

Vegetables 2018 Summary

Strawberries

Total production in 2018 totaled 28.6 million cwt, up 5 percent from the 2017 total. Planted area was estimated at 49,900 acres, down 9 percent from the previous year. Area harvested, at 49,220 acres, was down 7 percent from 2017. The value of the crop totaled \$2.67 billion, 8 percent less than the previous season.

Utilized production totaled 28.6 million cwt, of which 22.9 million cwt was for the fresh market and 5.63 million cwt for processing.

In California, the largest producing State, many growers reported an increase in yields due to new varieties. Favorable weather conditions for most of the season led to increased production compared with the previous season. In Florida, growers reported warm and favorable weather conditions as well. In North Carolina, warmer weather in February resulted in earlier blooms. In the spring, a freeze event, followed by rainy weather, caused some damage to the crop.

Watermelons

Total production in 2018 totaled 39.0 million cwt, down 4 percent from the 2017 total. Planted area was estimated at 116,200 acres, up 1 percent from the previous year. Area harvested, at 111,400 acres, was up 3 percent from 2017. The value of the crop totaled \$657 million, 11 percent more than the previous season.

Utilized production totaled 38.8 million cwt, of which 38.7 million cwt was for the fresh market and 8,420 tons for processing.

In Florida, the largest producing State, the weather was dry early in the season. Beginning in late May, the amount of rainfall increased significantly, eliminating moisture deficiencies. The rainfall continued throughout the summer before dropping off in the fall. In Georgia, a cool spring led to poor pollination. Precipitation levels were initially below normal, but at levels that were sufficient for plant growth and





development. In May, significant rainfall damaged crops in some areas and increased disease pressure. Late in the summer, there were sections of the State that received excessive rainfall, affecting quality. Hurricane Michael caused extensive crop losses to the late season crop

Rapport complet :

https://agfstorage.blob.core.windows.net/misc/FP_com/2019/03/26/Vegean19.pdf

