7.0	59.2	1.6	2.4	8.3	3.4	3.0	.4	.1	12.3	9.3	40.8	21.1	10.5	31.6	144.9
1930	12.7	.3	1.2	.4	4.4	.2	.1	18.1	6.1	.2	12.6	2.6	1.4	2.4	7.0	57.0	1.7	2.3	8.5	4.0	3.0	.4	.2	12.8	9.3	42.2	22.9	9.7	32.6	144.5
1931	12.2	.3	1.3	.5	4.7	.3	.1	19.1	5.3	.1	12.2	2.3	1.6	2.8	6.8	57.4	1.7	2.6	7.5	4.3	2.8	.4	.1	10.0	8.7	38.1	21.9	10.4	32.3	140.0
1932	13.3	.2	1.4	.6	4.5	.3	.2	19.0	5.3	.3	11.0	2.4	1.4	2.6	6.7	55.9	1.5	2.5	7.5	5.2	2.3	.4	.2	10.9	8.8	39.3	17.9	8.8	26.7	135.2
1933	12.3	.2	1.3	.5	5.0	.4	.2	16.9	5.2	.2	10.9	2.7	1.6	2.3	6.3	53.7	1.5	2.5	7.3	5.3	2.1	.4	.1	11.3	8.2	38.7	17.4	7.6	25.0	129.7
1934	13.3	.3	1.4	.5	5.1	.5	.2	22.3	6.0	.1	11.7	2.2	1.4	2.4	7.0	61.1	1.8	2.4	7.4	5.7	2.3	.4	.1	11.2	9.3	40.6	17.6	7.8	25.4	140.4
1935	13.8	.3	1.2	.6	4.8	.5	.2	19.3	6.0	.1	11.8	2.4	1.5	2.3	6.9	57.9	1.5	2.4	6.5	5.6	2.5	.4	.1	10.9	9.0	38.9	18.4	8.4	26.8	137.4
1936	12.5	.3	1.4	.7	4.3	.6	.2	17.7	6.3	.2	12.4	2.4	1.7	2.6	7.1	57.9	1.6	2.7	7.2	5.7	2.1	.5	.2	13.1	9.3	42.4	17.4	8.7	26.1	138.9
1937	12.6	.2	1.2	.7	3.9	.6	.2	17.5	6.6	.2	12.4	2.3	1.8	2.6	7.0	57.2	1.7	3.1	7.7	5.0	2.1	.4	.2	11.8	9.2	41.2	18.6	9.9	28.5	139.5
1938	13.7	.3	1.1	.8	4.7	.7	.2	19.5	7.1	.2	11.3	2.1	1.8	2.4	7.3	59.5	1.7	2.9	7.9	5.1	2.3	.5	.2	10.8	9.7	41.1	17.4	9.4	26.8	141.1
1939	13.9	.3	1.3	.9	4.9	.8	.2	16.2	7.5	.3	13.2	2.3	2.0	2.9	7.4	60.2	1.7	3.2	8.2	5.0	2.4	.4	.2	12.4	9.6	43.1	15.6	9.5	25.1	142.3
1940	13.1	.2	1.5	.8	5.0	.6	.2	18.3	7.8	.1	12.9	2.1	1.9	2.7	7.4	61.5	1.7	3.5	8.1	5.6	2.2	.4	.1	11.5	9.7	42.8	17.2	9.0	26.2	143.6
1941	12.9	.2	1.5	.8	4.5	.7	.2	16.0	7.7	.3	13.5	2.0	1.8	2.6	7.2	59.0	1.6	2.6	8.7	6.2	2.3	.5	.2	10.9	9.5	42.5	14.8	9.3	24.1	138.5
1942	14.1	.2	1.3	.7	4.9	.6	.2	18.6	7.7	.2	13.3	1.7	1.8	2.5	7.8	61.5	1.4	2.7	7.8	6.7	2.1	.4	.2	12.4	10.3	44.0	13.1	7.8	20.9	140.5
1943	14.4	.2	1.2	.6	5.5	.7	.2	16.8	10.2	.3	14.0	1.6	1.4	2.3	7.3	62.3	1.3	2.5	6.9	6.2	1.7	.4	.1	10.8	9.5	39.4	12.5	7.8	20.3	136.4
1944	14.8	.2	1.2	.6	5.0	1.0	.2	19.5	9.3	.3	15.7	1.7	1.8	2.3	8.8	67.6	1.2	3.1	7.3	6.6	1.8	.5	.2	12.5	11.5	44.7	17.1	9.5	26.6	153.7
1945	17.0	.2	1.1	.6	5.2	.9	.2	20.3	11.4	.3	16.5	1.5	2.1	2.3	9.5	72.1	1.1	3.4	8.1	7.8	2.4	.5	.2	13.4	12.5	49.4	17.8	10.1	27.9	166.4
1946	16.4	.2	1.1	.7	5.2	1.0	.2	17.5	9.7	.3	17.9	1.4	2.2	2.1	9.6	69.1	1.5	3.6	9.0	7.6	2.9	.6	.2	13.3	12.6	51.3	17.9	11.0	28.9	165.7
1947	14.7	.2	1.1	.6	4.5	.9	.3	16.8	8.8	.3	18.0	1.1	1.9	1.9	8.6	65.0	1.3	3.2	7.8	7.6	2.5	.4	.2	12.4	11.2	46.6	16.7	9.7	26.4	152.7
1948	14.9	.2	.9	.6	4.7	.9	.2	16.4	9.4	.2	17.4	.9	2.1	1.7	9.1	64.7	1.3	3.3	8.4	8.6	2.7	.4	.2	11.7	12.1	48.7	16.0	9.7	25.7	154.0
1949	14.0	.2	.9	.5	4.6	.9	.1	14.7	8.7	.3	16.3	.8	2.2	1.6	8.7	60.5	1.2	3.1	8.1	7.5	2.7	.4	.2	11.9	11.5	46.6	16.8	9.1	25.9	147.0
1950	13.4	.2	.9	.5	4.4	1.0	.1	14.4	9.0	.3	17.2	.7	2.2	1.5	9.2	61.6	1.2	2.9	8.3	8.0	2.7	.4	.2	12.1	12.1	47.9	15.0	9.3	24.3	147.2
1951	13.8	.2	.8	.4	4.4	.7	.1	13.7	8.4	.3	17.1	.5	2.2	1.3	8.6	58.7	.8	2.7	8.7	7.8	2.8	.4	.2	12.0	11.2	46.6	16.5	9.0	25.5	144.6
1952	13.7	.2	.9	.4	3.9	.9	.1	13.3	8.5	.3	18.2	.5	2.2	1.0	8.4	58.8	.9	2.6	8.6	8.0	3.0	.5	.2	11.8	12.1	47.7	16.0	8.7	24.7	144.9
1953	13.5	.2	.8	.3	4.0	.8	.2	13.5	8.2	.3	18.0	.4	2.2	1.1	8.4	58.4	.9	2.3	8.5	8.1	3.0	.4	.2	12.4	11.8	47.6	17.6	9.6	27.2	146.7
1954	13.8	.2 .2	.8	.3	4.0	.7	.1	13.1	7.8	.2	17.9	.4	2.4	1.2	8.2	57.3	.9	2.2	8.6	8.3	3.1	.4	.2	11.6	11.1	46.4	18.3	10.1	28.4	145.9
1955 5/	13.6	.2	.7	.3	4.0	.9	.1	11.9	7.2	.2	18.2	.4	2.3	.6	8.0	55.0	.7	2.6	8.5	8.5	3.1	.4	.3	11.6	11.2	46.9	19.0	9.7	28.7	144.2

1/ Excludes quantities produced in home gardens. Minor vegetables estimated to be 43 percent "leafy, green, and yellow" and 57 percent "other" on basis of carlot shipment data. Civilian consumption only, beginning 1941.

2/ Includes 0.1 pound of shallots in each year beginning 1929. In earlier years shallots are included in minor vegetables.

3/ Included in minor vegetables.

4/ Less than 0.05 pound.

5/ Preliminary.

Table 4 .- Canned vegetables: Per capita consumption 1909-55 1/
(Net canned weight)

Year	Leafy, green, and yellow vegetables 2/							Tomato products 2/					Other vegetables 2/						
	Asparagus	Lima beans	Snap beans	Carrots	Peas	Pumpkin and squash	Spinach	Whole tomatoes	Catsup and chili sauce	Paste and sauce	Pulp and puree	Tomato and other vegetable juices 3/	Beets	Corn	Pickles	Sauerkraut	Sweet-potatoes	Other 4/	Total
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1909	---	---	---	---	1.7	---	---	6.0	---	---	---	---	---	2.1	---	---	---	5.3	15.1
1910	---	---	---	---	1.5	---	---	5.3	---	---	---	---	---	2.4	---	---	---	5.1	14.3
1911	---	---	---	---	1.4	---	---	4.8	---	---	---	---	---	3.7	---	---	---	5.5	15.4
1912	---	---	---	---	1.8	---	---	5.8	---	---	---	---	---	4.3	---	---	---	6.5	18.4
1913	---	---	---	---	2.4	---	---	7.0	---	---	---	---	---	3.2	---	---	---	6.9	19.5
1914	---	---	---	---	2.6	---	---	7.1	---	---	---	---	---	2.5	---	---	---	6.8	19.0
1915	---	---	---	---	2.7	---	---	5.9	---	---	---	---	---	2.9	---	---	---	6.3	17.8
1916	---	---	---	---	2.3	---	---	4.9	---	---	---	---	---	2.8	---	---	---	6.0	16.0
1917	---	---	---	---	2.4	---	---	6.5	---	---	---	---	---	2.8	---	---	---	7.0	18.7
1918	---	---	---	---	3.0	---	---	7.1	---	---	---	---	---	3.2	---	---	---	8.7	22.0
1919	---	---	0.9	---	2.8	---	---	6.3	---	---	---	---	---	3.5	1.6	1.4	---	4.5	21.0
1920	0.4	---	.8	---	2.9	0.2	0.4	5.0	---	---	---	---	0.3	3.9	1.2	.8	0.3	2.0	18.2
1921	.3	---	.5	---	2.8	.2	.3	4.4	---	---	---	---	.2	3.7	1.1	.9	.3	2.0	16.7
1922	.3	0.1	.6	---	2.8	.2	.6	4.4	---	---	---	---	.2	3.1	1.8	1.2	.3	1.3	16.9
1923	.4	.1	.7	---	3.5	.3	.7	5.8	---	---	---	---	.2	3.3	1.2	2.2	.3	2.5	21.2
1924	.4	.1	.9	---	4.3	.3	.5	6.0	---	0.2	0.6	---	.3	3.4	1.3	2.1	.3	2.0	22.7
1925	.4	.2	1.2	---	4.5	.4	.6	6.9	---	.4	.7	---	.5	3.7	1.5	1.5	.3	2.5	25.3
1926	.4	.2	1.3	---	4.2	.4	.5	6.7	2.1	.4	.7	---	.4	4.4	2.5	1.3	.2	---	25.7
1927	.4	.1	1.0	---	4.1	.4	.7	5.3	1.8	.3	.6	---	.3	3.9	1.4	1.6	.2	---	22.1
1928	.5	.1	1.2	---	4.1	.4	.9	5.4	1.6	.3	.6	---	.3	3.7	1.2	2.0	.2	.1	22.6
1929	.5	.2	1.7	---	4.4	.7	1.3	5.8	1.8	.3	.6	---	.4	3.8	1.7	2.0	.2	.1	25.5
1930	.4	.2	1.9	---	4.5	.7	.8	6.5	1.8	.4	1.0	0.2	.6	4.1	1.7	2.3	.1	.8	28.0
1931	.4	.3	1.7	---	4.0	.5	.6	5.7	1.7	.2	.8	.6	.5	3.7	1.8	2.4	.1	---	25.0
1932	.4	.2	1.3	0.1	3.2	.4	.5	5.1	1.6	.2	.5	1.1	.3	3.3	1.6	1.7	.1	.1	21.7
1933	.5	.2	1.1	.1	3.2	.5	.6	5.4	1.5	.4	.6	1.1	.3	3.1	1.5	1.7	.1	.1	22.0
1934	.5	.2	1.3	.2	3.5	.5	.7	5.4	1.5	.4	.7	1.1	.4	2.9	1.6	1.5	.1	.5	23.0
1935	.4	.3	1.4	.2	3.9	.4	.8	5.6	1.6	.5	.8	1.6	.5	3.5	1.7	2.3	.1	.2	25.8
1936	.5	.3	1.5	.2	4.3	.3	.9	5.7	1.6	.4	.8	2.4	.5	4.0	2.0	1.4	.1	.4	27.3
1937	.5	.3	1.7	.2	4.6	.4	.9	5.6	1.6	.5	.8	3.0	.6	3.8	2.0	1.4	.1	1.0	29.0
1938	.5	.3	2.0	.2	4.8	.4	.9	5.8	1.8	.7	.7	2.8	.6	4.0	2.3	1.8	.1	.9	30.6
1939	.6	.4	2.1	.2	4.9	.5	.9	5.7	2.1	.7	.6	2.6	.7	4.2	2.2	2.0	.1	.9	31.4
1940	.6	.5	2.3	.3	5.4	.7	1.1	5.8	2.5	.8	.7	2.9	.8	4.4	2.1	2.0	.2	.8	33.9
1941	.6	.6	2.3	.3	6.1	.7	.9	5.9	2.5	.9	.6	3.6	.9	4.7	2.5	2.2	.3	.7	36.3
1942	.7	.6	2.6	.3	6.3	.5	1.2	6.1	2.4	1.1	.7	4.4	1.2	5.5	2.8	2.1	.2	.5	39.2
1943	.6	.4	2.6	.2	5.8	.6	.8	5.5	1.7	1.5	1.2	4.1	1.1	5.3	2.5	1.8	.3	.5	36.5
1944	.6	.2	2.9	.3	5.2	.5	1.3	4.8	2.0	1.9	1.4	2.9	1.0	5.0	2.2	.6	.3	.8	33.9
1945	.4	.3	3.3	.4	7.1	.4	1.0	4.1	2.4	2.7	2.1	6.9	1.4	5.5	2.3	1.0	.3	.9	42.5
1946	1.0	.3	3.2	.6	7.5	.6	1.6	4.0	2.8	3.0	2.1	5.1	1.4	6.2	2.9	2.3	.6	.9	46.1
1947	.6	.3	2.7	.4	5.8	.6	1.1	3.8	2.7	2.7	1.5	3.8	1.2	5.8	3.2	2.4	.5	.8	39.9
1948	.7	.4	2.8	.4	5.7	.5	1.0	4.4	2.2	2.3	.5	4.2	1.2	4.9	3.3	1.1	.3	1.4	37.3
1949	.6	.4	2.9	.3	5.3	.5	1.1	4.6	2.5	2.2	.6	4.4	1.0	4.8	3.3	1.9	.5	1.3	38.2
1950	.7	.6	3.4	.4	5.4	.6	.9	5.0	2.7	2.4	.7	4.9	1.6	5.1	3.3	1.8	.7	1.3	41.5
1951	.7	.5	3.2	.3	5.3	.6	1.2	4.8	2.5	3.3	.8	4.6	1.5	4.8	3.1	2.3	.4	1.3	41.2
1952	.7	.5	3.4	.4	5.1	.7	1.0	4.1	**2.7**	2.7	.9	5.1	1.4	4.8	**3.5**	1.9	.8	1.3	**40.9**
1953	.8	.5	**3.5**	.4	**4.9**	.6	**1.0**	**4.4**	**2.7**	**2.9**	.8	**5.4**	**1.4**	**5.1**	**3.8**	**1.5**	.7	**1.4**	**41.8**
1954	.7	.5	3.6	.4	4.8	.7	.7	4.5	2.8	2.6	.5	5.0	1.4	5.2	3.9	1.7	.6	1.3	**40.9**
1955 5/	.7	.5	4.0	.4	4.7	.7	.9	4.4	3.0	3.2	.7	4.8	.9	5.2	3.9	1.5	.8	1.5	41.8

1/ Excludes soups and baby food. In years 1909-42 calendar-year data are derived from pack-year data by combining proportional parts of each pack year involved. Civilian consumption, beginning 1941.

2/ Minor vegetables and, in earlier years, items not shown separately are included in "other".

3/ Based on information available for 1944-46, tomato juice comprises approximately 85 percent of the total, combination vegetable juices 13 percent, and other vegetable juices 2 percent. Combination vegetable juice contains approximately 70 percent or more tomato juice.

4/ Computed as a residual; includes miscellaneous greens, pimientos, potatoes, mixed vegetables, and all items in earlier years for which no separate data are available.

5/ Preliminary.

Table 5 .- Vegetables, frozen: Per capita consumption, 1937-55 1/

Year	Leafy, green, and yellow vegetables										Other vegetables						Total 3/
	Asparagus	Snap beans	Lima beans	Carrots	Peas	Peas and carrots	Pumpkin and squash	Broccoli	Brussels sprouts	Spinach	Other 2/	Cauliflower	Corn cut and on cob	Succotash	Rhubarb	Potato products	
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1937	0.03	0.05	0.10	4/	0.15	4/	4/	0.01	4/	0.02	4/	4/	0.04	5/	5/	5/	0.40
1938	.05	.05	.09	4/	.15	4/	4/	.02	4/	.02	4/	4/	.03	5/	5/	5/	.41
1939	.03	.04	.11	4/	.22	0.01	4/	.02	4/	.01	0.01	4/	.05	5/	5/	5/	.50
1940	.05	.04	.13	4/	.21	4/	0.01	.01	0.01	.04	.01	0.01	.06	5/	5/	5/	.58
1941	.05	.07	.11	0.01	.31	4/	.01	.03	.01	.01	.01	4/	.05	5/	5/	5/	.67
1942	.04	.10	.24	.01	.40	.01	.02	.03	.02	.13	.01	.01	.07	5/	5/	5/	1.09
1943	.06	.05	.14	4/	.26	.01	.03	.03	.02	.11	4/	4/	.03	5/	5/	5/	.74
1944	.10	.15	.17	.03	.56	.02	.07	.03	.05	.17	.06	.04	.12	4/	0.04	5/	1.61
1945	.14	.19	.17	.02	.62	.02	.08	.08	.05	.26	.04	.04	.12	0.01	.04	5/	1.88
1946	.12	.20	.27	.04	.59	.04	.03	.12	.07	.20	.06	.07	.15	.01	.05	5/	2.02
1947	.11	.26	.37	.07	.80	.04	.06	.11	.04	.22	.07	.04	.25	.01	.09	0.01	2.55
1948	.14	.29	.38	.05	.90	.06	.05	.17	.07	.30	.10	.08	.26	.05	.02	.05	2.97
1949	.12	.28	.49	.10	.74	.04	.03	.21	.12	.28	.10	.10	.27	.05	.02	.07	3.02
1950	.12	.35	.50	.10	.85	.07	.05	.21	.09	.37	.08	.09	.25	.06	.04	.15	3.38
1951	.13	.44	.54	.07	1.00	.07	.06	.30	.13	.49	.29	.13	.34	.05	.04	.21	4.29
1952	.15	.52	.70	.10	1.14	.10	.06	.43	.14	.49	.34	.17	.42	.08	.04	.36	5.24
1953	.16	.56	.72	.12	1.23	.09	.06	.43	.18	.51	.29	.16	.48	.06	.03	.32	5.40
1954	.16	.63	.65	.17	1.38	.11	.09	.46	.16	.51	.35	.17	.45	.07	.05	.44	5.85
1955 6/	.15	.65	.71	.20	1.33	.08	.12	.53	.17	.58	.51	.18	.59	.04	.03	.75	6.62

1/ Civilian consumption only, beginning 1941.

2/ Included with leafy, green, and yellow because most items are considered to be greens.

3/ Computed from unrounded data.

4/ Less than 0.005 pound.

5/ Included with "other."

6/ Preliminary.

Table 6 .- Potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas: Per capita consumption, primary distribution weight, 1909-55 1/

Year	Potatoes 2/	Sweetpotatoes 2/	Dry edible beans 3/	Dry field peas 4/
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1909	184	25.8	6.7	5/
1910	195	25.9	6.4	5/
1911	155	23.4	6.2	5/
1912	176	24.0	6.7	5/
1913	186	23.3	6.0	5/
1914	154	22.0	6.3	5/
1915	182	24.7	5.7	5/
1916	141	24.1	5.0	5/
1917	144	27.5	7.3	5/
1918	172	25.8	7.3	5/
1919	150	29.5	5.4	5/
1920	138	28.6	5.6	5/
1921	154	26.7	4.7	5/
1922	141	28.7	5.1	5/
1923	172	24.5	5.8	5/
1924	152	17.3	7.7	5/
1925	155	17.5	7.2	5/
1926	126	20.9	7.4	5/
1927	139	24.6	8.6	5/
1928	145	20.4	8.5	0.5
1929	157	22.0	7.7	.4
1930	130	18.2	9.4	.5
1931	134	20.3	8.7	.7
1932	132	27.3	7.3	.6
1933	130	23.7	7.0	.9
1934	134	24.1	8.9	.8
1935	140	25.3	8.3	.5
1936	128	19.5	8.9	.6
1937	124	21.2	7.7	.6
1938	127	21.0	9.5	.6
1939	121	19.4	9.2	.7
1940	121	16.1	8.2	.7
1941	126	18.1	8.7	.5
1942	125	20.2	11.0	.5
1943	124	21.2	8.8	.8
1944	135	19.5	8.0	.8
1945	120	18.0	7.7	.8
1946	122	17.0	8.6	.7
1947	124	14.3	6.4	.5
1948	103	11.2	6.7	.8
1949	109	11.6	6.8	.4
1950	102	12.2	8.5	.7
1951	108	7.3	7.9	.7
1952	99	7.2	8.0	.5
1953	103	8.0	7.7	.5
1954	106	8.0	8.1	.5
1955 6/	104	8.8	7.8	.4

1/ Civilian consumption only, beginning 1941.
2/ Farm weight basis, calendar years. Excludes quantities from gardens, and the commercially canned and frozen products.
3/ Cleaned basis, calendar years.
4/ Cleaned basis, crop years beginning approximately September of year indicated.
5/ Basic data inadequate.
6/ Preliminary.

Table 7.- Vegetables, fresh, potatoes and sweetpotatoes: Unloads at 19 markets, indicated periods in 1955 and 1956, with comparisons

(Expressed in carlot equivalents)

Commodity	1955								1956							
	June				July				June				July			
	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total	Rail, boat, and air	Truck	Imports	Total
Asparagus	11	505	---	516	---	25	---	25	5	625	---	630	---	31	---	31
Beans, lima, snap and fava	79	1,921	8	2,008	3	1,365	---	1,368	90	1,237	---	1,327	9	1,530	3	1,542
Beets	2	281	---	283	---	220	---	220	12	191	---	203	3	226	---	229
Broccoli	58	142	---	200	5	69	---	74	99	110	---	209	21	89	---	110
Brussels sprouts	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Cabbage	155	2,091	19	2,265	5	1,796	---	1,801	155	2,258	19	2,432	34	2,145	21	2,200
Cantaloups and other melons 1/	3,825	1,854	110	5,789	4,767	2,095	---	6,862	4,817	1,813	194	6,824	5,109	2,215	---	7,324
Carrots	927	623	---	1,550	708	558	---	1,266	1,100	659	---	1,759	816	596	---	1,412
Cauliflower	80	571	---	651	53	367	---	420	82	557	---	639	57	385	---	442
Celery	1,426	1,365	2	2,793	972	1,347	---	2,319	1,790	1,608	---	3,398	1,192	1,428	2	2,622
Corn	1,166	1,444	---	2,610	500	3,140	---	3,640	1,391	1,325	1	2,717	380	2,309	1	2,690
Cucumbers	189	1,853	---	2,042	32	1,690	---	1,722	161	1,650	---	1,811	42	1,780	20	1,842
Escarole and endive	32	338	---	370	1	265	---	266	28	246	2	276	4	336	---	340
Lettuce and romaine	2,012	4,116	---	6,128	2,703	3,335	79	6,117	2,890	4,091	---	6,981	3,034	3,500	30	6,564
Onions, dry	1,276	956	94	2,326	896	1,252	83	2,231	1,614	757	196	2,567	790	1,525	66	2,381
Onions, green 2/	---	352	---	352	1	362	---	363	---	472	5	477	2	486	1	489
Peas, green	132	141	---	273	102	89	---	191	140	102	---	242	90	108	---	198
Peppers	408	733	13	1,154	151	940	5	1,096	442	493	14	949	73	1,120	6	1,199
Spinach	---	451	---	451	9	211	---	220	1	392	---	393	9	240	---	249
Other cooking greens	10	405	---	415	2	323	---	325	8	491	16	515	---	418	---	418
Squash	15	473	12	500	6	456	---	462	10	524	---	534	10	581	1	592
Tomatoes	2,237	3,009	3	5,249	622	4,416	43	5,081	2,108	2,956	---	5,064	1,095	4,224	23	5,342
Turnips and rutabagas	4	152	3	159	3	117	1	121	6	147	38	191	8	133	9	150
Watermelons	4,213	3,871	83	8,167	5,176	8,014	---	13,190	5,144	4,350	80	9,574	3,057	6,612	---	9,669
Other vegetables (including mixed)	435	1,605	66	2,106	185	1,107	58	1,350	679	1,501	320	2,500	329	1,192	183	1,704
TOTAL ABOVE	18,692	29,252	413	48,357	16,902	33,559	269	50,730	22,772	28,555	885	52,212	16,164	33,209	366	49,739
Potatoes	8,082	5,477	5	13,564	5,455	5,304	---	10,759	8,661	4,886	374	13,921	4,778	5,652	46	10,476
Sweetpotatoes	7	368	9	384	8	249	9	266	29	320	---	349	8	281	14	303
GRAND TOTAL	26,781	35,097	427	62,305	22,365	39,112	278	61,755	31,462	33,761	1,259	66,482	20,950	39,142	426	60,518

1/ Except watermelons. 2/ Includes shallots, chives, cipolinas, leeks, scallions, and green onions.
Markets include: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas and Ft. Worth, Detroit, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Oakland (California), Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle, Kansas City (Missouri), Denver, and Washington, D. C.

Table 8 .- Vegetables for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production, average 1949-54, annual 1955, and indicated 1956

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage				Production (equivalent tons) 1/			
	6 year average 1949-54 2/	1955	Indicated 1956		6 year average 1949-54 2/	1955	Indicated 1956	
			Amount	Percentage of 1955			Amount	Percentage of 1955
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Percent	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	Percent
Winter 3/	275,890	267,620	278,940	104	1,489.2	1,590.0	1,617.8	102
Spring 4/	694,930	726,320	725,500	100	2,387.5	2,680.5	2,733.5	102
Summer 3/	930,610	972,820	909,200	93	4,207.6	4,115.0	4,433.3	100
Fall 5/								
Beans, lima	590	350	300	86	.9	.3	.5	167
Beans, snap								
Early	20,320	14,900	15,600	105	37.8	32.2	34.2	106
Late	18,100	20,200	18,600	92	24.5	34.8	29.5	85
Total	38,420	35,100	34,200	97	62.3	67.0	63.7	95
Broccoli	21,450	23,100	28,100	122	49.0	55.3	68.6	124
Brussels sprouts	5,660	4,600	6,200	135	26.0	22.0	32.9	150
Cabbage								
Early	49,220	40,780	45,230	111	546.5	417.8	637.5	153
Late	4,500	3,600	4,450	124	---	---	---	---
Total	53,720	44,380	49,680	112	---	---	---	---
Carrots								
Early	19,460	17,380	20,050	115	234.8	201.6	249.3	124
Late	9,700	8,500	9,200	108	119.7	128.6	126.5	98
Total	29,160	25,880	29,250	113	354.5	330.2	375.8	114
Cauliflower								
Early	8,540	6,900	7,850	114	68.3	59.5	70.7	119
Late	5,670	5,400	6,300	117	42.8	44.0	51.3	117
Total	14,210	12,300	14,150	115	111.1	103.5	122.0	118
Celery								
Early	4,960	3,700	3,350	91	66.9	50.3	49.6	99
Late	8,470	7,900	8,450	107	137.4	170.3	178.2	105
Total	13,430	11,600	11,800	102	204.3	220.6	227.8	103
Corn	4,130	6,800	8,800	129	14.0	26.9	33.1	123
Cucumbers								
Early	3,840	3,150	3,200	102	17.2	16.2	18.7	115
Late	4,080	5,600	6,600	118	20.3	32.3	36.4	113
Total	7,920	8,750	9,800	112	37.5	48.5	55.1	114
Eggplant	1,420	1,700	1,150	68	4.2	7.5	4.8	64
Lettuce								
Early	45,140	43,490	41,550	96	268.1	292.7	258.5	88
Late	12,600	13,800	14,000	101	74.8	86.9	88.2	101
Total	57,740	57,290	55,550	97	342.9	379.6	346.7	91
Peas, green	2,650	2,300	1,600	70	4.5	4.3	2.8	65
Peppers, green	7,980	8,100	5,200	64	16.1	17.6	13.7	78
Spinach	7,230	6,180	6,040	98	22.8	18.2	20.2	111
Tomatoes								
Early	17,470	20,800	22,500	108	133.0	181.9	196.8	108
Late	17,680	16,000	15,000	94	---	---	---	---
Total	35,150	36,800	37,500	102	---	---	---	---
Total fall to date	278,680	265,630	279,870	105	1,929.6	1,901.2	2,202.0	116
Total fall	303,580	286,880	---	---	2,011.2	1,997.7	---	---
Total acreage and production reported to date for 1956	2,180,110	2,232,390	2,193,510	98	10,013.9	10,586.7	10.986.6	104
Total, all	2,205,010	2,253,640	---	---	10,095.9	10,683.2	---	---

1/ Equivalent tons based on approximate net weight of unit in which reported. 2/ For group and annual totals, averages of the yearly totals, not the sum of the crop averages. 3/ Includes cabbage used for sauerkraut. 4/ Includes asparagus used for processing and cabbage for sauerkraut. 5/ Includes crops for which seasonal sub-group estimates are not made.

Table 9 .- Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available) indicated periods, 1955 and 1956

Market and Commodity	State of Origin	Unit	Tuesday Nearest Mid-Month			
			1955		1956	
			Sept. 20	Oct. 18	Sept. 18	Oct. 16
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York						
Beans, snap, green, Valentine	New York	Bu. bskt.	4.50	---	2.87	---
Beets	New Jersey	1 3/5 bu. crt. 2 doz.	1.63	1.00	.85	.87
Broccoli	California	14s small crt.-bunches	3.85	3.15	3.75	2.88
Cabbage, domestic round type	New Jersey	1 3/5 bu. box	1.71	---	.90	.87
Cantaloups	California	Pony crt.	6.00	9.00	5.75	12.34
Carrots, bunched	California	4 doz. pony crt.	1/ 7.50	1/ 8.00	5.17	4.17
Carrots, topped, washed	California	48-lb. film bag crt.	6.38	4.96	4.32	4.34
Cauliflower, catskill	New York	Crt. 12's	3.25	---	2.29	---
Celery, Golden Heart	New York	½ crt. (3-4 doz.)	4.75	5.33	2.15	2.25
Celery, Pascal	California	2-2½ doz 6" crt.	5.78	5.52	3.31	3.45
Cucumbers	New York	Bu. bskt.	4.50	---	4.25	---
Eggplant	New Jersey	Bu.	1.33	1.25	1.09	2.25
Escarole	New Jersey	1½ bu.	2.69	1.00	2/ .78	2/ .81
Honey Dews	California	6-8 jumbo crt .	3/ 3.25	3/ 3.70	3.62	3.64
Lettuce, Iceberg type	California	2-doz. crtn.	4.90	4.25	3.22	4.02
Onions, yellow, medium size	New York	50 lb. sack	1.45	1.67	1.10	.92
Onions, yellow, large size	Idaho	50 lb. sack	2.82	---	2.70	2.58
Peas, green	California	Bu. bskt.	5.50	4.25	5.13	5.38
Peppers, green	New Jersey	Bu. bskt.	2.02	1.63	1.27	---
Tomatoes	New York	12 qt. bskt.	1.50	---	1.00	---
Chicago						
Beans, snap, green, Valentine	Michigan	Bu. hamper	3.50	---	2.75	---
Beets, bunched	California	14's ½ crt.	3.50	---	2.62	---
Cabbage, domestic round type	Illinois	50-60 lb. crt.	1.75	1.65	1.10	1.15
Cantaloups	California	35-45 jumbo crt.	6.75	---	5.25	8.00
Carrots, topped, washed	California	48-lb. film bag crt.	5.65	4.50	4.25	4.15
Cauliflower	Colorado	Long Island type crt. 12's	4/ 5.25	---	2.00	---
Celery, Pascal type	California	2-3 doz.	5.00	4.75	3.25	3.00
Cucumbers	Michigan	Bu. bskt.	3.75	---	3.50	---
Honey Dews	California	12's std. flat crt.	2.50	3.00	3.50	3.25
Lettuce, Iceberg type, dry pack	California	2 doz. heads, crtn.	4.00	3.65	2.65	3.10
Onions, Spanish	Colorado	3" and 1 gr.	2.40	2.25	2.30	2.20
Peas, green	California	Bu. bskt.	5.40	3.90	4.65	5.00
Peppers, green	Michigan	Bu. bskt.	2.00	---	---	2.00
Tomatoes, green, ripe, and turning	California	6x6 30 lb. lugs	4.50	---	3.50	3.40

1/ 6 doz. W. G. A. crate.
2/ 1 1/9 bu. crate.
3/ 9-12's standard crate.
4/ 18's W. G. A. crate.

Table 10.- Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, average 1935-39; average 1947-49, and 1950 to date

(1910-1914 = 100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
Year													
1950	257	213	195	276	231	211	200	170	156	165	214	249	211
1951	338	346	288	333	276	215	203	197	190	211	290	343	269
1952	301	249	294	341	311	294	289	240	203	224	266	281	274
1953	263	262	249	254	251	289	246	201	192	198	224	235	239
1954	247	227	230	266	247	201	225	196	176	197	234	227	223
1955 1/	249	254	249	270	263	220	206	208	224	208	231	217	233
1956 2/	248	264	258	260	272	310	286	230	178				

1/ Revised. In addition to the vegetables included in the series published prior to January 1954, the following have been added; broccoli, sweet corn, cucumbers, and watermelons.
2/ Preliminary.

Table 11.- Vegetables, for commercial processing: Harvested acreage and estimated production, average 1945-54, annual 1955, and indicated 1956

Commodity	Harvested acreage			Production			
	10-year Average 1945-54	1955	Preliminary 1956	10-year Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956	1956 as percentage of 1955
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Tons	Tons	Tons	Percent
Beans, lima 1/	93,420	99,480	105,200	78,190	87,470	112,060	128.1
Beans, snap	124,750	138,690	140,750	248,700	309,980	346,500	111.8
Beets	15,990	17,470	20,900	141,000	139,000	224,300	161.4
Corn, sweet 2/	463,280	389,520	456,300	1,284,300	1,173,800	1,742,300	148.4
Peas, green	429,080	435,200	479,720	439,410	455,910	550,150	120.7
Pimientos	19,980	26,500	---	21,510	34,470	---	---
Tomatoes	400,220	318,920	356,500	3,086,900	3,230,140	4,484,900	138.8
Total to date	1,546,720	1,425,780	1,559,370	5,300,010	5,430,770	7,460,210	---
Asparagus	84,410	115,070	---	99,920	128,900	---	---
Cabbage for kraut							
Contract	9,300	7,410	9,890	100,100	90,300	158,600	175.6
Open market	8,420	5,840	---	98,100	70,400	---	---
Total for cabbage	17,720	13,250	---	198,200	160,700	---	---
Cucumbers	131,460	126,200	---	262,700	312,800	---	---
Spinach							
Winter and spring	25,580	22,810	---	79,940	93,800	105,400	112.4
Fall	8,220	4,830	---	27,180	22,640	---	---
Total for spinach	33,800	27,640		107,120	116,440	---	---
Acreage and production	1,813,560	1,707,940	---	5,963,600	6,149,610	---	---

1/ Production reported on a shelled basis. 2/ In husk.

Canned vegetables: United States commercial pack 1954 and 1955 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks, indicated periods in 1955 and 1956, with comparisons

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canner 1/			Wholesale distributors 1/		
	1954	1955	Date	1955	1956	Date	1955	1956
	1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's		1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 case 24/2's		1,000 cases 24/2's	1,000 cases 24/2's
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	27,069	23,371	July 1	5,810	4,879	July 1	3,015	2,608
Corn, sweet	30,619	24,075	Aug. 1	4,708	1,794	July 1	3,633	2,900
Peas, green	23,951	27,376	June 1	1,696	1,769	June 1	2,679	2,767
Tomatoes	21,827	24,727	July 1	2,666	2,456	July 1	3,039	3,007
Tomato juice 2/	27,062	26,911	July 1	6,141	2,168	July 1	2,829	2,485
Total	130,528	126,460		21,021	13,066		15,195	13,767
Minor commodities								
Asparagus	4,978	6,248	Mar. 1	605	1,656	July 1	765	---
Beans, lima	3,520	2,806	Aug. 1	865	911	July 1	564	508
Beets	7,061	7,493	July 1	1,369	1,406	July 1	986	997
Carrots	2,096	1,902	July 1	870	512	July 1	407	400
Pickles	3/20,713	3/ 21,223	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pimientos	3/ 644	3/ 1,000	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pumpkin and squash	2,134	4,231	July 1	219	408	July 1	374	460
Sauerkraut	3/11,237	3/ 8,678	June 1	4/ 3,813	4/ 2,029	July 1	735	723
Potatoes	1,656	2,707	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sweetpotatoes	4,061	5,053	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spinach	3,979	5,829	Mar. 1	5/ 779	1,220	July 1	814	---
Other greens	2,090	2,502	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tomato products:								
Catsup, chili sauce	14,360	17,378	July 1	1,977	2,264	July 1	1,205	1,341
Paste	6/ 5,652	6/ 8,571	July 1	5/ 511	5/ 754	---	---	---
Pulp and puree	3,159	4,261	July 1	7/ 81	7/ 162	July 1	796	599
Sauce	8,204	10,061	July 1	5/ 428	5/ 1,448	July 1	698	712
Vegetables, mixed	3,040	3,049	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total, comparable minor	98,584	112,992		11,517	12,770		5,765	5,740
Grand total	229,112	239,452		32,538	25,836		20,960	19,507

1/ Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 2 cans by S&HR Branch of AMS.

2/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.

3/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 68, sauerkraut 54, and pimientos 29 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh).

4/ Reported in barrels; converted to 24 No. 2 by using 14 cases to the barrel.

5/ Estimated basis, California stock.

6/ Estimated basis, California pack.

7/ California only.

N. A. Not Available.

Canners' stock and pack data from National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stocks from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 13.- Vegetables, frozen: United States commercial packs 1954 and 1955, and cold-storage holdings, October 1, 1956, with comparisons

Commodity	Packs		Cold-storage holdings		
	1954	1955	October 1 average 1951-55	October 1, 1955	October 1, 1956 1/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Asparagus	25,780	28,669	18,225	20,676	29,654
Beans, green and wax	123,253	120,967	83,852	104,297	113,910
Beans, lima	129,674	117,697	96,886	103,437	118,640
Broccoli	62,004	96,240	25,169	22,465	39,458
Brussels sprouts	33,418	23,142	9,758	13,613	7,640
Carrots	27,494	34,389	2/	2/	2/
Cauliflower	17,088	40,085	7,787	5,774	12,124
Corn, cut	78,212	70,041	70,422	86,986	104,061
Corn-on-cob	16,788	6,932	3/	3/	3/
Mixed vegetables	23,805	30,662	2/	2/	9,857
Peas	206,854	231,216	196,389	188,053	297,843
Peas and carrots	14,551	13,890	2/	2/	5,604
Pumpkin and squash	13,036	17,863	2/	2/	2/
Rhubarb	6,750	5,573	2/	2/	2/
Spinach	66,901	110,347	38,606	33,752	39,308
Succotash	9,364	7,219	2/	2/	2/
Kale	4,251	5,622	2/	2/	2/
Okra	7,756	13,647	2/	2/	2/
Peas, Blackeye	5,697	10,227	2/	2/	2/
Potato products	85,256	128,890	2/	2/	19,973
Turnip greens	7,497	9,495	2/	2/	2/
Miscellaneous vegetables	9,199	16,882	73,878	93,521	76,645
Total	974,628	1,139,695	620,972	672,574	874,717

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Included in miscellaneous vegetables.
3/ Corn-on-cob included with cut corn.

Pack data from National Association of Frozen Food Packers.

Table 14.- United States average prices received by farmers for important field crops, indicated periods, 1955 and 1956

Commodity and unit	Average		1955	1956		
	August 1909-July 1914	January 1947-December 1949	September 15	July 15	August 15	September 15
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Potatoes, per cwt.	1.14	2.47	1.21	5.19	2.33	1.66
Sweetpotatoes, per cwt.	1.60	4.27	2.84	6.34	3.96	3.47
Beans, dry edible, per cwt.	3.37	9.92	7.07	6.81	6.75	6.91
Peas, dry field, per cwt.	---	4.60	6.07	4.65	4.21	4.69

Table 15.- Vegetables, fresh: Average price received by farmers, United States, indicated periods, 1955 and 1956

Commodity	Unit	1955		1956		
		Aug.	Sept.	July	Aug.	Sept.
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Beans, snap	Bu.	2.10	2.50	3.10	2.15	2.45
Broccoli	Crt.	4.30	3.95	4.35	3.55	3.25
Cabbage	Ton	42.50	41.90	51.60	43.30	31.20
Cantaloups	Crt.	2.45	2.15	3.30	2.80	2.80
Carrots	Bu.	1.75	1.85	2.20	1.80	1.60
Cauliflower	Crt.	1.50	2.05	1.45	1.65	1.45
Celery	Crt.	2.40	3.40	2.75	2.15	1.75
Corn, sweet	5-doz. ears	1.40	1.40	2.65	1.80	1.60
Cucumbers	Bu.	1.90	1.95	2.60	1.70	2.00
Lettuce	Crt.	3.85	4.45	2.00	2.25	2.50
Onions	Sack	1.05	1.10	3.85	2.35	1.00
Peppers, green	Bu.	1.90	1.55	2.40	1.80	1.25
Spinach	Bu.	1.40	1.70	1.00	1.25	1.05
Tomatoes	Bu.	2.95	3.05	5.00	4.35	2.25
Watermelons	1,000 melons	283.00	273.00	335.00	292.00	255.00

Table 16.- Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1949-54, annual 1955, and indicated 1956

Seasonal Group	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest	Average	1955	Indicated	Average	1955	Indicated
	Average 1949-54	1955	1956	1949-54		1956	1949-54		1956
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Winter	21.4	30.2	33.8	154.1	171.4	178.2	3,284	5,175	6,022
Spring									
Early	23.3	25.8	26.5	128.7	147.3	148.0	2,994	3,800	3,923
Late	205.7	177.9	164.1	130.9	151.5	146.7	26,838	26,948	24,069
Summer									
Early	127.2	110.6	104.1	76.8	100.0	90.2	9,800	11,058	9,389
Late	222.7	190.2	191.7	150.4	166.6	174.7	33,269	31,682	33,481
Fall									
8 Eastern	309.3	292.8	277.6	197.2	210.4	235.7	61,110	61,595	65,422
9 Central	347.1	299.3	297.3	115.7	104.6	137.3	40,068	31,320	40,805
9 Western	267.9	286.8	306.4	182.9	193.4	192.7	48,998	55,468	59,056
Total	924.3	878.9	881.3	162.6	168.8	187.5	150,175	148,383	165,283
United States	1,524.7	1,413.6	1,401.5	148.7	160.6	172.8	226,360	227,046	242,167

Table 17.- Potatoes: Price f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1955 and 1956

Variety	State	Unit	Week ended			
			1955		1956	
			Sept. 17	Oct. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 13
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points						
Various varieties, mostly Katahdin	Rochester, New York	U. S. No. 1 50 lb. sack	1.67	1.67	1.14	.88
Katahdin, unwashed	South Dearfield, Massachusetts	U. S. No. 1 100 lb. sack	1/ 1.12	1/ 1.12	2.22	1.69
Cobblers and Chippewas, unwashed	South Central New Jersey	U. S. No. 1 100 lb. sack	1.07	1.10	2.52	1.75
			Tuesday nearest mid-month			
			1955		1956	
			Sept. 13	Oct. 11	Sept. 11	Oct. 9
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal Markets						
New York						
Cobblers, Chippewas, unwashed	Long Island	50 lb. sack	.73	.70	1.34	.99
Russets, washed 2 inch minimum	Idaho - Oregon	50 lb. sack	2.25	2.15	2.55	2.39
Chicago						
Russets	Washington	100 lb. sack	3.90	3.45	3.90	3.45
Round Reds	Wisconsin	100 lb. sack	2.10	2.25	2.25	2.00

1/ Various varieties.

Prices submitted for Tuesday of each week by the Market News representative at New York and Chicago.

Table 18.- Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre and production, average 1949-54, annual 1955 and indicated 1956

Group and State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest 1956	Average 1949-54	1955	Indicated 1956	Average 1949-54	1955	Indicated 1956
	Average 1949-54	1955							
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Central Atlantic 1/	37.7	40.7	34.8	83	85	93	3,142	3,469	3,232
Lower Atlantic 2/	115.9	84.0	79 5	50	56	58	5,846	4,694	4,568
South Central 3/	206.4	200.3	156.3	48	58	47	9,919	11,688	7,358
North Central 4/	3.7	3.4	3.2	54	51	53	200	172	170
California	11.2	13.0	13.0	67	71	73	748	923	949
United States	378.4	341.4	286.8	52.8	61.4	56.8	20,051	20,946	16,277

1/ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. 2/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. 3/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. 4/ Missouri and Kansas.

Table 19.- Sweetpotatoes: Price f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods, 1955 and 1956

Item	State	Unit	Week ended			
			1955		1956	
			Sept. 17	Oct. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 13
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points						
Porto Rican	Southern Louisiana points	50 lb. crt.	2.26	1.99	2.91	2.62
Golden and Oklahoma	Eastern Shore, Virginia	Bu. bskt.	1.36	1.62	1.96	2.11
			Tuesday nearest mid-month			
Terminal markets			1955		1956	
			Sept. 13	Oct. 11	Sept. 11	Oct. 9
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York						
Maryland, Golden	Virginia	Bu. bskt.	1.89	1.83	---	2.08
Chicago						
Porto Rican	Louisiana	50 lb. crt.	3.15	2.70	3.55	3.30

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market.

Table 20.- Beans, dry, edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1945-54, annual 1955 and indicated 1956 1/

States and classes	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production 2/		
	Harvested		For harvest 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956
	Average 1945-54	1955							
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Maine, New York, Michigan	576	618	635	892	915	1,101	5,133	5,657	6,994
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho Wyoming, Washington	307	311	277	1,492	1,638	1,717	4,576	5,095	4,755
Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah	376	291	275	624	724	582	2,247	2,107	1,600
California									
Large lima	75	72	60	1,508	1,496	1,500	1,122	1,077	900
Baby lima	63	24	27	1,493	1,325	1,550	913	318	418
Other	182	227	182	1,149	1,196	1,300	2,113	2,714	2,366
Total California	320	323	269	1,296	1,272	1,370	4,148	4,109	3,684
United States	1,579	1,543	1,456	1,028	1,100	1,170	16,103	16,968	17,033

1/ Includes beans grown for seed.
2/ Bags of 100 pounds, (cleaned).

Table 21.- Peas, dry, field: Acreage, yield per acre and production, average 1945-54, annual 1955 and indicated 1956 1/

State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production 2/		
	Harvested		For harvest 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956	Average 1945-54	1955	Indicated 1956
	Average 1945-54	1955							
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Minnesota	4	4	4	875	1,020	900	37	41	36
North Dakota	7	2	3	925	900	1,000	75	18	30
Montana	11	6	6	1,072	1,020	1,150	112	61	69
Idaho	104	103	146	1,190	1,000	1,350	1,225	1,034	1,971
Wyoming	4	5	5	1,262	1,260	1,500	54	63	75
Colorado	12	8	9	843	820	860	105	66	77
Washington	170	143	180	1,169	800	1,350	1,986	1,149	2,430
Oregon	17	4	7	875	500	1,400	147	20	98
California	13	6	6	1,020	1,220	1,650	124	73	99
United States	344	281	366	1,137	899	1,335	3,868	2,525	4,885

1/ In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and peas harvested dry.
2/ Bags of 100 pounds (cleaned).

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