Processors Release 2001 Vegetable Intentions

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Processors in Pennsylvania intend to contract 7,200 acres of snap beans in 2001, 17 percent less than the 8,700 acres contracted in 2000, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service.

Sweet corn processors intend to contract 1,480 acres, down 36 percent from the 2,300 contracted in 2000.

Tomatoes will not be published to avoid disclosure.

United States' processors plan to contract 1.18 million acres of vegetables in 2001 for the nation's five major vegetable crops (snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, green peas, and tomatoes), down 14 percent from 2000. Acreage for freezing at 400,600 acres is down five percent, while acreage canning, forecast at

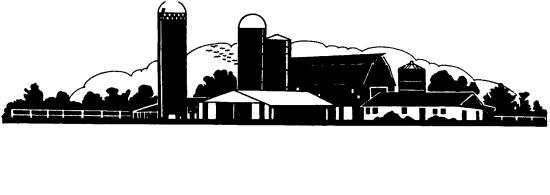
781,390 acres is down 18 percent from 2000. In general, most states are seeing a decrease in contract intentions for canning due to high product inventories left over from last year.

U.S. snap bean processors intend to contract 192,200 acres, down 13 percent from last year. Contracted acres for freezing are at 64,400, up 12 percent from 2000. Contracted acreage for canning. at 127,800 acres, is down 22

percent from 2000. Sweet corn processors intend to contract 421,180 acres, down 11 percent from the previous year. Contracted acreage for freezing at 206,400 acres is two percent more than last year's total, but contacted acreage for canning, at 214,780 acres is 22 percent less than last year. Tomato processors plan to contract 263,800 acres in 2001, a decrease of 14 percent from last year. Contract production at 9.46 million tons is 12 percent below 2000.

U.S. pickle packers intend to contract 86,210 acres, seven percent above last year. Green pea processors intend to contract 218,600 acres, down 26 percent from last year. Contracted acreage for freezing, at 129,800 acres is 20 percent less than last year's total, and contracted acreage for canning at 88,000 acres is 33 percent less than last year.







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