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**Spring Season Fresh Market Vegetables Down 1 Percent
Processed Vegetable Contracted Acreage Down 2 Percent
Onion Acreage Down 6 Percent**

The prospective area for harvest of 11 selected fresh market vegetables during the spring quarter is forecast at 203,300 acres, down 1 percent from last year. Acreage declines for snap beans, carrots, cauliflower, head lettuce, bell peppers, and tomatoes more than offset acreage increases for broccoli, cabbage, celery, and sweet corn. Cucumber area remains unchanged. Melon acreage for spring harvest is forecast at 72,450, down 2 percent from last year. Watermelon acreage is down 1 percent from 2007 while cantaloup acreage declined 4 percent from a year ago. Honeydew melon acreage remains unchanged from 2007. Asparagus area for spring harvest is forecast at 34,100 acres, down 11 percent from last year. Strawberry area for harvest is forecast at 46,500 acres, up 2 percent from a year ago.

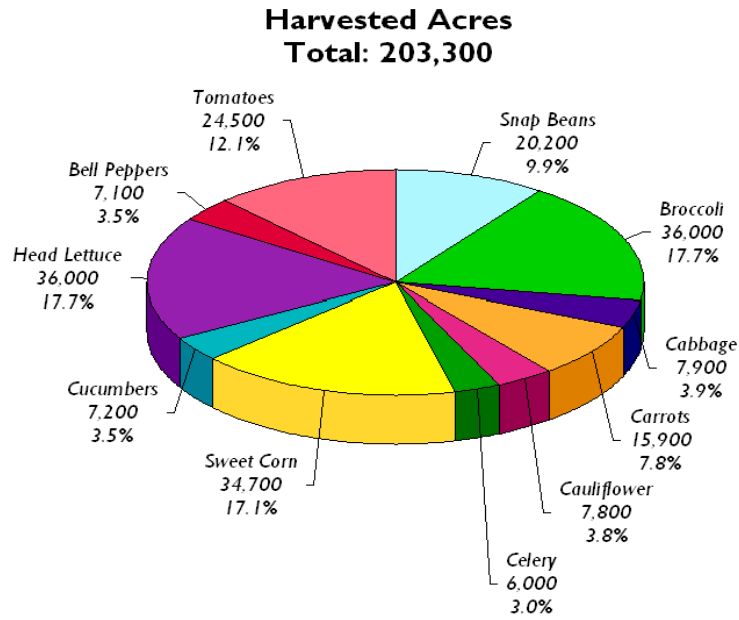
Processors expect to contract 1.18 million acres of the 5 major processed vegetable crops in the U.S. this year, down 2 percent from last year. Contracted acreage declines are forecast for snap beans and tomatoes, while sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, and green peas show increases. Freezing firms expect to contract 401,350 acres, down 2 percent from last year. Acreage for snap beans is down 12 percent while green pea acreage is up 2 percent from last year. Acreage for sweet corn is virtually unchanged. Canneries contracted for 781,610 acres, down 2 percent from 2007. Acreage declined for snap beans, green peas, and tomatoes, down 9 percent, 1 percent, and 3 percent, respectively. Acreage increased for sweet corn and cucumbers for pickles, up 3 percent and 4 percent, respectively.

Total planted onion area for all seasons in 2008 is forecast at 155,750 acres, down 6 percent from last year. Spring onions are expected to be harvested from 29,400 acres in 2008, down 5 percent from 2007. Georgia and Texas combined production is forecast at 6.22 million cwt, 2 percent below last year. Summer non-storage onion planted area, at 20,100 acres, is down 6 percent from a year ago. Total summer onion area, at 124,150 acres, is down 6 percent from the previous year.

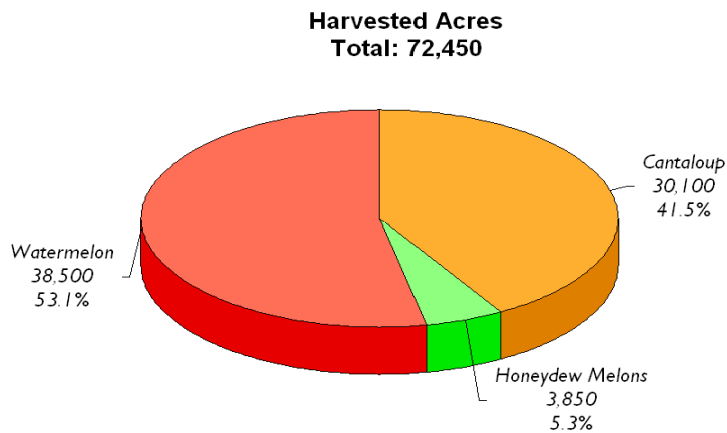
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Spring Season Fresh Market Vegetables: 2008



Spring Season Fresh Market Melons: 2008



**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season
and Crop, Major States, 2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008
(Domestic Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2008
	2006	2007	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Winter	179,100	179,600	173,700
Spring			
Snap Beans	22,200	20,700	20,200
Broccoli ¹	34,500	35,000	36,000
Cabbage	7,000	6,900	7,900
Carrots	18,600	16,400	15,900
Cauliflower ¹	8,500	8,200	7,800
Celery ¹	5,600	5,700	6,000
Sweet Corn	33,000	32,500	34,700
Cucumbers	7,200	7,200	7,200
Head Lettuce	34,300	37,200	36,000
Bell Peppers ¹	7,600	7,400	7,100
Tomatoes	28,500	27,900	24,500
Total 11 Vegetables	207,000	205,100	203,300
Cantaloup	31,600	31,400	30,100
Honeydew Melons	3,900	3,850	3,850
Watermelon	38,700	38,800	38,500
Total 3 Melons	74,200	74,050	72,450
Total Spring Crop	281,200	279,150	275,750

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Season
and Crop, Major States, 2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008
(Metric Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2008
	2006	2007	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Winter	72,480	72,680	70,290
Spring			
Snap Beans	8,980	8,380	8,170
Broccoli ¹	13,960	14,160	14,570
Cabbage	2,830	2,790	3,200
Carrots	7,530	6,640	6,430
Cauliflower ¹	3,440	3,320	3,160
Celery ¹	2,270	2,310	2,430
Sweet Corn	13,350	13,150	14,040
Cucumbers	2,910	2,910	2,910
Head Lettuce	13,880	15,050	14,570
Bell Peppers ¹	3,080	2,990	2,870
Tomatoes	11,530	11,290	9,910
Total 11 Vegetables ²	83,770	83,000	82,270
Cantaloup	12,790	12,710	12,180
Honeydew Melons	1,580	1,560	1,560
Watermelon	15,660	15,700	15,580
Total 3 Melons ²	30,030	29,970	29,320
Total Spring Crop ²	113,800	112,970	111,590

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop, State,
and Total, Spring Season, 2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2008
		2006	2007	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Snap Beans				
FL	Apr-Jun	11,000	11,100	11,300
GA	Apr-Jun	9,600	8,000	7,300
NJ	Jun-Aug	1,600	1,600	1,600
Total		22,200	20,700	20,200
Broccoli ¹				
CA	Apr-Jun	34,500	35,000	36,000
Cabbage				
FL	Apr-Jun	1,400	1,800	1,900
GA	Apr-Jun	3,900	3,600	4,400
NJ	May-Aug	1,000	1,000	1,000
TX	Apr-Jun	700	500	600
Total		7,000	6,900	7,900
Cantaloup				
AZ	May-Aug	14,300	14,200	12,500
CA	Apr-Jun	11,000	11,200	10,700
GA	Apr-Jun	4,600	4,600	5,600
TX	Apr-Jun	1,700	1,400	1,300
Total		31,600	31,400	30,100
Carrots				
CA	Apr-Jun	18,000	16,000	15,500
TX	Apr-Jun	600	400	400
Total		18,600	16,400	15,900
Cauliflower ¹				
CA	Apr-Jun	8,500	8,200	7,800
Celery ¹				
CA	Apr-Jun	5,600	5,700	6,000
Sweet Corn				
CA	Apr-Jun	12,000	12,000	13,000
FL	Apr-Jul	21,000	20,500	21,700
Total		33,000	32,500	34,700

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables and Melons: Area Harvested by Crop, State,
and Total, Spring Season, 2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008 (continued)**

Crop and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2008
		2006	2007	
		<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Cucumbers				
FL	Apr-Jun	5,500	5,600	5,800
SC	May-Aug	1,100	1,200	1,000
TX	Apr-Jun	600	400	400
Total		7,200	7,200	7,200
Honeydew Melons				
CA	Apr-Jun	3,200	3,200	3,200
TX	Apr-Jun	700	650	650
Total		3,900	3,850	3,850
Head Lettuce				
CA	Apr-Jun	34,000	37,000	36,000
NJ ²		300	200	
Total		34,300	37,200	36,000
Bell Peppers ¹				
FL	Apr-Jul	7,500	7,400	7,100
TX ³		100		
Total		7,600	7,400	7,100
Tomatoes				
CA	Apr-Jun	8,000	8,000	7,000
FL	Apr-Jul	17,500	17,200	15,000
SC	May-Aug	3,000	2,700	2,500
Total		28,500	27,900	24,500
Watermelons				
CA	Apr-Jun	3,300	3,400	3,600
FL	Apr-Jul	25,300	24,800	24,300
TX	Apr-Jun	10,100	10,600	10,600
Total		38,700	38,800	38,500

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² Estimates discontinued in 2008.

³ Estimates discontinued in 2007.

**Fresh Market Vegetables: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Crop, Season, State, and Total, 2006-2007 and Forecasted 2008**

Crop, Season, and State	Area			Yield per Acre			Production		
	Harvested		For Harvest 2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
	2006	2007							
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
Asparagus ¹									
Spring									
CA	22,500	20,000	16,600	23	29		518	580	
MI	11,700	11,200	11,000	22	21		257	235	
WA	9,000	7,000	6,500	42	43		378	301	
Total	43,200	38,200	34,100	27	29		1,153	1,116	
Onions									
Spring ²									
AZ ³	1,000	1,200	1,500	490	450		490	540	
CA ³	7,900	7,400	7,400	415	450		3,279	3,330	
GA	10,500	12,000	11,000	310	270	250	3,255	3,240	2,750
TX	15,200	10,400	9,500	270	300	365	4,104	3,120	3,468
Total	34,600	31,000	29,400	322	330		11,128	10,230	
Straw-berries ¹									
CA	35,800	35,500	36,700	590	605	600	21,163	21,540	22,020
FL	7,300	8,300	8,000	280	320	260	2,044	2,656	2,080
OR ³	2,100	1,900	1,800	110	130		230	247	
Major States									
Total	45,200	45,700	46,500	519	535		23,437	24,443	

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

² Primarily fresh market.

³ First production forecast will be published July 10, 2008.

**Onions: Area Planted by Season, State, and United States,
2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008**

Season and State	Area Planted		
	2006	2007	2008
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Spring ¹			
AZ	1,000	1,200	1,500
CA	8,100	7,600	7,600
GA	14,000	12,500	11,500
TX	17,700	12,500	11,000
Total	40,800	33,800	31,600
Summer ¹			
Non-storage			
CA	9,800	9,700	9,000
NV	2,600	2,800	2,900
NM	6,000	6,300	5,500
TX	1,000	1,100	800
WA ²	1,500	1,500	1,900
Total	20,900	21,400	20,100
Storage			
CA ³	33,100	31,700	31,500
CO	10,000	9,000	8,500
ID	9,700	9,300	8,600
MI	2,700	2,600	2,100
NY	14,100	13,000	12,400
OR			
Malheur	11,700	11,500	9,900
Other	8,400	9,100	8,500
WA	20,000	21,000	19,000
WI	2,100	1,900	1,800
Oth Sts ⁴	2,280	2,180	1,750
Total	114,080	111,280	104,050
Total Summer	134,980	132,680	124,150
US	175,780	166,480	155,750

¹ Primarily fresh market.

² Includes Walla Walla and other non-storage onions.

³ Primarily dehydrated and other processing.

⁴ 2006 - 2008 - OH and UT.

Fresh Market Crop Comments

Asparagus: Intended area for harvest is forecast at 34,100 acres, down 11 percent from 2007. In California, a mid-January freeze had minimal impact on the asparagus crop.

Snap Beans: Area for spring harvest is forecast at 20,200 acres, down 2 percent from last year. In Florida, harvest of the winter crop continued during February into early March. Clear weather allowed planting to proceed on schedule. However, cool temperatures slowed some maturation. Georgia snap beans are in fair to good condition. Soil moisture has been mostly adequate this spring and temperatures were close to normal.

Broccoli: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 36,000 acres, up 3 percent from 2007. The broccoli crop is developing well. There were no major pests or disease problems reported.

Cabbage: Area for spring harvest is forecast at 7,900 acres, up 14 percent from last year. In Florida, planting of the spring crop began in January. Mostly mild conditions kept planting on schedule. Despite cold temperatures the crop escaped significant damage. The Georgia crop is in fair to good condition. Soil moisture and temperatures have been favorable for the crop. In Texas, dry weather combined with heavy irrigation provided favorable growing conditions for the cabbage crop.

Cantaloup: Area intended for harvest is forecast at 30,100 acres, down 4 percent from 2007. In California, the spring melon crop is progressing well. The Georgia crop is in fair to good condition. In Texas, land preparation and some melon planting was underway.

Carrots: Area for harvest is forecast at 15,900 acres, down 3 percent from last year. In California, the carrot crop is in good condition with very few problems reported.

Cauliflower: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 7,800 acres, 5 percent below 2007. Spring weather conditions boosted crop growth and development. No major pests or diseases have been reported.

Celery: California's area for spring harvest is forecast at 6,000 acres, up 5 percent from last year. Freezing temperatures in January reduced celery yields and production. Although plants survived the cold temperatures, the impact will be felt in the coming months, as seeder problems are anticipated through May.

Sweet Corn: Intended area for harvest is forecast at 34,700 acres, up 7 percent from a year ago. In California, weather has been favorable for the sweet corn crop. No disease or pest problems were reported. In Florida, favorable weather conditions allowed planting and harvesting to progress on schedule. By mid-February, harvesting and packing of sweet corn was ongoing in Florida City. Sweet corn was being harvested in Miami-Dade in early March.

Cucumbers: Spring harvested area is forecast at 7,200 acres, unchanged from 2007. Florida's spring planting began in January. Mostly warm and dry conditions kept planting on schedule.

Honeydew Melons: Area for harvest is forecast at 3,850 acres, unchanged from 2007. California's spring crop is progressing well.

Head Lettuce: Intended area for harvest is forecast at 36,000 acres, down 3 percent from 2007. In California, planted acreage in the Bakersfield-Huron district has declined as a result of water rationing in the San Joaquin Valley. Growers are extending the desert season so they can begin planting earlier in Salinas. In New Jersey, field preparation and planting is behind schedule due to wet weather.

Spring Onions: Producers intend to harvest 29,400 acres, down 5 percent from last year. In California, despite some reports of mildew, the spring onion crop is in good condition. In Georgia, precipitation during the winter months was near normal. Heading into spring the State had adequate moisture levels. The crop is doing well and disease problems are minimal. Harvest should begin around mid-April.

Summer Non-Storage Onions: Non-storage planted area is 20,100 acres, down 6 percent from last year. In California, despite some minor problems with rain during planting, good growing conditions are currently being reported. In Nevada, seed beds have been in place for several weeks anticipating seasonal warming to begin planting. In New Mexico, weather conditions have been favorable despite lack of moisture. Washington producers experienced a relatively mild winter, though some wind damage was reported. The crop is in good condition and growers are optimistic about this year's non-storage onion crop.

Summer Storage Onions: Storage planted area is 104,050 acres, down 6 percent from 2007. California acreage, which is primarily dehydrated or otherwise processed, is down 1 percent from 2007. Despite some minor problems with rain during planting, good growing conditions are currently being reported. In Colorado, although mountain snow pack is currently 126 percent of average Statewide, mandated well restrictions, labor shortages, low prices, and disease problems are a major concern. In Idaho, snow pack supplies are near normal and water availability is not a concern. In Oregon, spring conditions have been favorable throughout the State. In Washington, thrips remains a major concern for some producers in the Columbia Basin. Irrigation supplies look promising.

Bell Peppers: Florida's area for harvest is forecast at 7,100 acres, down 4 percent from 2007. Mostly favorable weather during January and February allowed planting and harvesting to progress. In mid-February, cool temperatures slowed plant development over the central and southern Peninsula.

Strawberries: Area intended for harvest is forecast at 46,500 acres, up 2 percent from last year. California's area for harvest is forecast at 36,700 acres, up 3 percent from 2007. California's strawberry season started slowly this year due to cool, wet weather. However, quality of the berry crop is reported to be excellent. In Florida, growers started transplanting by early October. Producers irrigated sets due to drought conditions. Light picking began in mid-November. Warm temperatures during most of November and December hindered berry development. Producers worked to minimize damage to the crop when extremely windy and cold weather arrived in early January. Cool, dry weather during the remainder of January and most of February hindered plant growth but increased berry quality. The Oregon crop looks good. The State experienced no hard freezes this winter.

Tomatoes: Area for harvest is forecast at 24,500 acres, down 12 percent from 2007. In California, sporadic rainfall provided adequate water to promote plant growth. There have been no reports of significant pest infestations or diseases. In Florida, rainfall delayed field work and cold temperatures during February caused some crop damage. Warm temperatures in March allowed crops to get back on track.

Watermelons: Area intended for harvest is forecast at 38,500 acres, down 1 percent from last year. California's spring melon crop is progressing well. Minimal freeze damage during mid-January was reported to Florida's watermelon crop. However, growers that planted early were able to reset plants. Producers will start harvesting in April and continue into early July if prices hold up. Watermelon prices and availability of trucks to haul melons to market will impact how long growers in the State harvest their watermelon crop. By early March, freeze damage was reported to some melon acreage in Sumter County, Florida. Direct seeded watermelon planting was underway in Jefferson County.

**Processing Vegetables: Prospective Plantings and Production by Crop
and Expected Utilization, United States, 2006-2007 and Forecasted 2008
(Metric Units)**

Utilization and Crop	Area Planted			
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
All Processing				
Snap Beans	85,760	86,310	84,420	75,680
Sweet Corn	159,610	153,820	153,820	155,790
Cucumbers for Pickles	43,460	39,900	34,880	36,220
Green Peas	85,670	86,520	86,520	87,370
Tomatoes	121,690	129,220	128,000	123,670
Total ²	496,200	495,770	487,650	478,730
Canning				
Snap Beans	57,700	55,080	53,950	48,870
Sweet Corn	79,970	72,840	72,840	75,050
Cucumbers for Pickles	43,460	39,900	34,880	36,220
Green Peas	35,050	32,700	32,700	32,500
Tomatoes	121,690	129,220	128,000	123,670
Total Canning ²	337,870	329,740	322,370	316,310
Freezing				
Snap Beans	28,060	31,230	30,470	26,810
Sweet Corn	79,640	80,980	80,980	80,740
Green Peas	50,630	53,820	53,820	54,880
Total Freezing ²	158,330	166,030	165,280	162,420
		Production		
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Tomatoes	9,626,830	11,484,800	11,378,660	11,199,140

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² Totals may not add due to rounding. Utilizations may not add to total crop because of rounding.

**Snap Beans for Processing: Area Planted and Contracted
by State and United States, and Utilization by United States,
2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008**

State and Utilization	Area Planted			
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
FL ²	3,300			
IL	15,800	13,400	12,700	14,500
IN	5,600	5,300	5,300	4,700
MI	19,000	23,500	23,500	13,500
MN ²				4,700
NY ²	22,200			
OR	18,900	19,100	19,100	17,600
PA	10,900	10,900	9,800	10,300
WI	73,500	74,000	72,700	73,600
Oth Sts ³⁴	42,720	67,070	65,500	48,100
US	211,920	213,270	208,600	187,000
Canning	142,580	136,100	133,300	120,750
Freezing	69,340	77,170	75,300	66,250

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ 2006 - CA, DE, GA, MD, MN, MO, NJ, NC, TX, and VA.

2007 - CA, DE, FL, GA, MD, MN, NJ, NY, NC, TX, and VA.

2008 - CA, DE, FL, GA, MD, NJ, NY, NC, TX, and VA.

⁴ Seasonal forecasts for AR and MO are not available. Estimates to be published in the *Vegetables 2008 Summary*, released in January 2009.

**Sweet Corn for Processing: Area Planted and Contracted
by State and United States, and Utilization by United States,
2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008**

State and Utilization	Area Planted			
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
DE ²	4,700			
MD	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,900
MN	135,200	122,100	122,100	125,100
NY ²	18,400			
OR	26,100	21,900	21,900	22,200
WA	80,200	84,500	84,500	81,600
WI	86,200	87,600	87,600	87,200
Oth Sts ³	37,300	57,700	57,700	61,960
US	394,400	380,100	380,100	384,960
Canning	197,600	180,000	180,000	185,460
Freezing	196,800	200,100	200,100	199,500

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ 2006 - ID, IL, IA, NJ, PA, and TN.

2007 - DE, ID, IL, IA, NJ, NY, PA, TN and VA.

2008 - DE, ID, IL, IA, NJ, NY, PA, TN, and VA.

**Cucumbers for Pickles: Area Planted and Contracted by State
and United States, 2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008**

State	Area Planted			
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
FL	6,700	6,800	3,800	7,000
IN	1,600	1,500	1,500	1,500
MD ²	3,200			
MI	34,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
NC	11,100	12,100	9,800	9,200
OH	3,100	2,800	2,690	2,500
SC	3,500	3,000	3,000	2,500
TX	8,200	7,000	6,700	8,000
WI	4,800	6,100	6,100	6,200
Oth Sts ^{3 4}	31,200	29,300	22,600	22,600
US	107,400	98,600	86,190	89,500

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ 2006 - AL, CA, DE, GA, MA, MO, and WA.

2007 - AL, CA, DE, GA, MD, MO, and WA.

2008 - AL, CA, DE, GA, MD, MO and WA.

⁴ Seasonal forecasts for WA are not available. Estimate to be published in the *Vegetables 2008 Summary*, released in January 2009.

**Green Peas for Processing: Area Planted and Contracted by State
and United States, and Utilization by United States,
2006-2007 and Forecasted Area 2008**

State and Utilization	Area Planted			
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
DE	5,800	5,500	5,500	6,000
MN ²	83,300			75,000
NY ²	19,500			
OR	17,600	18,000	18,000	17,500
WA	34,300	38,900	38,900	35,000
WI	31,900	38,500	38,500	42,100
Oth Sts ³	19,300	112,900	112,900	40,300
US	211,700	213,800	213,800	215,900
Canning	86,600	80,800	80,800	80,300
Freezing	125,100	133,000	133,000	135,600

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

² Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ 2006 - CA, ID, IL, MD, and NJ.

2007 - CA, ID, IL, MD, MN, NJ, and NY.

2008 - ID, IL, MD, NJ, and NY.

**Tomatoes for Processing: Area Planted and Production
by State and United States, 2006-2007 and Forecasted 2008**

State	Area Planted			
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
CA	283,000	301,000	298,000	288,000
IN	8,000	8,500	8,500	8,500
MI	3,300	3,400	3,400	3,200
OH	6,400	6,400	6,400	5,900
US	300,700	319,300	316,300	305,600
	Production			
	2006 Total	2007		2008 Contract Intentions ¹
		Total	Contract ¹	
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
CA	10,104,000	12,082,000	11,965,000	11,800,000
IN	225,500	294,000	294,000	266,000
MI	115,500	112,200	112,200	110,000
OH	166,820	171,690	171,690	169,000
US	10,611,820	12,659,890	12,542,890	12,345,000

¹ Includes acreage from major brokers.

Processing Crop Comments

Growers of vegetables for processing intend to plant 1.18 million contracted acres in 2008, down 2 percent from 2007. Lower contracted acreage for snap beans and tomatoes offsets increased acreage for sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, and green peas. Area for freezing, at 401,350 acres, is down 2 percent from last year. Area for canning, forecast at 781,610 acres, is down 2 percent from 2007.

Snap Beans: Processors contracted to plant 187,000 acres of snap beans, down 10 percent from last year. Contracted area for freezing, at 66,250 acres, is down 12 percent from 2007. Contracted area for canning, at 120,750 acres, is down 9 percent from 2007. Wisconsin's contracted area, at 73,600 acres, is up 1 percent from the previous year. The winter months provided plenty of precipitation in Indiana. Planting has been delayed due to very cold and wet weather. In Oregon, stream flow is above average due to adequate snow pack in most parts of the State.

Sweet Corn: Contract intentions call for 384,960 acres of sweet corn in 2008, up 1 percent from last year. Contracted area for freezing, at 199,500 acres, is virtually unchanged from last year's total. Contracted area for canning, at 185,460 acres, is up 3 percent from 2007. In Oregon, above normal precipitation early in the season led to snow pack records in lower elevations.

Cucumbers for Pickles: Pickle packers intend to contract 89,500 acres of cucumbers for pickles, up 4 percent from last year. Planting of the spring crop in Florida began in January. Favorable weather conditions have kept planting on schedule.

Green Peas: Contract intentions are forecast at 215,900 acres in 2008, up 1 percent from 2007. Contract intentions for freezing, at 135,600 acres, are 2 percent above last year. Contracted area for canning, at 80,300 acres, is 1 percent below 2007. In Oregon, water availability is good as snow pack and reservoirs were above average throughout the State. In Minnesota, snow melt was reported across the State, however, remaining frost layer prevented melting snow from soaking into the subsoil.

Tomatoes for Canning: Contracts with growers cover 305,600 acres in 2008, down 3 percent from last year. Contract production, at 12.3 million tons, is 2 percent below 2007. California production is forecast at 11.8 million tons, down 1 percent from 2007. Some growers in the State intend to plant earlier maturing varieties due to water uncertainties in the upcoming season. In Indiana, planting has been delayed due to very cold and wet weather.

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