



2024 California Processing Tomato Report

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As of May 15, California's tomato processors reported they have or will have contracts for 11.5 million tons of processing tomatoes for 2024. This production estimate is 1 percent below the January intentions forecast of 11.6 million tons and 10 percent below the final 2023 contracted production.

The May contracted acreage of 228,000 is 2 percent below the January intentions forecast of 232,000 acres and 40,000 acres less than last year's final contracted acreage.

Fresno County remains the top California county in contracted planted acreage for 2024 with 53,000 acres. Yolo, Kings, Merced, and San Joaquin make up the remaining top five counties, accounting for 65 percent of the 2024 total contracted planted acreage for California.

Mild spring temperatures and adequate water have aided the development of the processing tomato crop.

Planting began in late February in warmer areas of the state and has progressed with little to no weather delays. There were reports that the beet leafhopper has been detected in some areas, warranting close monitoring and increased pest control. At this point, yields are projected to be a little higher than last year. Harvest is expected to start in early July.

Tomato supplies were replenished after growers in 2023 produced the largest crop in years. As a result, contracted acreage has decreased in most counties. Planted acres in Kings County increased significantly, as cropland that was previously under water has since been recovered. Processors anticipate that this year's tomato harvest will be on schedule and will not extend beyond normal timelines, reducing the need for late-season deliveries.

This early processing tomato estimate is funded by the California League of Food Producers.

ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION (CONTRACT AND TOTAL) - CALIFORNIA

Year	Total crop			Contract only			
	Planted	Harvested	Production	Planted	Harvested	Production	
	acres		tons	acres		tons	metric tons
2006	283,000	282,000	10,104,000	280,000	279,000	10,024,000	9,094,000
2007	301,000	296,000	12,082,000	298,000	293,000	11,965,000	10,854,000
2008	281,000	279,000	11,822,000	278,000	276,000	11,691,000	10,606,000
2009	312,000	308,000	13,314,000	308,000	304,000	13,148,000	11,928,000
2010	271,000	270,000	12,297,000	269,000	268,000	12,212,000	11,079,000
2011	255,000	250,000	11,941,000	254,000	249,000	11,900,000	10,796,000
2012	260,000	258,000	12,640,000	258,000	256,000	12,540,000	11,376,000
2013	263,000	260,000	12,100,000	259,000	256,000	11,900,000	10,796,000
2014	292,000	289,000	14,010,000	291,000	288,000	13,965,000	12,669,000
2015	299,000	296,000	14,361,000	297,000	295,000	14,307,000	12,979,000
2016	262,000	258,000	12,647,000	260,000	256,000	12,527,000	11,364,000
2017	230,000	222,000	10,464,000	229,000	221,000	10,407,000	9,441,000
2018	241,000	236,000	12,284,000	235,000	230,000	11,994,000	10,881,000
2019	235,000	228,000	11,186,000	234,000	227,000	11,130,000	10,097,000
2020	234,000	228,000	11,312,000	234,000	228,000	11,312,000	10,262,000
2021	230,000	228,000	10,765,000	229,000	227,000	10,730,000	9,734,000
2022	231,000	225,000	10,496,000	230,000	224,000	10,464,000	9,493,000
2023	269,000	255,000	12,805,000	268,000	254,000	12,752,000	11,569,000
2024	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	228,000	(NA)	11,500,000	10,433,000

(NA) Not available.

CALIFORNIA PROCESSING TOMATOES BY COUNTY

County	Contracted and Open Market - 2023 Crop				2024 Crop
	Area planted	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production ¹	Contracted acres
	<i>acres</i>		<i>tons</i>		
Butte	1,220	1,220	51.2	62,500	1,350
Colusa	15,900	15,700	52.5	823,500	14,500
Contra Costa	3,400	3,400	59.0	200,600	3,000
Fresno	71,400	64,500	54.2	3,497,000	53,000
Glenn	1,550	1,520	49.7	75,500	1,600
Kern	16,600	16,000	54.2	866,800	11,100
Kings	16,600	15,800	54.0	853,000	26,200
Madera	5,900	5,600	53.8	301,300	7,600
Merced	28,100	27,700	46.5	1,289,000	23,000
Monterey	1,350	1,350	45.9	62,000	150
Sacramento	5,200	5,200	40.1	208,600	4,900
San Benito ²	650	500	41.4	20,687	(D)
San Joaquin	22,200	20,700	45.0	930,600	15,600
Santa Clara	1,020	1,020	53.6	54,700	370
Solano	17,300	17,000	43.0	731,600	14,800
Stanislaus	10,700	9,400	48.4	454,900	6,700
Sutter	12,200	12,100	43.1	521,000	9,300
Tehama	370	360	49.0	17,631	100
Tulare ²	2,100	2,100	71.6	150,400	(D)
Yolo	35,200	33,800	49.8	1,682,000	31,500
Yuba	40	30	46.8	1,405	280
Other Counties ²	0	0	---	0	2,950
Total	269,000	255,000	50.2	12,804,723	228,000

¹ On the basis of "paid for tonnage" purchased from growers as reported by processors, dockage not included.

² To avoid disclosure of individual operations, "Other Counties" includes San Benito and Tulare for 2024.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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