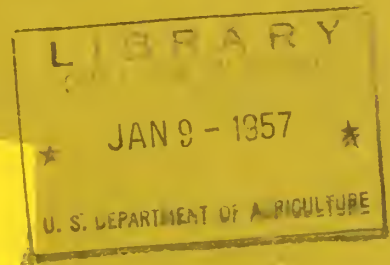


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WASHINGTON, D.C.
NOVEMBER 1956



1957

ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES



Spring Vegetables



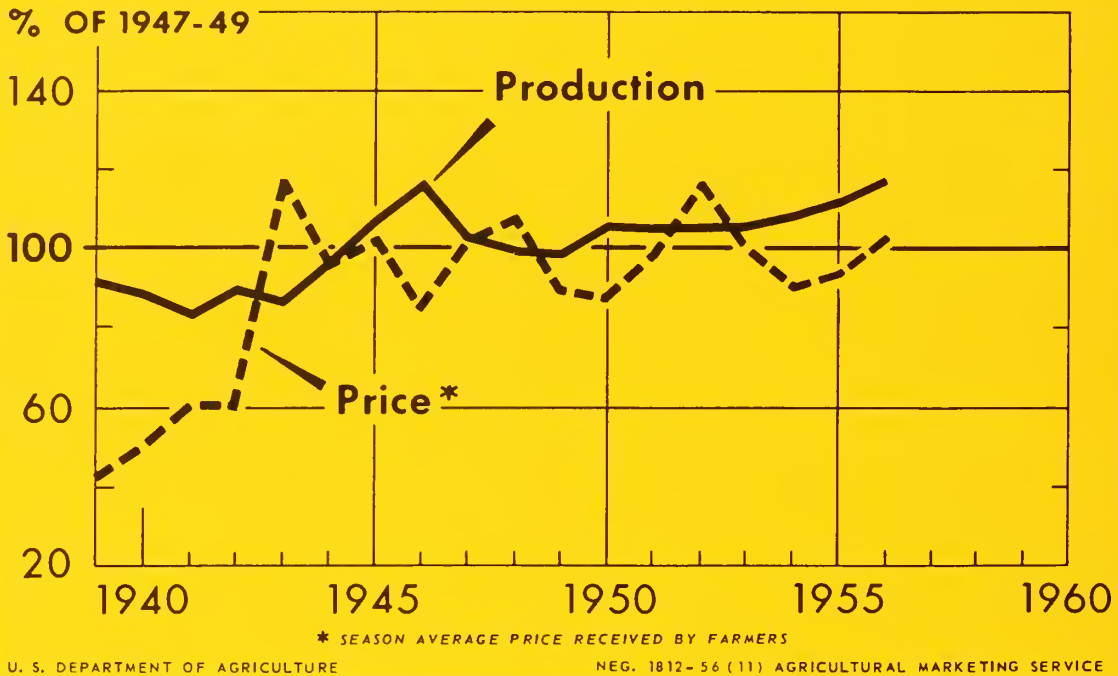
Spring Melons



Spring Potatoes

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

SPRING COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET



In 1956, growers reduced their total planted acreage of spring season vegetables about 6 percent from 1955. However, abandonment was less than usual and yields were relatively high. As a result, production in 1956 was about 5 percent above 1955 and 17 percent above the 1947-49 average. The record large 1956 production was 1 percent above the previous high in 1946. In the aggregate, prices for 1956 spring season vegetables were relatively low during the first half of the season. However, prices increased to relatively high levels during the latter half of the season, largely because of a considerable delay of harvests of competing early summer crops, which normally overlap late spring marketings to some degree. In 1956, prices averaged about 8 percent above the low levels in 1955 and 2 percent above the 1947-49 average.

F O R E W O R D

The acreage-marketing guides program for vegetables, including potatoes and sweetpotatoes, is directed toward balancing the supply of each vegetable with the demand for it. The program is an attempt by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to provide the best possible estimates of the acreage of particular vegetables required, with average yields, to supply the quantity of these vegetables deemed necessary to meet the market need anticipated for the coming season.

The guide reports are prepared by specialists who follow the markets for the various commodities closely throughout the year and develop a record of happenings in the various markets, with explanations for unusual occurrences. On the basis of the latest and best available information, specific recommendations are developed for each commodity and a brief report is prepared explaining the reasons for each recommendation. Recognition is given to trends, both in recent years and for long time periods. Also, any abnormalities of preceding seasons are considered carefully. However, the recommendations are based upon the assumption that average conditions will prevail in the following season. The recommendation for each commodity is presented in terms of a percentage change from the acreage and production for preceding years, so as to permit each individual grower to apply this percentage-change recommendation to this individual operations. The recommendations are reviewed before publication by representatives of various agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

The grower is provided not only with the specialists' recommendation, but also with the latest possible information upon which the recommendation is based. The information is presented to the grower in sufficient time for him to consider the facts as he develops his plans for the forthcoming season. The fundamental concept behind the guide program is that, given the best information possible, the grower will make intelligent decisions for his and the industry's best interest. Compliance with the guides on the part of growers is voluntary. When growers have kept acreage within the levels recommended by the Department, few marketing difficulties have been encountered.

In previous guides publications, recommendations for vegetables for fresh market were made on a basis of acreage for harvest, primarily because historical data concerning planted acreage were not available. Sufficient data are now available and, beginning with this issue, guides will be based upon acreage to be planted.

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1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides

Spring Vegetables, Spring Melons and Spring Potatoes

The primary purpose of acreage-marketing guides is to bring about a needed percentage change in planted acreage from that of the preceding year so that the resulting production will be in line with demand. Since each individual grower almost certainly knows the acreage of vegetables planted on his farm in 1956, he should adjust his own acreage in accordance with the individual commodity guides. For example, when it is recommended that the 1957 acreage of early spring snap beans be increased 5 percent from the acreage planted in 1956, snap bean growers in every state included in the early spring classification should increase their acreage by 5 percent.

I. SUMMARY OF ADJUSTMENTS

Spring Vegetables: The aggregate acreage guide for 18 spring vegetables in 1957 is a planted acreage 2 percent less than in 1956 and 8 percent less than in 1955. With normal abandonment and average yields, this acreage will result in a 1957 production 7 percent less than in 1956 and 3 percent less than in 1955.

The total planted acreage of the 18 spring vegetables in 1956 was 6 percent less than in 1955. Abandonment was less than in 1955 and the 1956 acreage for harvest was 3 percent less than in 1955. The 1956 production was 5 percent more than in 1955. In the Spring Acreage-Marketing Guides for 1956 the Department recommended an acreage for harvest 2 percent less and a production 5 percent less than in 1955. During the 1956 spring season adverse weather delayed marketing schedules for most spring vegetables. At the same time, however, progress of early summer season vegetables was delayed considerably and the overlap between the two seasons was less than usual. Prices generally were below 1955 levels in April but increased considerably in May and June. In 1956, prices averaged 102.4 percent of the 1947-49 average prices for spring vegetables.

Spring Melons: The aggregate planted acreage guide for the two spring melon crops is an acreage 5 percent less than in 1956. With normal abandonment and average yields, production in 1957 should be 6 percent less than in 1956. Prices received for melons in 1956 were about 19 percent above the 1947-49 average but were 8 percent below prices in 1955.

Spring Potatoes: The 1957 acreage guide for spring potatoes is a planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1956 in California and Florida, and an acreage equal to 1956 in the other 11 spring crop states. Such an acreage with average yields will result in a production of 26.3 million hundredweight, which would be 6 percent less than in 1956, and 10 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

Specific planted acreage guide recommendations for 1957 spring vegetables are as follows:

Commodity	Percentage change in 1957 planted acreage compared with 1956	
<u>Spring Vegetables</u>	<u>Percent</u>	
Beans, Lima		No change
Beans, Snap	- Early Spring	Plus 5
	Mid Spring	Plus 5
	Late Spring	Plus 5
Beets		No change
Broccoli	- Early Spring	Minus 10
	Late Spring	No change
Cabbage	- Early Spring	Minus 5
	Late Spring	No change
Carrots		No change
Cauliflower	- Early Spring	Minus 5
	Late Spring	Minus 20
Celery		<u>1/</u>
Sweet Corn	- Early Spring	No change
	Late Spring	Plus 10
Cucumbers	- Early Spring	No change
	Late Spring	No change
Eggplant		No change
Lettuce	- Early Spring	<u>2/</u>
	Late Spring	No change
Onions	- Early Spring	<u>3/</u>
	Late Spring	Plus 10
Peas Green	- Early Spring	No change
	Late Spring	No change
Peppers, Green		Plus 5
Shallots		Minus 10
Spinach		No change
Tomatoes	- Early Spring	<u>4/</u>
	Late Spring	Plus 15
<u>Spring Melons</u>		
Cantaloups		Minus 5
Watermelons		Minus 5

- 1/ Celery: Planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956 in Florida, California acreage equal to 1956.
- 2/ Lettuce Early Spring: Planted acreage 25 percent below 1956 in Arizona, 20 percent above 1956 in California and equal to 1956 in all other states.
- 3/ Onions, Early Spring: Planted acreage 50 percent below 1956 in Raymondville-Lower Valley area, 25 percent below 1956 in the Coastal Bend area, and equal in 1956 in all other areas.
- 4/ Tomatoes, Early Spring: Planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956 in Florida and equal to 1956 in all other States.

II. DEMAND FOR SPRING VEGETABLES IN 1957

The demand for vegetables is expected to be strong in the spring of 1957. Therefore, prices received by farmers in the spring of 1957 compared with a year earlier will depend upon volume of marketings.

Rapid economic expansion in 1955 was followed in 1956 by a period of slower growth. The total value of goods and services (gross national product) in the July-October, 1956 period was up 4 percent from a year earlier. Much of this increase reflected rising prices. As compared with a year earlier, consumer prices were up nearly 2 percent and wholesale prices over 3 percent, with most of the rise occurring since the end of 1955. Industrial production in the first 9 months of 1956 averaged slightly below the peak rate of the closing months of 1955. However, with total economic activity at record levels, employment made significant gains over 1955, and unemployment remained low.

Consumer income after taxes - a good indicator of the strength of consumer demand for farm products - advanced steadily to a July-October 1956 rate 5 percent above a year earlier. Food expenditures showed a similar gain and some further gain is in prospect in response to rising incomes. Consumer purchases of nondurable goods and expenditures for services also are expected to increase. If sales of 1957 model automobiles come up to expectations, a larger volume of consumer spending for durable goods is expected next winter and spring.

Private investment demand was one of the principal factors supporting high level business activity in the first three quarters of 1956. Business spending for plant and equipment in the third quarter was one-fourth above that of a year earlier and further expansion is indicated for coming months. In total, new private construction to date this year has about equaled that of the record level a year earlier and is expected to continue near record levels. Nonresidential construction has been running well ahead of the 1955 pace and will probably continue strong, but private home building has been lagging.

Government purchases of goods and services are expected to rise during fiscal year 1956-57. Larger Federal outlays are scheduled, mainly for defense programs. State and local spending has been rising steadily with increased outlays for payrolls and construction. The backlog of needed schools and other public facilities, as well as the new highway program, indicates that further increases are in prospect.

Foreign demand for farm products is expected to continue strong in the first half of 1957. The Canadian market - our principal outlet for spring vegetables - is expected to absorb in 1957 at least as large a quantity of vegetables as it did in 1956.

III. PRODUCTION AND MARKETING MATERIALS AND FACILITIES

Practically all equipment, materials and facilities required for the production, packaging and distribution of vegetables during the 1957 spring season will be in ample supply.

All farm machinery and equipment except crawler tractors should be in fairly free supply. Orders for crawler tractors should be placed early because of the expected additional demand for heavy tractors in connection with the road-building program. Supplies of fertilizer, pesticides, containers and packaging material will be ample.

Manpower: The supply of workers in 1957 for spring vegetable operations is expected to be about the same as in 1956. Non-farm employment opportunities, while somewhat stabilized, continue to attract farm workers -- especially those engaged in seasonal work.

The supply of skilled workers trained and experienced in modern farm technology and the operation of mechanical equipment is limited and will remain so because of a lack of qualified replacements. Producers should maintain a close working relationship with local employment offices and inform these offices of the need for labor as soon as requirements can be determined. This will facilitate advance planning for orderly recruitment and permit the development of plans for continuity of employment of work crews. It also gives time to determine need for offshore domestic and foreign labor and to make arrangements to obtain labor from these sources if domestic labor supplies are found to be inadequate. Due to a rapidly expanding economy competition for manpower resources is expected to continue. Farm employers must continue also to provide attractive employment conditions and other incentives which are enjoyed by many non-farm workers.

Transportation: Facilities should be ample for transporting the production from the recommended acreage of 1957 spring season fresh vegetables. If weather conditions permit normal patterns of production and loading in 1957, the supply of railroad cars should be adequate. Any shortages which occur should be temporary. The Association of American Railroads and the car lines continue to watch the distribution of refrigeration cars closely, so as to maintain adequate rolling stock in the various shipping areas.

The supply of trucks and trailers will be ample, and supplies of parts, tires, and other accessories should be adequate.

IV. SURPLUS REMOVAL: It is the policy of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to limit surplus removal assistance for potatoes and other vegetables to those areas where there has been substantial compliance with the Department's acreage marketing guides. However, compliance with the guides program does not commit the Department to provide assistance for any commodity or area.

By providing growers with the necessary information, the Department expects that acreage can be adjusted so as to bring supplies in balance with demand and avoid marketing difficulties. Before planting time, growers should take precautionary measures to assure themselves of available market outlets.

V. FOREIGN SPRING VEGETABLE PROSPECTS

Exports: U. S. exports of most fresh vegetables were not separately classified in 1956 but it is believed that the upward trend of recent years was continued. Nearly all of these exports go to Canada. The upward trend in exports is likely to continue in 1957.

SPRING VEGETABLES: Exports from United States, March through June, with comparisons for 1955

Commodity	To		March-June Total	
	Canada	Other	1956	1955
----- 1,000 pounds -----				
Beans, fresh		NSC		4,064
Cabbage		NSC		35,647
Carrots		NSC		48,946
Peas, green		NSC		404
Celery		NSC		35,502
Lettuce	58,967	1,697	60,664	48,097
Peppers		NSC		2,306
Tomatoes	41,888	1,221	43,109	41,370
Spinach		NSC		2,361
Onions	34,173	20,329	54,502	55,444
Watermelons		NSC		27,553

Note: NSC means not separately classified.

Source: Compiled from official records of Bureau of the Census.

Imports: Imports of spring vegetables in 1955 and in 1956 were low, primarily because of unfavorable weather in Mexico. The crop of tomatoes in the El Mante area of Mexico was reduced by 50 percent in 1956 because of heavy rains during planting. Producers in the El Mante area expect to plant a normal acreage in 1957, or about double the 1956 acreage. Preliminary indications are that the vegetable acreage along the West Coast of Mexico will be increased slightly. A freeze in early February 1956 destroyed a

large part of the acreage in that area. Shipments were reduced to about one-fourth of earlier estimates. The 1956 production of cantaloups was materially reduced because of frost damage on the West Coast and cold weather in the Apatzingan area. The acreage of all vegetables in Mexico in 1957 should be sufficient to permit a material increase in exports, if growing conditions are more nearly normal.

Early trade reports from Cuba indicate that the acreage of both cucumbers and tomatoes will be materially increased in 1957.

SPRING VEGETABLES: Imports into the U. S. of specified kinds, by months, 1956, with comparisons for 1955

Commodity : and country: of origin :	1956				: March-June Total	
	: March	: April	: May	: June	: 1956	: 1955
	- - - - - 1,000 pounds - - - - -					
<u>Tomatoes</u>						
Mexico	8,153	4,451	2,666	72	15,342	29,067
Cuba	10,172	1,334	82	-	11,588	3,281
Total 1/	18,503	5,815	2,807	72	27,197	32,628
<u>Peppers</u>						
Mexico	412	499	594	250	1,755	1,196
Cuba	24	15	14	13	66	156
Total 1/	436	514	609	263	1,822	1,352
<u>Cucumbers</u>						
Mexico	-	158	419	-	577	391
Cuba	13,527	529	24	74	14,154	6,520
Total 1/	13,527	703	474	81	14,785	7,110
<u>Onions</u>						
Mexico	5,061	-	-	81	5,142	3,678
Chile	1,172	374	3	11	1,560	2,984
Total 1/	6,277	405	241	2,194	9,117	9,775
<u>Watermelons</u>						
Mexico	927	6,731	23,440	4,518	35,616	17,284
Cuba	219	77	-	-	296	775
Total 1/	1,146	7,031	23,440	4,518	36,135	18,059
<u>Cantaloups</u>						
Mexico	8,779	24,608	16,634	1,325	51,346	36,697
Cuba	-	-	-	-	-	23
Total	8,779	24,608	16,634	1,325	51,346	36,720

1/ Includes small quantities from other areas.

Source: Compiled from official records of Bureau of the Census.

VI. CANNED AND FROZEN VEGETABLES

Supplies of most canned vegetables were moderate to light during the 1956 spring season. Among the canned vegetables that compete to an important degree with the fresh product, only lima beans and snap beans were in heavy supply. The surplus of snap beans was largely in the western states. Supplies of frozen vegetables were generally ample, with the exception of sweet corn and green peas which were in relatively light supply. Disappearance rates of all canned and frozen vegetables were at high levels during the spring of 1956

Total supplies of practically all canned and frozen vegetables during the 1956-57 marketing season are expected to be well above the moderate levels of 1955-56. Preliminary acreage and production data for vegetables for processing indicate that the 1956 packs of all of the more important commodities will be moderately to substantially larger than in 1955, but the large 1956 packs will be offset to some degree by moderate carryovers from 1955 packs.

The supply position and apparent disappearance of canned and frozen vegetables during marketing seasons 1954-55 and 1955-56 are shown in the following table:

SUPPLY AND DISAPPEARANCE OF CANNED AND FROZEN VEGETABLES,
MARKETING SEASONS 1954-55 AND 1955-56

Commodity	Total Supply		Disappearance	
	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
	1,000 cases basis 24/2's		1,000 cases basis 24/2's	
<u>Canned Vegetables</u> 1/				
Lima Beans	4,442	4,224	3,024	2,813
Snap Beans	31,701	32,195	22,877	24,707
Beets	10,191	9,909	7,821	7,503
Carrots	3,553	3,114	2,272	2,201
Sweet Corn	38,546	32,285	30,336	27,691
Green Peas	31,035	31,999	26,412	27,464
Spinach	6,087	7,363	4,729	5,515
Tomatoes	29,632	30,432	23,927	24,969
<u>Frozen Vegetables</u>	<u>Thousand Pounds</u>		<u>Thousand Pounds</u>	
Lima Beans	164,458	158,190	123,965	124,777
Snap Beans	152,510	154,101	119,377	128,514
Broccoli	89,013	116,375	68,878	86,512
Cauliflower	27,560	45,720	22,196	35,700
Sweet Corn	128,756	114,689	91,041	97,728
Green Peas	267,630	273,328	225,518	224,039
Spinach	100,452	124,547	86,252	101,161

1/ Total supply includes canners' and distributors' stocks.

Source: National Canners Association, National Association of Frozen Packers, Census Bureau, U. S. Department of Commerce and AMS, USDA.

Spring Vegetables: 1957 Planted Acreage Guide With Comparisons

Commodity	Planted Acreage				Percent Acreage Guide is of:		
	1957 Guide	1956 Prel.	1955	1950-54 Average	1956 Prel.	1955	1950-54 Average
	----- Acres -----				----- Percent -----		
Beans, Lima	4,300	4,300	4,600	5,490	100	93	78
Beans, Snap							
Early	17,800	17,000	18,700	20,900	105	95	85
Mid	16,200	15,400	19,700	21,600	105	82	75
Late	17,700	16,900	19,300	20,820	105	92	85
Beets	960	960	960	1,052	100	100	91
Broccoli							
Early	13,100	14,600	12,400	9,760	90	106	134
Late	700	700	600	680	100	117	103
Cabbage							
Early	16,800	17,700	20,300	20,380	95	83	82
Late	8,430	8,430	8,700	9,470	100	97	89
Carrots	2,300	2,300	2,900	2,820	100	79	82
Cauliflower							
Early	7,000	7,400	7,000	6,920	95	100	101
Late	240	300	300	260	80	80	92
Celery	7,000	7,200	6,700	6,580	97	104	106
Corn, Sweet							
Early	36,200	36,200	36,700	37,980	100	99	95
Late	14,200	12,900	15,500	16,800	110	92	85
Cucumbers							
Early	11,400	11,400	11,400	13,420	100	100	85
Late	13,300	13,300	14,650	13,920	100	91	96
Eggplant	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,150	100	100	87
Lettuce							
Early	45,600	45,300	46,800	47,330	101	97	96
Late	8,100	8,080	8,200	8,138	100	99	100
Onions							
Early	36,200	51,000	38,000	42,480	71	95	85
Late	10,800	9,850	13,800	16,360	110	78	66
Peas, Green							
Early	4,400	4,400	5,200	7,800	100	85	56
Late	610	610	730	1,310	100	84	47
Peppers, Green	8,700	8,300	11,400	11,040	105	76	79
Shallots	2,400	2,700	2,700	2,380	89	89	101
Spinach	8,000	7,950	8,870	11,568	101	90	69
Tomatoes							
Early	58,000	59,200	67,800	63,160	98	86	92
Late	42,600	37,000	46,800	48,360	115	91	88
Total	414,040	422,380	451,710	469,928	98	92	88

Spring Vegetables: 1957 Probable Production With Comparisons

Commodity	Production ^{2/}				: Probable Production from : acreage guide as percent of:				
	1957 ^{1/} : Guide	1956 : Prel.	1955	: 1950-54 : Average	: 1945-54 : Average	: 1956 : Prel.	: 1950-54 : Average	: 1945-54 : Average	
	----- Tons -----				----- Percent -----				
Beans, Lima	5,100	4,350	5,800	6,000	7,100	117	88	85	72
Beans, Snap									
Early	27,250	23,600	31,600	29,950	30,000	115	86	91	91
Mid	16,700	15,550	17,900	21,400	24,400	107	93	78	68
Late	34,500	32,250	39,350	38,600	39,000	107	88	89	88
Beets	5,000	4,700	3,650	5,550	5,700	106	137	90	88
Broccoli									
Early	41,250	45,500	40,300	29,700	24,500	91	102	139	168
Late	3,050	3,000	3,200	2,200	<u>3/</u> 102	95	139	-	-
Cabbage									
Early	105,850	116,700	105,850	123,850	142,300	91	100	85	74
Late	52,700	56,650	49,500	57,600	64,700	93	106	91	81
Carrots	24,600	20,700	21,750	31,200	39,650	119	113	79	62
Cauliflower									
Early	57,050	51,150	59,500	56,000	64,500	112	96	102	88
Late	3,150	3,300	4,050	3,250	2,850	95	78	97	111
Celery	200,750	200,250	197,700	173,950	152,950	100	102	115	131
Corn, Sweet									
Early	123,800	145,100	138,050	100,750	<u>3/</u> 85	90	123	-	-
Late	38,550	33,600	44,750	40,750	<u>3/</u> 115	86	95	-	-
Cucumbers									
Early	42,650	42,600	42,200	44,500	37,300	100	101	96	114
Late	42,550	39,300	47,950	42,300	43,900	108	89	101	97
Eggplant	6,150	6,000	6,750	6,850	7,950	102	91	90	77
Lettuce									
Early	285,300	313,800	269,000	290,250	264,600	91	106	98	108
Late	58,500	60,450	58,050	56,900	51,400	97	101	103	114
Onions									
Early	128,350	200,000	116,550	100,350	102,900	64	110	128	125
Late	77,200	75,150	84,600	109,550	101,650	103	91	70	76
Peas, Green									
Early	7,250	5,750	9,050	12,550	17,900	126	80	58	41
Late	1,850	2,000	2,200	3,150	5,650	92	84	59	33
Peppers, Green	24,350	24,800	33,650	29,350	23,400	98	72	83	104
Shallots	3,350	3,900	3,900	3,400	2,850	86	86	99	118
Spinnach	24,450	25,350	26,650	34,100	37,200	96	92	72	66
Tomatoes									
Early	196,350	221,000	217,400	185,050	177,700	89	90	106	110
Late	60,450	57,450	68,700	66,650	83,250	105	88	91	73
Total	1,698,050	1,833,950	1,749,600	1,705,700	1,555,300^{4/}	93	97	100	99^{4/}

^{1/} Computed: planted acreage guide for 1957 spring vegetables less normal abandonment, times average yield. ^{2/} Includes some quantities not marketed. See individual statements for particulars. ^{3/} Not available. ^{4/} Sweet Corn and late broccoli not included.

Spring Melons: 1957 Planted Acreage Guides With Comparisons

Commodity	Planted Acreage		Percent acreage guide is. of:	
	1957 Guide	1955 Prel.	1950-54 Average	1955 Average
		acres		Percent
Cantaloups	49,600	52,200	47,000	39,880
Watermelons	98,500	103,700	98,200	90,540
Total	148,100	155,900	145,200	130,420

Spring Melons: 1957 Probable Production With Comparisons

Commodity	Production 2/		Probable Production from acreage as percent of:	
	1957 Guide	1955 Prel.	1945-54 Average	1955 Average
		tons		Percent
Cantaloups	233,000	232,500	228,700	197,550
Watermelons	444,500	491,750	462,750	360,050
Total	677,500	724,250	691,450	557,600

1/ Computed: Planted acreage guides for 1957 spring melons less normal abandonment, times average yield.

2/ Includes some quantities not marketed. See individual statements for particulars.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Lima Beans

(Florida and South Carolina)

Year	: Acreage : Planted: (acres)	: For Harvest: :	: Yield : Per Acre: (cwt.) <u>1/</u>	: Production: :	: Price : (\$ per cwt.)	: Value : (\$1000)
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to 1956)	4,300		<u>2/</u> 24	102		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	4,300	4,200	21	87	11.60	1,009
1955	4,600	4,500	26	116	8.51	911
1950-54 Average	5,490	5,420	22	<u>3/</u> 120	8.77	1,017
1945-54 "	--	6,260	23	<u>3/</u> 142	9.24	1,273

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 32 pounds.

2/ 1953-55 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 4,480 cwt. in 1945, 18,880 in 1946, 3,520 in 1947, 4,800 in 1948, 6,000 in 1950, 8,000 in 1952, and 9,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: Most of the Florida acreage lost in the March 21 freeze was replanted. The South Carolina crop was not damaged. The 1956 acreage for harvest in both states was lower than in 1955, continuing the long-term downward trend for fresh market lima beans. The acreage for harvest in 1956 was 7 percent less than in 1955, 23 percent below the 1950-54 average, and 33 percent below the 1945-54 average. Dry weather and the March 21 cold reduced yields to relatively low levels. Production was 25 percent less than in 1955, 28 percent less than the 1950-54 average and 39 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Prices were relatively high throughout the marketing season as continued dry weather reduced production prospects in Florida. The South Carolina crop was later than usual and this contributed to the relatively high price levels. Quality was quite variable. Competing supplies of frozen lima beans are expected to be larger than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with a normal abandonment of about 1 percent and with 1953-55 average yields will result in a production 17 percent more than in 1956, but 12 percent less than in 1955, and 15 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Snap Beans - Early Spring

(Texas and Florida)

Year	Acreage		Yield	Production		Price	Value
	: Planted	: For Harvest	: Per Acre	: (1,000 cwt.)	: (\$ per cwt.)	: (\$1,000)	
	(acres)		(cwt.)	1/			

1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production

(planted acreage 5 percent more than in 1956)	17,800	2/ 34	545
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Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	17,000	13,900	34	3/ 472	9.73	4,319
1955	18,700	17,200	37	3/ 632	8.38	4,953
1950-54 Average	20,900	18,480	33	3/ 599	8.46	4,407
1945-54 "	-	21,210	29	3/ 600	8.38	4,340

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 30 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 120,600 cwt. in 1945, 78,000 in 1946, 130,500 in 1947, 107,000 in 1949, 77,000 in 1950, 291,000 in 1951, 41,000 in 1955, and 28,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 crop was the smallest on record, largely because of adverse weather. The March 21 freeze affected progress of the crop in central and north Florida, and cold weather retarded development in south Florida. The crop in Texas was adversely affected by dry weather and cool nights. The group acreage for harvest in 1956 was 19 percent less than in 1955, 25 percent less than the 1950-54 average and 34 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Yields were lower than in 1956 but slightly higher than the 1950-54 average. Production was 25 percent less than the moderately large 1955 crop, from which there was a fairly large abandonment because of market conditions. Production was 21 percent less than the 1950-54 and 1945-54 average. Because of the limited supplies prices were relatively high for good quality beans throughout the early spring season. Competition from canned and frozen snap beans is expected to be greater in the spring of 1957 than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent more than in 1956. Such an acreage with a normal abandonment of about 10 percent and 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 15 percent more than in 1956, but 14 percent less than in 1955, and 9 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Snap Beans - Mid-Spring

(Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Alabama)

Year	Acreage		Yield Per Acre (cwt.)	1/ Production (1,000 cwt.)	Price (\$ per cwt.)	Value (\$1,000)
	:Planted:	:For Harvest:				
	(acres)	(acres)				
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u>						
(planted acreage 5 percent more than in 1956)	16,200		2/ 21	334		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	15,400	15,300	20	311	9.70	3,017
1955	19,700	17,900	20	3/ 358	7.09	2,476
1950-54 Average	21,600	21,480	20	428	7.39	3,083
1945-54 "	-	23,640	21	3/ 488	7.41	3,542

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 30 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 12,600 cwt. in 1947 and 9,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The mid-spring crop was smaller than usual in several growing sections affected by the freeze of the week of March 18, insufficient moisture, and cold nights. Weather conditions favored other sections. The acreage for harvest in 1956, including some replantings, was 15 percent less than in 1955, 29 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 35 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Yields were equal to 1955 and the 1950-54 average. Production, although delayed materially in some localities by replantings and cool weather, was 13 percent less than in 1955 and 27 percent less than the 1950-54 average. This was the smallest mid-spring crop in more than 10 years. Trends in acreage and production are downward. Prices were relatively high throughout the mid-spring season because of light supplies. Competition from canned and frozen supplies is expected to be greater in the spring of 1957 than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent more than in 1956. With an abandonment of 2 percent, such an acreage with 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 7 percent more than in 1956, 7 percent less than in 1955, and 22 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Snap Beans-Late Spring

(California, North Carolina, Arkansas, Virginia, New Jersey and Maryland)

Year	Acreage Planted (acres)	For Harvest	Yield Per Acre (cwt.)	Production (1000 cwt.)	Price (\$ per cwt.)	Value (\$1000)
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1957 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage 5 per-
cent more than in 1956)

17,700 2/ 39 690

Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	16,900	16,900	38	645	10.22	6,594
1955	19,300	19,300	41	3/787	7.31	5,399
1950-54 Average	20,820	20,820	37	3/772	7.99	6,125
1945-54 "	-	23,440	34	3/780	7.58	5,826

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 30 pounds.

2/ 1951-55 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 53,100 cwt. in 1947, 6,000 in 1949, 18,000 in 1954 and 48,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 late spring crop was the smallest since 1948. Cold weather in the East in April retarded growth and caused replanting. In Arkansas, heavy rains following a period of dry weather delayed the crop and resulted in lower yields in some sections. The California crop fared better than in 1955 but acreage for harvest was smaller. The 1956 acreage in all states for harvest was the smallest since 1948. It was 12 percent less than in 1955 and 19 percent below 1950-54 average. Yields were lower than in 1955 and 1953 but slightly higher than the 1950-54 average. Production was 18 percent less than in 1955, 16 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 17 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Prices were relatively high because of the delayed marketing and light supplies. Supplies of competing canned and frozen snap beans are expected to be heavier in the spring of 1957 than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent more than in 1956. Abandonment is unusual. Such an acreage with 1951-55 average yields will result in a production 7 percent more than in 1956, 12 percent less than in 1955, and 11 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Beets

(North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia)

Year	: Acreage :		Yield:		Price	: Value
	: Planted:	: For Harvest:	: Per Acre:	: Production:		
	(acres)		(cwt.) ^{1/}	(1000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1000)
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u>						
(planted acreage equal to 1956)						
	960		2/ 108	100		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	960	880	107	94	4.87	458
1955	960	840	87	73	5.27	385
1950-54 Average	1,052	1,028	108	3/111	5.34	586
1945-54 "	--	1,168	99	3/114	5.22	587

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 52 pounds.

2/ 1950-54 average yield.

3/ Includes 4,000 cwt. not marketed in 1951, and excluded in computing value:

Comparisons and Comments: Planted acreage in 1956 was equal to that in 1955. However, unfavorable weather caused heavy damage in Virginia and 40 percent of the acreage was abandoned. Poor weather also delayed the North Carolina and South Carolina crops and reduced yields. The total acreage for harvest was 5 percent above 1955 but 14 percent below the 1950-54 average. The group average yield was 23 percent above the extremely low level in 1955, but was slightly below the 1950-54 average. Production in 1956 was 29 percent above 1955 but 15 percent below the 1950-54 average. Marketing of the crop was several weeks late, with movement from South Carolina beginning about mid-April. Average prices to growers in the Carolinas were relatively low because of an overlap of harvests in May. In late May prices increased to very high levels as the small Virginia crop moved to market. Delayed harvests of summer crops contributed to the high prices for the Virginia crop. Supplies of canned beets were moderate in 1956. Current prospects indicate that canned beets will be in heavy supply in 1957, and compete strongly with the fresh product.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with normal abandonment of 4 percent and 1950-54 average yields will result in a production 6 percent more than in 1956, but 10 percent below the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Broccoli - Early Spring

(California)

Year	Acreage		Yield	Production	Price	Value
	:Planted:	For Harvest:	: Per Acre :			
	(acres)	(acres)	(cwt.) <u>1/</u>	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)

1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production

(planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1956) 13,100

2/ 63 825

Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	14,600	13,000	70	910	7.20	6,556
1955	12,400	12,400	65	806	7.57	6,100
1950-54 Average	9,760	9,760	60	594	8.07	4,709
1945-54 "	-	8,380	58	490	8.60	4,104

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 42 pounds.

2/ 1951-55 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: Heavy rains in December, 1955 and January, 1956 flooded California broccoli fields, causing loss of some acreage. Much of the crop moved to freezers and only light supplies moved to fresh market. The acreage remaining for harvest in 1956 was 5 percent more than in 1955, 33 percent more than the 1950-54 average, and 55 percent more than the 1945-54 average. With the record high yields on the harvested acreage production was 13 percent more than in 1955, 53 percent more than the 1950-54 average, and 86 percent more than the 1945-54 average. Prices were moderately lower than in 1955 because of larger supplies from California early spring crop even though the late spring crop in New Jersey was delayed by cold weather. Competing supplies of frozen broccoli were relatively light in the spring of 1956 but are expected to be heavier in the spring of 1957.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1956. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and 1951-55 average yields will result in a production 9 percent less than in 1956, but 2 percent more than in 1955, and 39 percent more than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Broccoli - Late Spring

(New Jersey and Virginia)

Year	: Acreage : Planted: For Harvest:	: Yield : : Per Acre:	: Production: : (1000 cwt.)	: Price : (\$ per cwt.)	: Value : (\$1000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)	1/		

1957 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal
to that in 1956) 700

2/ 87 61

Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	700	700	86	60	11.77	706
1955	600	600	107	64	8.14	521
1950-54 Average 3/	680	680	66	44	9.23	395

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 42 pounds.

2/ 1954-56 average yield.

3/ Estimates not available prior to 1949.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 late spring crop was delayed by cold spring weather. The acreage for harvest was 17 percent more than in 1955, and 3 percent more than the 1950-54 average. Yields were lower than in 1955, and 30 percent more than the 1950-54 average. Production was 6 percent less than in 1955, but 36 percent more than the 1950-54 average. Prices were considerably higher than in 1955 because the delayed harvest in New Jersey resulted in less competition with the early spring California crop. Competing frozen supplies in 1957 are expected to be larger than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with no abandonment and 1954-56 average yields will result in a production 2 percent more than in 1956, 5 percent less than in 1955, but 39 percent more than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cabbage - Late Spring

(North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Ohio)
Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri

Year	: Acreage :		Yield :		Price	: Value
	:Planted:	For Harvest:	Per Acre:	Production:		
	(acres)		(cwt.)	1/(1000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1000)

1957 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production
(planted acreage equal
to that in 1956) 8,430

2/ 127 1,054

Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	8,430	8,430	134	1,133	2.28	2,581
1955	8,700	8,200	121	<u>3/</u> 990	2.40	2,087
1950-54 Average	9,470	9,370	123	<u>3/</u> 1,152	2.11	2,081
1945-54 "	-	10,236	126	<u>3/</u> 1,294	2.07	2,392

1/ Previously reported in tons.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 326,000 cwt. in 1946, 34,000 in 1948, 88,000 in 1949, 150,000 in 1950, 294,000 in 1951, 20,000 in 1952, 74,000 in 1953, 168,000 in 1954, and 120,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: Although the 1956 late spring crop was delayed somewhat early in the growing season by cold spring weather, the crop developed generally good quality heads, yielded well, and production was significantly larger than the relatively small 1955 crop. Acreage for harvest was 3 percent more than in 1955, but 10 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 18 percent less than the 1945-54 average acreage. Yields were the highest since 1946. Production, therefore, was 14 percent more than the small 1955 crop, but 2 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 12 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Prices were fairly low early in the marketing season during the overlap period with the early spring crop but improved as the season progressed. The early summer crop, which followed, was smaller than in 1955 and eastern production was delayed by cold weather. This permitted the late spring crop to move to market at relatively favorable average prices.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with an abandonment of 1 percent and 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 7 percent less than in 1956, 9 percent less than the 1950-54 average, but 6 percent more than the relatively small crop in 1955.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Carrots

(Arizona)

Year	: Acreage : Planted:	: For Harvest:	: Yield : : Per Acre:	: Production: : (1000 cwt.)	: Price : (\$ per cwt.)	: Value : (\$1000)
	(acres)		(cwt.)	<u>1/</u>		
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to 1956)	2,300		<u>2/</u> 214	492		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	2,300	2,300	180	414	5.10	2,111
1955	2,900	2,900	150	435	4.00	1,740
1950-54 Average	2,820	2,780	226	<u>3/</u> 624	3.84	2,228
1945-54 "	-	3,520	226	<u>3/</u> 793	4.10	2,986

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 50 pounds.

2/ 1947-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in reporting value: 43,500 cwt. in 1946, 232,500 in 1947, 40,000 in 1949, and 176,000 in 1950.

Comparisons and Comments: Plantings of spring carrots in Arizona dropped sharply in 1956 following the very poor marketing season in 1955. The decline in the Arizona spring deal (underway since 1946) is the result of competition from the Texas winter crop and the California winter and early summer crops. Yields in Arizona were 20 percent above 1955 but 20 percent below the 1950-54 average. Carrot yields in Arizona and California are often strongly influenced by market conditions. When prices are favorable, harvesting is intensive. When low prices prevail most growers harvest lightly. The small 1956 production was 5 percent less than in 1955, and 34 percent below the 1950-54 average. Harvest began in late April, reaching volume by mid-May. Shipments reached a peak in mid-June, then declined steadily the next six weeks. Prices were low early in the season but improved in early June as the harvest in Texas ended and the California summer crop was delayed. Prices declined steadily to very low levels during the last half of June. The season average price was well above the very low price in 1955. Price comparisons with earlier years are not valid because of changes in harvesting and packing methods.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such and acreage with no abandonment and with 1947-56 average yields will result in a production 19 percent above that in 1956, but 21 percent below the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cauliflower - Early Spring

(California)

Year	: Acreage : Planted:	: Yield : : For Harvest:	: : Per Acre:	: : Production:	: : Price :	: : Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	<u>1/</u> (1000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1000)	
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage 5 percent less than 1956)						
	7,000		<u>2/</u> 163	1,141		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	7,400	6,200	165	1,023	3.64	3,721
1955	7,000	7,000	170	1,190	3.40	4,043
1950-54 Average	6,920	6,840	164	1,120	3.25	3,648
1945-54 "	-	8,130	159	1,290	3.51	4,558

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 37 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: The heavy December-January rains in California reduced sharply the volume of early spring cauliflower. The 1956 acreage for harvest was 11 percent less than in 1955, 9 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 24 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Yields also were less than in 1955 but about equal to the 1950-54 average. Production, therefore, was 14 percent less than in 1955, 9 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 21 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Prices were relatively high throughout the marketing season although seasonal lows occurred in the first half of May. Competing supplies of frozen cauliflower are likely to be heavier in the spring of 1957 than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956. Such an acreage with no abandonment and 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 12 percent more than in 1956, 4 percent less than in 1955, and 2 percent more than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cauliflower - Late Spring

(New Jersey)

Year	: Acreage :Planted:For Harvest: (acres)	: Yield : : Per Acre : (cwt.)	: : : 1/ (1,000 cwt.)	: : : Price : (\$ per cwt.)	: : : Value : (\$1,000)
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u> (planted acreage 20 percent less than in 1956)					
	240	2/ 264	63		
<u>Background Statistics</u>					
1956 Prel.	300	300	220	66	3.30 218
1955	300	300	270	81	3.90 316
1950-54 Average	260	260	250	65	4.71 305
1945-54 "	-	290	204	57	4.80 274

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 37 pounds.

2/ 1951-55 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 acreage for harvest was equal to that in 1955, 15 percent more than the 1950-54 average, and 3 percent more than the 1945-54 average. Yields in 1956 averaged somewhat less than in 1955 because of cold, wet weather. Yields were less than the 1950-54 average but more than the 1945-54 average. Production was 19 percent less than in 1955, slightly more than the 1950-54 average, and 16 percent more than the 1945-54 average. Prices averaged less than in 1955 and substantially less than the 1950-54 average. Competing supplies of frozen cauliflower are likely to be heavier in the spring of 1957 than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 20 percent less than in 1956. Such an acreage with no abandonment and 1951-55 average yields will result in a production 5 percent less than in 1956, 22 percent less than in 1955, and 3 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Celery

(Florida and California)

Year	: Acreage : Planted: (acres)	: For Harvest:	: Yield : Per Acre: (cwt.) <u>1/</u>	: Production: (1,000 cwt.)	: Price (\$ per cwt.)	: Value (\$1000)
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage 5 percent below 1956 in Florida and equal to 1956 in California 7,000						
			<u>2/</u> 583	4,015		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	7,200	6,900	580	4,005	3.31	13,251
1955	6,700	6,600	599	<u>3/</u> 3,954	3.30	12,829
1950-54 Average	6,580	6,440	540	<u>3/</u> 3,479	3.79	12,755
1945-54 "	-	6,580	467	<u>3/</u> 3,059	4.45	12,757

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 60 pounds.

2/ 1954-56 average yield by states.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 12,000 cwt. in 1945, 45,000 in 1946, 235,800 in 1948, 95,000 in 1949, 58,000 in 1950, 26,000 in 1951, 14,000 in 1952, 16,000 in 1953, 270,000 in 1954 and 66,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 harvested acreage was 5 percent more than in 1955, and 7 percent above the 1950-54 average. In California, winter flood prevented setting of some acreage in Los Angeles County but this decrease was offset by increases in Ventura and Orange Counties. Acreage abandonment averaged 2.4 percent from 1952 to 1956. In Florida, dry windy weather cut yields. The California average yield was more than double that of Florida. Total spring production was slightly more than in 1955, and considerably above average with 60 percent originating in California. In Florida, prices for Pascal during most of the season held considerably below 1955 levels. Prices for Golden averaged moderately higher than for Pascal. A fairly steady supply moved from Florida from March through late May then tapered off during June. California prices peaked in mid-June after supplies from Florida diminished.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956 in Florida and an acreage equal to 1956 in California. Such an acreage with average abandonment and 1954-56 average yields by states will result in a production about equal to 1956, 2 percent more than in 1955, and 15 percent more than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Sweet Corn - Early Spring

(Florida and Texas)

Year	: Acreage : :Planted:For Harvest: (acres)	: Yield : : Per Acre : (cwt.)	: 1/ : (1,000 cwt.)	: Production : (\$ per : cwt.)	: Price : (\$1,000)	: Value
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to 1956)						
	36,200	2/ 76	2,476			
Background Statistics						
1956 Prel.	36,200	35,100	83	2,902	3.52	10,202
1955	36,700	31,900	87	3/ 2,761	3.45	9,120
1950-54 Average	37,980	34,220	59	3/ 2,015	4.11	7,973

1/ Previously reported in 5 dozen units, approximately 50 pounds.

2/ 1954-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 228,000 cwt. in 1950, 88,000 in 1952, and 115,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The acreage for harvest was 10 percent more than in 1955 and slightly more than average. Florida harvested 10 percent more acres than in 1955; Texas 8 percent fewer. Some winter acreage that had been killed by cold temperatures in January in the lower east coast of Florida was reseeded for spring harvest. However, most of the acreage increase occurred in the Everglades section. Total acreage abandonment in Florida and Texas averaged 10 percent from 1952 to 1956. Relatively high group average yields have been obtained the past two years, with 1956 yields slightly less than the 1955 record-high. Total early spring production was 5 percent more than in 1955, and 44 percent above the 1950-54 average. Prices declined sharply in early April in response to increases in marketings. Prices strengthened in late April and early May, then eased off in late May. The group season average price was slightly higher than in 1955. Shipments from Florida averaged almost 800 carlots per week from early April until mid-June. Shipments from Texas began in late April and continued through June. Canned and frozen sweet corn inventories in the spring of 1957 probably will be much higher than the relatively low inventories that prevailed in the spring of 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with average abandonment and 1954-56 average yields will result in a production 15 percent less than in 1956, 10 percent less than in 1955, but 23 percent more than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Sweet Corn - Late Spring

(Alabama, California, Georgia and South Carolina)

Year	: Acreage :Planted: (acres)	: For Harvest:	: Yield : : Per Acre : (cwt.)	: 1/ (1,000 cwt.)	: Production: (\$ per cwt.)	: Price : (\$1,000)	: Value
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u>							
(planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1956							
	14,200		2/ 56		771		
<u>Background Statistics</u>							
1956 Prel.	12,900	12,600	53		672	4.66	3,130
1955	15,500	15,100	59		895	3.76	3,363
1950-54 Average	16,800	15,520	53		815	4.38	3,546

1/ Previously reported in 5 dozen units, approximately 50 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 acreage for harvest was 17 percent less than in 1955 and 19 percent less than average. Acreage abandonment averaged three percent from 1952 to 1956. Reduced acreage in the Coachella Valley and Kern County areas of California accounted for most of the decline in planted acreage in 1956. Some South Carolina plantings were lost because of cold weather. Inadequate moisture and cold weather retarded crop development in all the southeastern States. The group average yield was moderately less than in 1955 but equal to the 1950-54 average. Production was 25 percent less than in 1955, and 18 percent less than average. Considerable Florida sweet corn moved to markets during the late spring marketing season, the group average price was considerably higher than in 1955, and moderately higher than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1956. Such an acreage with average abandonment and 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 15 percent more than in 1956, 14 percent less than in 1955, but 5 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cucumbers - Early Spring

(Florida and Texas)

Year	Acreage		Yield	Production		Price	Value
	:Planted:	For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price :	Value	
	(acres)	(cwt.)	1/	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)	
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to that in 1956)	11,400		2/ 89	853			
Background Statistics							
1956 Prel.	11,400	10,400	82	852	7.46	6,353	
1955	11,400	8,700	97	3/ 844	6.56	5,209	
1950-54 Average	13,420	11,240	79	3/ 890	6.20	4,832	
1945-54 "	-	11,710	64	3/ 746	6.54	4,433	

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 48 pounds.

2/ 1951-55 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 60,960 cwt. in 1946, 17,000 in 1950, 244,000 in 1951, 191,000 in 1954 and 50,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The Texas and Florida crops were damaged by low temperatures, drought and high winds. These adverse conditions resulted in loss of planted acreage in both states and reduction in yields. The 1956 acreage for harvest, however, was 20 percent more than the 1955 acreage (which had been damaged by freezing temperatures), but 7 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 11 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Yields in 1956 were less than in 1955 but above the 1950-54 and 1945-54 averages. Production was 1 percent more than in 1955 and 14 percent more than the 1945-54 average, but 4 percent less than the 1950-54 average. Prices were low early in April, but improved to fairly high levels during the last half of April and continued at relatively high levels through May. Season average prices were higher than in 1955, and higher than the 1950-54 and 1945-54 averages.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with a 16 percent acreage abandonment and 1951-55 average yields will result in a production about equal to that in 1956, 1 percent more than in 1955, but 4 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cucumbers - Late Spring

(Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina,
California, North Carolina and Arkansas)

Year	Acreage		Yield	Production	Price	Value
	:Planted:	For Harvest:	: Per Acre :			
	(acres)	(cwt.)	<u>1/</u> (1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)	
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to that in 1956)	13,300		<u>2/</u> 64	851		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	13,300	13,000	60	786	5.50	4,320
1955	14,650	14,650	65	<u>3/</u> 959	3.42	3,107
1950-54 Average	13,920	13,850	61	<u>3/</u> 846	4.39	3,540
1945-54 "	-	15,485	57	<u>3/</u> 878	4.11	3,437

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 48 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 81,600 cwt. in 1947, 86,000 in 1949, 148,000 in 1950, 16,000 in 1951, 8,000 in 1954 and 51,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The late spring cucumber crop was smaller than usual because of reduced acreage-particularly in North and South Carolina-and the effects of cold weather during the growing season in the South. Hot weather late in the season damaged the delayed North Carolina crop to some extent. The total late spring acreage for harvest was 11 percent less than the relatively large acreage in 1955 and 6 percent less than the 1950-54 average. Yields were lower than in 1955, but about equal to the 1950-54 average. Production, therefore, was 18 percent less than the large 1955 crop, 7 percent less than the 1950-54 average and 10 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Prices were relatively high in late May and through the month of June but declined rapidly for the delayed North Carolina crop in July. The short North Florida early spring crop and the delayed early summer crop contributed to the favorable marketing season. Season average prices were much higher than for the large 1955 crop and higher than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and 1952-56 average yields, will result in a production 8 percent more than in 1956 but 11 percent less than in 1955, and 1 percent more than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Eggplant

(Florida)

Year	: Acreage :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : : Per Acre :	: Production: : (1,000 cwt.):	: Price : :(\$ per cwt.):	: Value : (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)	1/ (1,000 cwt.)		
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u> (planted acreage equal to that in 1956)					
	1,000	2/ 123	123		
<u>Background Statistics</u>					
1956 Prel.	1,000	1,000	120	3/ 120	4.70 531
1955	1,000	1,000	135	3/ 135	4.25 518
1950-54 Average	1,150	1,140	120	3/ 137	4.25 571
1945-54 "	-	1,470	110	3/ 159	4.49 625

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 33 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 52,470 cwt. in 1946, 78,870 in 1948, 28,000 in 1949, 14,000 in 1950, 13,000 in 1955, and 7,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 crop was set back in the growing season by cold weather in January (which necessitated some replantings), and by cold weather in March. The acreage for harvest was equal to the 1955 acreage but 12 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 32 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Yields were lower than in 1955, but equal to the 1950-54 average. Production was 11 percent less than in 1955, 12 percent less than the 1950-54 average, and 25 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Prices improved in late April, reached high levels in May, and declined in the first half of June. The market was aided by a short winter crop and a delayed summer crop. Prices averaged moderately higher than in 1955 and were higher than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and 1952-56 average yields, will result in a production 2 percent more than in 1956, but 9 percent less than in 1955, and 10 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Lettuce - Early Spring

(Arizona, California, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolins)

Year	: Acreage : Planted: (acres)	: Yield : : For Harvest: (cwt.)	: Production: 1/(1000 cwt.)	: Price (\$ per cwt.)	: Value (\$1000)
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1957 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(See 1957 guide below)

45,600	2/	125	5,706
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Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	45,300	45,000	139	3/6,276	4.08	25,503
1955	46,800	46,450	116	5,380	4.02	21,622
1950-54 Average	47,330	46,990	124	3/5,805	4.23	24,443
1945-54 "	-	48,112	111	3/5,292	4.39	22,994

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 70 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yields by states.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 94,500 cwt. in 1946, 16,800 in 1947, 7,000 in 1948, 10,000 in 1949, 9,000 in 1950, 7,000 in 1952, 83,000 in 1953, 31,000 in 1954, and 19,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: For the last two years abnormal weather in California resulted in unusually favorable marketing situations for Arizona spring lettuce. In 1955, the California crop was delayed several weeks by cold weather. In 1956, heavy winter rains reduced California plantings sharply. Both years this permitted later than normal marketing from Arizona, with little overlap. Planted acreage in California was 23 percent below 1955, while the Arizona acreage was 41 percent above 1955. Yields were low in the Carolinas but high in all other states. Total production was 16 percent above the very small 1955 crop. Shipments from Arizona were heavy through early May, then declined sharply. Shipments from California reached volume in early May. Prices ranged widely from low levels in March to high levels in mid-May. However, prices generally were well below 1955 levels. Harvest in Southeastern states was active in late April and May. Season average prices were above average in North Carolina but low in all other states.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage in Arizona 25 percent below 1956, an acreage 20 percent above 1956 in California and an acreage equal to 1956 in all other states. Such an acreage with no abandonment and 1952-56 average yields by states will result in a production 9 percent below 1956, and 2 percent below the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Lettuce - Late Spring

(Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon,
Pennsylvania and Washington)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield :	:	:	:
	: Planted: For Harvest:	Per Acre:	Production:	Price	Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	<u>1/</u> (1000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1000)
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u> (planted acreage equal to 1956)					
	8,100	<u>2/</u> 152	1,170		
<u>Background Statistics</u>					
1956 Prel.	8,080	7,680	157	1,209	4.36 5,270
1955	8,200	7,700	151	<u>3/</u> 1,161	3.83 4,448
1950-54 Average	8,138	7,780	146	<u>3/</u> 1,138	4.85 5,487
1945-54 "	-	7,132	144	<u>3/</u> 1,028	4.41 4,513

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 70 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 15,400 cwt. in 1946, 14,000 in 1947, 35,000 in 1948, 66,000 in 1949, 42,000 in 1950, and 15,000 in 1954.

Comparisons and Comments: In general the 1956 season was very poor for late spring lettuce. Growing conditions were poor; the crop was late, and there was a considerable overlap with a record large summer crop. Plantings of late spring lettuce in 1956 were slightly below 1955. Abandonment was average and acreage for harvest was about equal to 1955. The group average yield was 4 percent higher than in 1955. The higher yield resulted in a production 4 percent above 1955. Cold, wet weather delayed the crop several weeks in all Eastern states. Harvest reached volume in New Jersey about mid-June and in the other states during the last half of June. Supplies and prices generally were moderate during the first three weeks of June. However, in the last week of June prices dropped sharply to extremely low levels as harvest became general in the East, and as heavy supplies became available in California. Prices were very low the remainder of the marketing season. The season average price was moderately above the extremely low price in 1955 but was below the 1950-54 average.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with normal abandonment of 5 percent and 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 3 percent less than in 1956, but 3 percent above the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage and Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Onions - Early Spring

(Texas)

Year	: Acreage : Planted: (acres)	: For Harvest: :	Yield : Per Acre : (cwt.)	: 1/ (1,000 cwt.)	: Production: (\$ per cwt.)	: Price : (\$1,000)	: Value
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u> (see 1957 guide below)							
	36,200		2/ 71		2,567		
<u>Background Statistics</u>							
1956 Prel.	51,000	50,000	80	3/ 4,000	2.80	8,680	
1955	38,000	37,600	62	2,331	3.20	7,459	
1950-54 Average	42,480	35,960	64	3/ 2,007	3.94	7,151	
1945-54 "	-	41,400	55	3/ 2,058	3.76	7,382	

1/ Previously reported in 50 lb. sacks.

2/ 1954-56 average yields by areas.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 124,000 cwt. in 1945, 165,000 in 1950, 421,000 in 1953 and 900,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: A record large early spring crop was produced in 1956 because of a sharp expansion of plantings in irrigated areas and unusually favorable growing conditions. Increased plantings occurred in the Raymondville-Lower Valley area and in the Coastal Bend and Winter Garden areas. All other areas had an acreage equal to or slightly below 1955. Yields were very high in all areas and total production was 72 percent above 1955. Supplies were heavy and prices were very low through March and most of April, and heavy abandonment occurred. In late April, prices rose sharply following heavy rains in the major producing areas. Prices were high during the latter part of the season but the season average price was very low. Most of the marketing difficulties in 1956 were caused by excessive acreage in the Raymondville-Lower Valley and Coastal Bend areas. To achieve an orderly market in 1957, substantial reductions in acreage should be made in these areas.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 50 percent below 1956 in the Raymondville-Lower Valley area, 25 percent below 1956 in the Coastal Bend area, and equal to 1956 in all other areas. Such an acreage with no abandonment and 1954-56 average yields by areas will result in a production 36 percent less than in 1956, but 28 percent above the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Onions - Late Spring

(California, Arizona, Georgia, and Texas)

Year	Acreage		Yield		Price	Value
	Planted	For Harvest	Per Acre	Production		
	(acres)	(cwt.)	1/ (1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)	
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u>						
(planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1956)	10,800		2/ 143	1,544		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	9,850	9,850	153	1,503	6.14	9,229
1955	13,800	13,700	124	1,692	2.63	4,448
1950-54 Average	16,360	16,280	137	3/ 2,191	3.11	6,106
1945-54 "	-	16,590	125	3/ 2,033	3.29	6,214

1/ Previously reported in 50 lb. sacks.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 117,000 cwt. in 1946, 200,000 in 1951, 691,000 in 1953, and 98,000 in 1954.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 acreage was sharply lower than in 1955, reflecting poor market conditions in recent years and very unfavorable weather conditions during the 1956 planting season. In California, wet weather restricted planting while in Texas dry weather reduced the acreage. The total planted acreage was 29 percent below 1955, and 40 percent below the 1950-54 average. Yields were very low in Texas but high in all other states. Production in 1956 was 11 percent smaller than in 1955, and 32 percent below the 1950-54 average. Extremely high prices prevailed during most of the late spring marketing season. The high prices were the result of the relatively small production and the delayed harvest in most of the late spring states. Also, the early summer crop was considerably smaller than in 1955. Competition between the crops was much less than usual. Light supplies were available early in May but it was not until late in the month that shipments reached volume levels. Supplies were moderate through June and July, then tapered off in August. Season average prices were the highest on record.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent more than in 1956. Such an acreage with no abandonment and 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 3 percent more than in 1956, but 30 percent below the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Peas - Early Spring

(California and South Carolina)

Year	Acreage		Yield	Production	Price	Value
	:Planted:	For Harvest:	: Per Acre			
	(acres)	(cwt.)	<u>1/</u> (1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)	
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to 1956)						
	4,400		<u>2/</u> 33	145		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	4,400	4,400	26	115	9.44	1,086
1955	5,200	4,900	37	181	8.37	1,515
1950-54 Average	7,800	7,640	33	251	7.67	1,897
1945-54 "	-	12,435	31	358	7.48	2,634

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 30 pounds.

2/ 1950-54 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: The downward trend in early spring acreage and production continued in 1956 as both states reduced acreage from 1955 levels. A part of the reduction in California was caused by heavy rains in the Sacramento River area during the planting season. Planted acreage in both states in 1956 was 15 percent below 1955, and 44 percent below the 1950-54 average. Yields in California were below the high level in 1955 but were about average. The South Carolina yield was below average but was considerably above the low yield in 1955 when freeze damage was heavy. Production in both states was the smallest on record, and was 36 percent below 1955, and 54 percent below the 1950-54 average. Harvest in California began in late March, reached a peak in the latter part of April, then declined steadily in May and June. The bulk of the South Carolina crop was marketed during May. Prices were high during most of the season. Season average prices were considerably above 1955. Frozen peas will be in heavy supply during the 1957 spring season. The carryover in 1956 was relatively light but the 1956 frozen pack was record large. Total supplies for the 1956-57 marketing season are about 47 percent larger than last season.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with normal abandonment and 1950-54 average yields will result in a production 26 percent more than in 1956, but 42 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Peas - Late Spring

(Idaho and Washington)

Year	: Acreage :Planted:For Harvest:	: Yield : : Per Acre :	: Production: : (1,000 cwt.):	: Price : : (\$ per cwt.):	: Value : (\$1,000)
	(acres)	(cwt.)	1/ (1,000 cwt.)		
1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production (planted acreage equal to 1956)	610		2/ 60	37	
<u>Background Statistics</u>					
1956 Prel.	610	610	66	40	6.78 271
1955	730	710	62	44	5.75 253
1950-54 Average	1,310	1,298	52	63	5.41 319
1945-54 "	-	2,748	46	3/113	5.70 617

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 30 pounds.

2/ 1952-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 22,500 cwt. in 1946, 3,600 in 1947 and 24,300 in 1948.

Comparisons and Comments: Plantings in 1956 were reduced moderately from 1955 levels in Idaho but were unchanged in Washington. The total planted acreage was 16 percent below 1955, and 53 percent below the 1950-54 average. Growing conditions were favorable in Idaho, and yields were above average. Washington yields were below normal because of dry weather. The total production was 9 percent below 1955 and 37 percent below the 1950-54 average. Harvest of the Idaho crop began in early June, reached a peak late in the month then declined rapidly during the first half of July. Washington shipments started in the last half of June, were moderate during July, and tapered off gradually during August. Crops from both states moved to market at fairly high prices. Season average prices were well above those in 1955, and above the 1950-54 and 1945-54 averages. Strong competition from frozen peas will prevail during the 1957 late spring marketing season.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with normal abandonment and 1952-56 average yields will result in a production 8 percent less than in 1956, and 41 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Green Peppers

(Florida)

Year	: Acreage : Planted	: For Harvest	: Yield : Per Acre	: Production	: Price	: Value
	(acres)		(cwt.)	<u>1</u> /(1000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1000)

1957 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production
(planted acreage 5 per-
cent more than 1956)

8,700	<u>2</u> / 58	487
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Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	8,300	8,000	62	496	10.10	5,010
1955	11,400	11,200	60	<u>3</u> / 673	8.08	5,002
1950-54 Average	11,040	10,620	55	<u>3</u> / 587	8.43	4,717
1945-54 "	-	8,590	54	<u>3</u> / 468	10.17	4,114

1/ Previously reported in bushels approximately 25 pounds.

2/ 1954-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 31,500 cwt. in 1946, 59,250 in 1948, 68,000 in 1950, 32,000 in 1951, 18,000 in 1954 and 54,000 in 1955.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 crop was light because of reduced acreage. Cold, dry weather adversely affected the crop in north and central Florida but in South Florida crop developments were much better. The acreage for harvest was 29 percent less than in 1955, 25 percent less than the 1950-54 average and 7 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Yields were slightly higher than in 1955 and moderately higher than the 1950-54 and 1945-54 averages. Production, however, was 26 percent less than in 1955, and 16 percent less than the 1950-54 average but 6 percent more than the 1945-54 average. Prices averaged substantially higher than in 1955 and the 1950-54 average but slightly less than the 1945-54 average. Prices were at moderate levels through most of April, improved in May and reached high levels in June.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent more than in 1956. Such an acreage, with 4 percent abandonment and 1954-56 average yields, will result in a production 2 percent less than in 1956, 28 percent less than in 1955, and 17 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Shallots

(Louisiana)

Year	: Acreage : Planted:	: Yield : : For Harvest:	: : : Per Acre:	: : : Production:	: Price : : (\$ per cwt.)	: Value : : (\$1000)
	(acres)	(cwt.) ^{1/}	(1000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1000)	(\$1000)

1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production

(planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1956)	2,400	2/ 28	67
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Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	2,700	2,600	30	3/78	4.30	292
1955	2,700	2,700	29	3/78	5.10	306
1950-54 Average	2,380	2,380	28	68	6.41	426
1945-54 "	--	2,180	26	57	6.67	371

^{1/} Previously reported in barrels, approximately 100 pounds.

^{2/} 1952-56 average yield.

^{3/} Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 18,000 cwt. in 1955 and 10,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 crop developed nicely with a large acreage, high yield, and good quality. The planted acreage was equal to that in 1955. Acreage for harvest, however, was 4 percent less than in 1955, but 9 percent more than the 1950-54 average, and 19 percent more than the 1945-54 average. Weather conditions favored the crop and yields averaged slightly more than in 1955, 7 percent more than the 1950-54 average, and 15 percent more than the 1945-54 average. Production was equal to that in 1955, 15 percent more than the 1950-54 average, and 37 percent more than the 1945-54 average. Prices ranged generally well below 1955 levels throughout the marketing season. Season average prices were lower than in 1955, and below the 1950-54 and 1945-54 averages.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 10 percent less than in 1956. Such an acreage, with no abandonment and with 1952-56 average yields, will result in a production 14 percent less than in 1956 and in 1955, and 2 percent less than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Spinach

(Washington, Virginia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri,
Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio,
New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut)

Year	: Acreage :Planted:For Harvest: (acres)	: Yield : : Per Acre : (cwt.)	: : : 1/ (1,000 cwt.)	: : : (\$ per (cwt.)	: : : (\$1,000 : Value
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1957 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production

(planted acreage equal to
1956)

8,000	2/ 65	489
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Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	7,950	7,750	65	3/ 507	4.81	2,402
1955	8,870	8,170	65	3/ 533	4.80	2,528
1950-54 Average	11,568	10,956	63	3/ 682	4.67	3,155
1945-54 "	-	11,647	64	3/ 744	4.51	3,328

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 20 pounds.

2/ 1954-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 3,200 cwt. in 1947, 2,800 in 1948, 13,000 in 1951, 8,000 in 1954, 6,000 in 1955 and 8,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The acreage of spring spinach has been declining steadily since 1943. Planted acreage in 1956 was 10 percent below 1955 and 31 percent below the 1950-54 average. Drought reduced yields in Missouri, while in a few northeastern states yields were reduced by cool, wet weather. Production was 5 percent smaller than in 1955 and 26 percent below the 1950-54 average. Supplies were moderate by mid-March. However, because of delays caused by the cool, wet weather, movement did not become heavy until mid-May, several weeks later than usual. Prices were high until mid-May, then declined sharply to low levels. Prices remained low until late June, then increased as the shipping season neared its end. Season average prices were low in New Jersey, Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma, but were about average in the other states. Frozen spinach will continue to compete strongly with the fresh product. Supplies of frozen spinach in the spring of 1957 probably will be slightly larger than in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage equal to that in 1956. Such an acreage with normal abandonment of 6 percent and 1954-56 average yields will result in a production 4 percent less than in 1956, and 28 percent below the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Tomatoes - Early Spring

(Florida, Texas, and California)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:	:	:
	:Planted:	For Harvest:	Per Acre	:Production:	Price	: Value
	(acres)	(cwt.)	<u>1/</u>	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per	(\$1,000
					cwt.)	

1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production

(planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956 in Florida and equal to 1956 in all other states) 58,000 2/ 73 3,927

Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	59,200	56,200	79	<u>3/</u>	4,420	8.12	34,614
1955	67,800	56,700	77		4,348	7.27	31,622
1950-54 Average	63,160	56,560	66	<u>3/</u>	3,701	7.48	27,579
1945-54 "	-	59,680	60	<u>3/</u>	3,554	7.08	24,917

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 53 pounds.

2/ 1954-56 average yield by states.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 25,970 cwt. in 1945, 42,400 in 1946, 102,000 in 1954, and 155,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The total 1956 planted acreage was 13 percent below 1955. Some acreage was lost in Texas because of cold weather which also resulted in below-average yields. In Florida and California, growing conditions were good and yields were above average. The group average yield was record high. The high yields resulted in a record large production, 2 percent above 1955, and 19 percent above the 1950-54 average. In April, total supplies, mostly from Florida, were heavy. Prices were low and some abandonment occurred. In May, total supplies were moderate as a decrease in the Florida movement more than offset an increase from Texas. Prices improved steadily and reached very high levels by the end of May. Prices were high through June. California shipments were light until mid-May. Season average prices were very high in Texas and California, but were low in Florida. Delayed harvest of the small late spring crop and below average imports contributed to the high prices. Supplies of canned tomatoes and products are expected to be very heavy in 1957. Therefore, outlets for supplies in excess of fresh market requirements will be limited.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956 in Florida and planted acreages equal to 1956 in Texas and California. Such **acres** with normal abandonment and 1954-56 average yields by states will result in a production 11 percent less than in 1956, but 6 percent above the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Tomatoes - Late Spring

(Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Georgia)

Year	Acreage		Yield	Production	Price	Value
	:Planted:	:For Harvest:	: Per Acre			
	(acres)	(acres)	(cwt.) 1/	(1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per cwt.)	(\$1,000)
<u>1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production</u>						
(planted acreage 15 percent more than in 1956)						
	42,600		2/ 33	1,209		
<u>Background Statistics</u>						
1956 Prel.	37,000	35,500	32	1,149	8.74	10,048
1955	46,800	40,800	34	1,374	4.72	6,484
1950-54 Average	48,360	39,960	33	1,333	6.82	8,692
1945-54 "	-	45,860	36	1,665	5.80	9,108

1/ Previously reported in bushels, approximately 53 pounds.

2/ 1950-54 average yield.

Comparisons and Comments: Acreage was reduced substantially in 1956, following two years of relatively low prices. Total planted acreage was 21 percent below 1955, and 23 percent below the 1950-54 average. Growing conditions were only fair, with dry weather reducing yields in Texas and Georgia, and cold weather necessitating considerable replanting in South Carolina and Georgia. Conditions were generally favorable in Louisiana and Mississippi. Total production was 16 percent below 1955. Adverse weather caused some delay in harvest in most areas. Light supplies were marketed in the last half of May, with volume movement occurring about mid-June. Shipments continued heavy through June and early July, then declined rapidly. Prices were high throughout the 1956 marketing period and season average prices were considerably above the 1955 levels. The high prices were the result of the smaller production and the much less than normal overlaps with the early spring crop and the early summer crop. Early summer crops in the East were heavily damaged by cold weather and harvests were considerably behind schedule.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 15 percent more than in 1956. Such an acreage with normal abandonment of 14 percent and 1950-54 average yields will result in a production 5 percent more than in 1956, but 9 percent below the 1950-54 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Cantaloups

(California, Florida, Arizona, and Texas (south))

Year	: Acreage : Planted: (acres)	: Yield: : For Harvest: (cwt.)	: Production: : Per Acre: 1/(1000 cwt.)	: Price : (\$ per cwt.)	: Value : (\$1000)
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1957 Acreage Guide and
Probable Production
(planted acreage 5 per-
cent less than 1956)

49,600	2/ 100	4,660
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Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	52,200	49,100	95	3/4,650	5.43	25,212
1955	47,000	45,200	101	3/4,574	6.33	28,895
1950-54 Average	39,880	38,580	103	3,951	5.24	20,773
1945-54 "	-	34,320	97	3/3,338	4.89	16,525

1/ Previously reported in crates, approximately 83 pounds.

2/ 1953-56 average yields.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 3,320 cwt. in 1945, 13,280 in 1946, 7,000 in 1955, and 8,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 spring crop was only slightly larger than in 1955, because of low yields on a larger acreage. Cool nights in Texas, cold weather and strong winds in Arizona and Florida, and a March frost in California contributed to the low yields. The acreage for harvest was 9 percent more than in 1955, and 27 percent above the 1950-54 average. Comparisons with the 1945-54 average are not valid since South Texas acreage was included in the mid-summer group of states prior to 1949. Yields were significantly lower than in recent years. Production was 2 percent more than in 1955, and 18 percent above the 1950-54 average. Prices were moderate to low during most of the marketing season but improved somewhat in June because a small summer crop was developing. Season average prices were lower than in 1955, but above the 1950-54 average. Imports from Mexico, which compete with the early Texas movement, are not expected to be as large in 1957 as in 1956.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956. Such an acreage, with an abandonment of 6 percent and 1953-56 average yields, will result in a production about equal to that in 1956, and 2 percent more than in 1955, but 5 percent less than in 1954.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides
Spring Vegetables

Watermelons - Late Spring

(California and Florida)

Year	: Acreage	: Yield	:	:	:	:
	:Planted;For Harvest:	: Per Acre	:Production:	: Price	: Value	
	(acres)	(cwt.)	1/ (1,000 cwt.)	(\$ per	(\$1,000	
				cwt.)		

1957 Acreage Guide and Probable Production

(planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956) 98,500

2/ 95 8,890

Background Statistics

1956 Prel.	103,700	98,700	100	3/	9,835	2.16	20,072
1955	98,200	95,200	97	3/	9,255	2.12	17,731
1950-54 Average	90,540	86,080	84	3/	7,201	1.88	12,641
1945-54 "	-	69,880	80	3/	5,620	1.88	10,012

1/ Previously reported in melons, approximately 25 pounds each.

2/ 1954-56 average yield.

3/ Includes the following quantities not marketed and excluded in computing value: 394,500 cwt. in 1947, 1,382,000 in 1950, 741,000 in 1954, 882,000 in 1955, and 540,000 in 1956.

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 large watermelon crop developed nicely despite variable weather conditions that necessitated replantings in North Florida. The set-backs apparently were sufficient to prevent serious overlaps between deals. The relatively small early summer crop was delayed sufficiently to permit late spring crops to be marketed without serious gluts. The 1956 acreage for harvest was 4 percent more than in 1955 and 15 percent more than the 1950-54 average. Yields were record high. Production was 6 percent more than in 1955, and 37 percent more than the 1950-54 average. Prices were high early in the marketing season and declined, as usual, as the season progressed. During June, prices leveled off and did not decline to as low levels as in previous years. This probably was because of the small early summer crop, which also was delayed by cold weather. Season average prices were higher than in 1955, and higher than the 1950-54 average.

1957 Guide: The 1957 guide is a planted acreage 5 percent less than in 1956. Such an acreage, with a 5 percent abandonment and 1954-56 average yields will result in a production 10 percent less than in 1956, 4 percent less than in 1955, but 23 percent more than the 1950-54 average.

1957 ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES

EARLY AND LATE SPRING POTATOES

Comparisons and Comments: The 1956 planted acreage of spring potatoes was 11 percent less than in 1955, and 11 percent less than the 1951-54 average. Early spring acreage increased slightly from the 1955 level; but this was more than offset by a substantial reduction in late spring acreage. Alabama planted 24,000 acres (11,200 acres less than in 1955); California planted 63,000 acres (6,000 acres less).

The early spring crop yields averaged slightly higher than in 1955, but considerably less than the 1954 record high. Late spring crop yields - which have shown annual gains since 1951 - also averaged slightly higher than in 1955. Cold spring weather adversely affected yields in both California and southeastern States. In California some potatoes were harvested before they **could attain full size**.

The 1956 spring production totaled 28 million hundredweight, 9 percent less than in 1955, and 3 percent less than the 1951-54 average. The spring production represents about 13 percent of the annual supply.

Most growers received record high prices for their spring crop potatoes. Contributing factors included the "holding-down" of spring acreages, the cold spring weather which delayed crop progress and time of harvest, the rains in eastern areas that interrupted harvests and retarded flow of supplies into markets. The timing of harvest within areas and among areas was such that supplies did not bunch.

Late winter marketings of storage supplies were heavy and contributed to the favorable tone in spring markets. Maine and Idaho moved record high quantities into commercial markets in March without supplies backing up. In addition, Maine exported 1,300 carlots to western Europe in early spring. Supplies of storage potatoes were low in the Midwest. Competitive pressures from overlapping storage supplies on spring markets were greatly reduced.

In Florida, shipping point prices for best grade Sebagoes during April and May held fairly steady at \$4.50 per hundredweight. Prices for round reds were moderately higher. In California, shipping point prices for long whites opened at \$3.75-4.00 in late April, and climbed to \$7.00 and upwards by early July. High price levels prevailed in all spring production areas.

The 1956 fall crop potato production was considerably higher than in 1955. The supply level next spring will be affected by quantities moving into commercial and diversion outlets, as well as the keeping quality of storage stocks.

1957 Guide: The 1957 spring acreage guide is a planted acreage 10 percent less than 1956 in California and Florida, and an acreage equal to 1956 in the other 11 spring crop States. Such an acreage with average yields will result in a production of 26.3 million hundredweight, which would be 6 percent less than in 1956, and 10 percent less than the 1951-55 average.

1957 Acreage-Marketing Guides

Early and Late Spring Potatoes

Group and State	1957 Acreage Guide (acres)	Percentage guide is of 1956 planted acreage (percent)
<u>Early Spring:</u>		
Florida	23,580	90
Texas	400	100
Total	<u>23,980</u>	<u>90</u>
<u>Late Spring:</u>		
North Carolina	20,500	100
South Carolina	8,400	100
Georgia	2,200	100
Alabama	24,200	100
Mississippi	9,500	100
Arkansas	10,100	100
Louisiana	8,300	100
Oklahoma	4,700	100
Texas	9,100	100
Arizona	4,300	100
California	56,700	90
Total	<u>158,000</u>	<u>96</u>
<u>Total Spring</u>	<u>181,980</u>	<u>95</u>

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