

Dear Members,

### California

According to the 2020 California Processing Tomato Report released yesterday by NASS (attached) , contracted production for California processing tomatoes is now forecast at 11.4 million short tons (10.342 million metric tonnes), averaging 49.6 tons per acre (124 t/ha). The current forecasted production is 2.4 percent above last year's contracted production, and 5.0 percent below the May forecast (12 million short tons or 10.866 million metric tonnes). The projected harvested acreage of tomatoes grown under contract is 230,000 acres (93,077 hectares), an increase of 1.3 percent compared to 2019.

As of 22 August, 5,060,805 short tons (4,517,857 metric tonnes) had already been processed, with an additional 1,031,744 tons (920,535 metric tonnes) expected this week (see attached).

### Italy

In a press release issued yesterday (attached), the Interprofessional Organization of Industrial Tomatoes in Northern Italy (OI), announced that more than 50% of the contracted raw material has already been processed, with an average brix of 4.99. The document stated that while the production is on line with plans and previous years' averages, in *"some limited local situations, agricultural production has experienced some difficulties due to climatic anomalies and the recurrence of some episodes of Ralstonia Solancearum and red spider. Fortunately, these cases are numerically and quantitatively limited. Particularly in some limited areas the high temperatures, starting from 26 July, subjected the tomato in the fields to extreme conditions that caused the simultaneous ripening of the fruits whose harvest was scheduled for the following three weeks. This early ripening of the tomato in the field made it objectively difficult for farmers to deliver all the ripe product to industries which, in order to respond to agricultural demands, have been operating for days at their maximum production capacity."* Consequently, the OI in coordination with the Producers Organisations (PO) have asked Ministry of Agriculture to activate the measures of compensations for the planned non-collection from the fruit and vegetable as part of the EU Common Market Organisation. The Ministry has authorized *"by way of exception and limited to the current campaign, as part of the crisis prevention and management measures of the operational programs, the activation of the 'non-harvest' measure of tomatoes grown in the open field, intended for industrial processing and object of contracts stipulated between producer organizations and processing industries "*. The Emilia Romagna Region, in collaboration with the other Regions (Lombardy, Piedmont and Veneto) has activated the necessary procedures and the POs wishing to take advantage of the measure have been invited to submit to the competent Region the modification of their operational program and simultaneously notify the paying agency.

The next full WPTC crop update and world production estimate will be released on Friday 4 September.

Best regards,

Sophie Colvine

General Secretary

WPTC

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