



TOMATO BULLETIN

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January 19, 2012

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Dear Tomato Growers:

CLFP Releases December Inventory Report:

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Beginning Inventory June 1	3,130,000	4,393,000	4,400,000	5,743,000	6,252,000	+8%
Pack	12,660,000	12,306,000	13,971,000	12,776,000	12,541,000	-1%
Total Supply	15,790,000	16,699,000	18,371,000	18,519,000	18,793,000	+1%
Dec 1 Inventory	9,991,000	10,136,000	11,773,000	11,878,000	11,628,000	-2%
6 Month Disappearance	5,799,000	6,563,000	6,598,000	6,641,000	7,165,000	+8%
Monthly Disappearance	966,000	1,094,000	1,100,000	1,107,000	1,194,000	+8%

- The Dec 1, 6 month disappearance levels are 8% higher than last year. These our record numbers for our industry.
 - This can be attributed to the significant increase in exports. Paste exports are up approximately 49% during this period. With just over 1.1mm tons worth of paste shipped through Dec. 1.
- At this point the industry is well on its way to surpass the 12.27mm ton movement figure of last year. If movement for December- May matched year-ago levels (5.629mm tons) the June 1 carry inventory would be 5.99mm tons to the next marketing year.

2012 USDA Contract Intentions Report:

Estimate	Acres	Yield	Total Tons
2012	266,000	47.74	12,700,000

A few things can be stated about the intentions for this year:

- A 12.7mm ton crop would represent a 700m ton increase from last year's actual harvested amount of 11.9mm tons. In 2011, the early October rain storms reduced the crop from the 12.2 mm tons that were anticipated. 12.7mm tons would be the second largest crop California has produced.

Questions or comments?

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- A statewide yield of 47.74 tons per acre would be another record for the industry. This would be 1.5 tons per acre higher than last year's 46.24

A 12.7mm ton crop would indicate that it appears that the industry is planning on the continued increase in movement or at least staying at current levels into the next year.

2012 Pricing Activities:

Discussions are continuing with the processors regarding establishing a price for 2012. To that end the CTGA and 6 processors will exchange offers again on January 24, 2012. This is an effort by both parties to get closer to a fair and reasonable price to 2012. The offers will be submitted to a third party and then released by the close of business on the January 24. We will be sending the results to our members the following day.

2012 Rainfall Off To A Slow Start:

Other than the early October rains, the remainder of the year has been extremely dry so far this year. The following numbers are from the National Weather Service through January 17:

	Year To Date	Last Season To Date
Sacramento	2.4 Inches	10.7 Inches
Modesto	1.9 Inches	7.6 Inches
Fresno	1.6 Inches	9.9 Inches

The amounts of rainfall for this year range from 28%-35% of normal. Due to the high amount of precipitation from last year, the reservoirs are currently at historical averages with regards to capacity. While this is good news, the snowpack for the state is at historic lows for this time of the year and much more will be needed to replenish the supply. There may be some relief in sight as the forecast does call for some pretty significant showers for this week. Let's all keep our fingers crossed.

ConAgra Agrees To Acquire Del Monte Canada:

ConAgra issued a news release on January 17, 2012 that announced it has agreed to acquire Toronto-based Del Monte Canada Inc., which is a leading provider and marketer of packaged fruits, fruit snacks and vegetables in Canada from an affiliate of Sun Capital Partners. The transaction is subject to the satisfaction of closing conditions as well as applicable regulatory reviews.

"The acquisition of Del Monte Canada supports our strategic growth plan," said Gary Rodkin, chief executive officer of ConAgra Foods. "It will grow our position in North American tomato products, expand our vegetable product line and add packaged fruit and fruit snacks to our portfolio."

Annual Meeting & Exhibit:

If you have not done so already, please register for the CTGA 65th Annual Meeting & 9th Exhibit to be held February 2, 2012 at the Double Tree Hotel in Modesto. The program will begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude at 2:00 p.m. The Exhibits will be open from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm.

The RSVP registration form follows, and outlines the program and list of exhibitors. Information is also available at www.ctga.org/CTGA-News. You can register by calling 916-925-0225 or emailing ctga@sbcglobal.net or faxing 916-925-0213. See you there!

Please join the California Tomato Growers Association in conjunction with the UC Cooperative Extension Northern SJV Processing Tomato Meeting, and Industry Speakers!

Program

7:30 am	Registration, Continuing Education
8:05 am	Education begins
9:00 am	Exhibits Open
9:30 am	Break - Visit Exhibits
9:45 am	Education resumes
11:00 am	Visit Exhibits
12:00 noon	CTGA Annual Meeting Luncheon
	-Keynote Speaker
2:00 pm	Last Opportunity to Visit Exhibits

Exhibitors

Acadian AgriTech	Greenheart Farms, Inc.	Odenburg Engineering
Actagro	Green Leaf Ag. LLC	Plant Food Systems
Ag Seeds Unlimited	J.R. Simplot Co.	PureSense Environmental
Ag Soil Amendments	Jain Irrigation, Inc.	San Joaquin Equipment
Ag World Support Systems	J.G. Parker Insurance	The Deerpoint Group
Agro-Culture Liquid Fertilizers	John Deere Water Tech	TPWC
American Ag Credit	Monsanto	Toro MIB
Amerine Systems, Inc.	NABTA International	TSL Seed Co.
Caltec Agri Marketing	Netafim USA	Yara North America
Gearmore, Inc.	Nunhems, USA	Yosemite Farm Credit

REGISTRATION FORM

COMPANY NAME _____

CONTACT PERSON _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____ FAX _____

EMAIL _____

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED BY JANUARY 27, 2012.

LUNCHEON TICKETS

Non-Members, Allied Industry and extra Lunch Tickets are available for \$35 each

Pre-payment required by January 27, 2012

Please enclose a check. We do not accept credit cards.

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