



Tomato

TOMATO BULLETIN

October 10, 2011

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Dear Tomato Growers:

October Rainfall Impacts Deliveries Throughout The State:

The first rain storm started to hit the growing areas on October 3rd and continued until October 5th. A week that was expected to produce 917m tons actually delivered 587m tons. As the storms continued some processors were able to continue processing at very low levels while some had to shut down completely. The following numbers are loads per day provided by PTAB:

	Sun 10/2	Mon 10/3	Tues 10/4	Wed 10/5	Thu 10/6	Fri 10/7	Sat 10/8
Loads	5,392	5,335	5,011	1,512	978	1,917	2,836

As you can see a total of 7,243 loads (approximately 188m tons) were processed from Wednesday-Saturday. Most growers South of Sacramento are harvesting again and are keeping an eye on the mold levels in their fields. Growers North of Sacramento received another .50 inches of rain on October 10th that has once again stopped the majority of harvest. Mold has increased slightly from 2.76% on October 1st to 3.57% on October 10 statewide. The picture below was taken on October 10th in Colusa County. As you can see, picking the remainder of this crop will be no fun for anyone.

Questions or comments?
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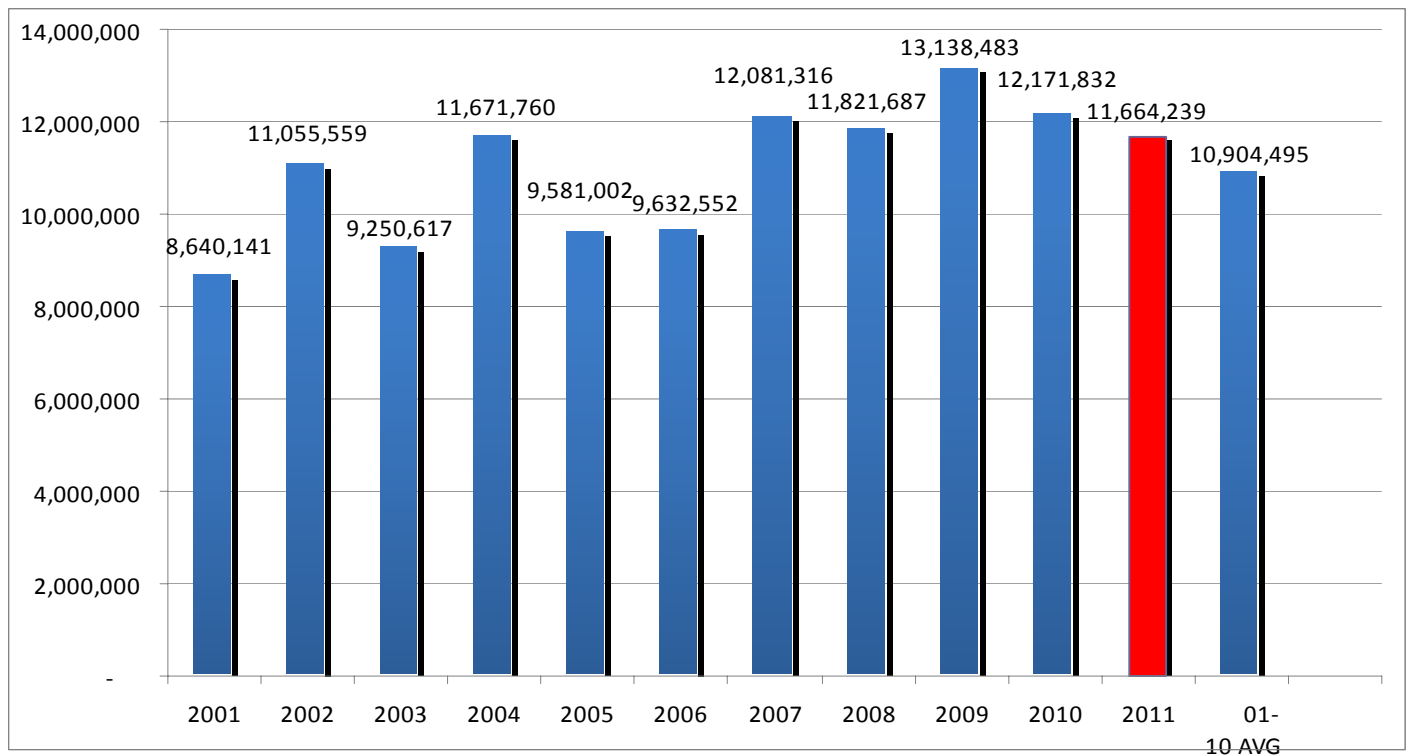


Reported rainfall since October 3rd.

- Five Points/ Huron Area .42 Inches
- Los Banos Area .89 Inches
- Tracy Area .73 Inches
- Yolo Area 1.33 Inches
- Colusa Area .95 Inches

PTAB Projects 696,108 Tons To Be Processed This Week:

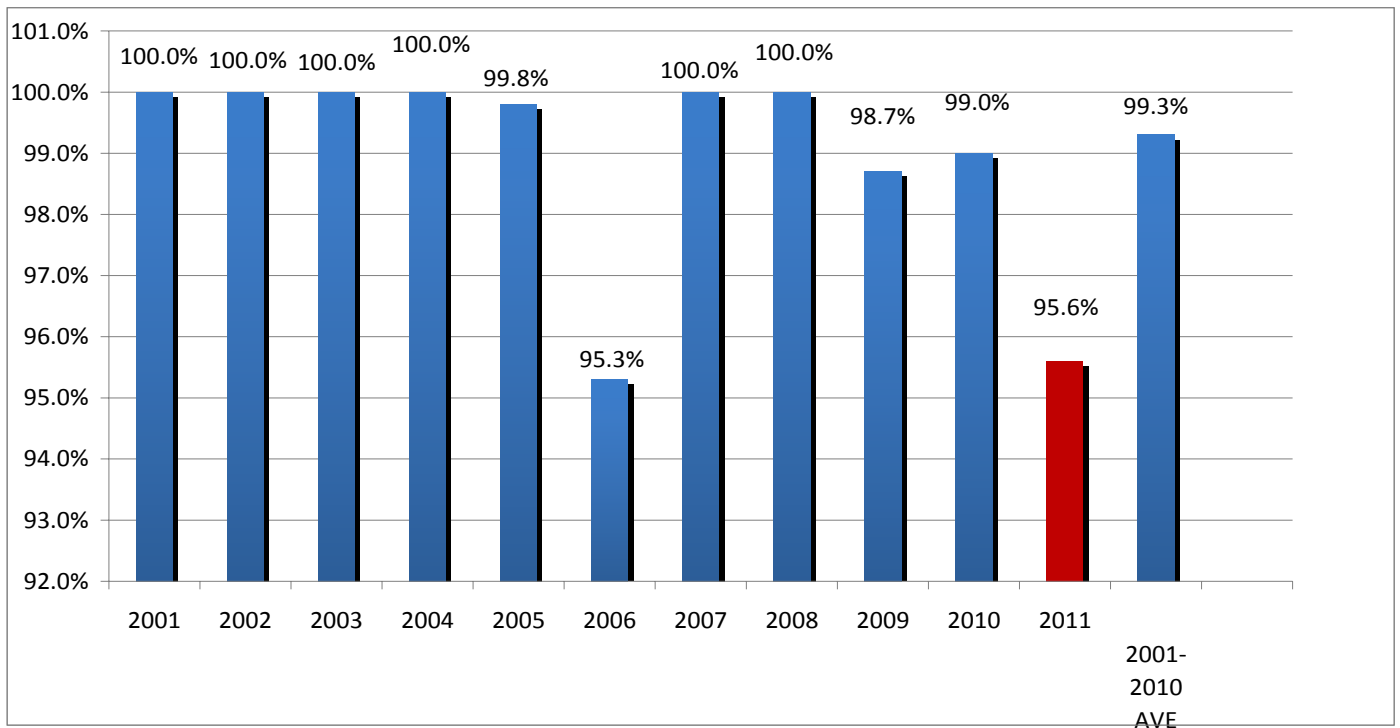
Tomato Deliveries Projected Thru OCT. 15



- The 696m tons harvested this week is in doubt given the fact that the majority of the growers North of Sacramento have lost at least a day and maybe more in the field.
- At the end of this week the industry will have at least 600m tons in order to achieve the 12.2mm ton crop intentions report.
- In areas more impacted by the rain, growers are harvesting during the day only due to the increase of moisture in the night time. This has impacted the total loads that can be picked during the week.

The following chart takes a historical look at the percent completion of harvest:

Percentage of Harvest Completed Thru OCT. 15



*The 2011 percentage is based on a 12.2mm ton crop.

- The cool wet spring that delayed the beginning of harvest continues to have us behind previous years.
- The rain events have caused at least a three day set back on the harvesting schedule.

Heinz Announces Closure Of Stockton Facility:

The facility which is located on 2800 El Dorado Street in Stockton will close on December 2nd of this year. Below is the statement from Heinz regarding the closure and relocation of production:

“Earlier this year, Heinz announced global initiatives to drive productivity and future growth, and help offset rapidly rising commodity costs to help make Heinz more competitive in a challenging and global business environment.

As part of these initiatives, Heinz has reached the difficult but necessary decision to cease production in its Stockton, Ca. facility effective December 2, 2011. The facility employs approximately 140 people and manufactures Heinz Ketchup and canned tomato products for the Foodservice business.

Production will be moved to the Fremont, Ohio; Muscatine, Iowa; and Escalon, Calif. facilities.

Heinz remains committed to continuing its leadership in both the Ketchup and tomato products categories. We are dedicated to growing these categories and are better positioned to do so with a more consolidated, more efficient and effective manufacturing footprint.

Heinz is committed to making this transition as smooth as possible for the affected employees and to working with the appropriate local and state agencies to provide separation benefits and outplacements services to them.

Heinz remains committed to the state of California, where we continue to operate four factories in the Chatsworth, Escalon, Irvine and San Diego areas.”