



WORLD PROCESSING TOMATO COUNCIL

WPTC Crop update as of 2 April 2021

AMITOM countries

Egypt

We are at the end of winter crop and quality is so far good. The supplied quantity is however reduced now but it will return back to normal when the next loop starts (Nile crop) by May. Planted surfaces are the same as in 2020, but yields are higher at around 40-42 t/acre (99-104 t/ha). Colour and brix are very good too. Water is available thanks to the Nile river. No plant diseases reported.

France

A total surface of 2,477 hectares should be planted, of which 539 hectares of organics (22% of the surface, up from 16% in 2020), for an expected production of 155,000 tonnes of conventional and 25,000 tonnes of organic tomatoes, bringing the total forecast to 180,000 tonnes. Planted started last Friday and about 100 hectares should be planted in the south-east by the end of this week. Contracting for price is not yet finalized but an 8 to 10% increase is expected to c. 90 euros/t in the south-east and 80 euros/t in the South-west.

Greece

The forecast remains 460,000 tonnes. Transplanting will be starting next weekend in the south, with some delay due to the cold weather. The contract price varies between factories and regions but average about 87-88 euros/t delivered.

Hungary

2021 production forecast remains 100,000 tonnes, with no organic production. Planting should start around 26-27 April, when all risks of frosts are gone. The price increased to about 86 euros/t this year.

Italy

South – Transplanting started on 10-12 March in Caserta but temperatures were too low for good plant recovery so it stopped and restarted under better conditions on 20 March. Operations will start next week in Puglia and Lazio. The total surface planted will be confirmed by satellite survey in July. The price of tomatoes is still under discussion with the factories hoping for a reduction from last year's very high prices. Availability of water is good with the Occhito Dam at over 200 million cubic metres. The forecast remains 2.5 million tonnes for the south but could reach 2,7 million tonnes.

North – 131 contract have been signed between processors and POs with a planned areas for tomato increased by a few percentage points (3.9%) compared to those contracted last year due to the necessary reconstitution of stocks. The organic tomato crop represents about 10,5% of the total planted surface with a significant increase compared last year due to the higher demand from the market. The forecast for North Italy is confirmed in 2,8 million tonnes. After abundant rainfall and snow occurred from November until January, February and March have been without any rain, now

the soil is very dry on the surface and if it does not rain soon, it will be necessary to irrigate before transplanting. Planting operation started this week in a very small scale and will continue in a large-scale next week after Easter. POs reported some difficulties in supplying seeds of some varieties of tomato to nurseries.

The overall forecast for Italy remains 5.3 million tonnes.

Portugal

There is no change in the forecast which remains 1.4 million tonnes. Planting has started slowly. Prices vary but average about 85 euro/t delivered.

Russia

The surface planted should be increased by 10% up to 7,500 hectares. The forecast equals to the last season intentions of 550,000 tonnes of tomatoes to be processed. The situation is normal in fields with rather warm weather at the moment. No problem of water availability are currently foreseen.

Spain

Transplanting started around 15 March in Andalusia but as there is still some concerns as regards water availability in the region for this season, it not certain that all the surfaces expected will be planted. In Extremadura, where there is no issue with water, transplanting started this week. The total forecast remains 2.9 million tonnes. No estimate is available for the organic production. Contract prices average about 77-79 euros/t ex field.

Tunisia

The forecast for seasonal tomato cultivation areas is 16,000 hectares and the estimate of industrial tomato production is 1 million tonnes, of which 950,000 tonnes are intended for the production of tomato paste and 50,000 tonnes for production. of canned tomatoes. Transplanting of early varieties of tomato has started since mid-February and at the end of March, nearly 60% of the forecast areas have been completed. Climatic conditions are favorable for growing tomatoes.

Turkey

The forecast is now reduced to about 2.1 million tonnes as farmers are reluctant to plant as they lost money on the spot market last year. Contract prices are about 650 TRL/t delivered.

Other northern hemisphere countries

California

Planting is currently underway throughout the state. In January the NASS estimate was for 12.1 million short tons (10.97 million metric tonnes). At this time most believe the tonnage will be something lower than that and think it will be reflected in the May NASS update. The state continues to experience very dry conditions and water allocations have been reduced throughout the state. The 2021 price has been settled with all processors at USD 84.50 per short ton (USD 93.1 per metric tonne; 79.2 euro per metric tonne).

Other US States

Midwest & Pennsylvania estimate 500,000 short tons (453,000 metric tonnes) over 14,700 acres (5938 hectares). Planting should begin first week of May if weather permits. Current weather and moisture for Midwest U.S. is normal.

Canada

Estimated contract volumes are expected to be higher than last year, at approximately 495,000 short tons (450,000 metric tonnes). Weather permitting, planting is set to start between May 7 and 20.

China

According to the information collected, we anticipate the crop to come in at 4.8 million metric tonnes for China, the price of raw tomato in China is RMB 450-480 yuan/MT, which is RMB 30 yuan/MT (USD 4.6/t) higher than that in 2020. The weather is the same as last year.

Japan

The total volume of tomatoes to be processed is expected to be 32,000 tonnes from 460 hectares.

Southern hemisphere countries

Argentina

After some rains and hails in Mendoza, weather conditions for harvesting improved in the last week, therefore, mechanical harvesting operations are back to more normal progress. In San Juan, yields were generally higher than last year. The estimated forecast is now 540,000 tonnes for Argentina. However, the final numbers will be released in three weeks.

Australia

The first half of the harvest period in Australia was ideally dry and cooler than usual, with only low-moderate disease or insect pressure. Yields were in line with expectations and solids above 5.0 were consistently reported. Harvest was postponed on the 21st of March, due to rainfall across all growing regions; with measurements of between 27mm – 60mm recorded. The total time for harvest delay was between 7-10 days, with harvest getting well underway again this week for both of the major processors. Early reports are that the recent rainfall event has increased foliar disease pressure and harvest brix levels have dipped below 5.0, with yield losses expected to be approximately 10%. The conventional grown harvest expectation has consequently been lowered from the original estimate; however, the coming days will give a more exacting indication of how great the impact of this rain event has been on yields. The organic tomato harvest is finished and at 2,731 MT was down on the originally forecasted 5,000 MT. Water availability has been good this season, with prices dropping further last week, due to recent rainfall events.

Chile

The harvest season is now at about 75% of the total volume and should hopefully last until the end of April. The weather has been ok with no rains since the end of January which affected the volume expected by 5 to 10%. The final numbers will be clear in 3 weeks, so for now the forecast remains 1.13 million tonnes,

Peru

The harvest was good and the final volume is 120,000 tonnes as per forecast.

South Africa

The production in South Africa is expected to total 150,000 tonnes of which 40,000 tonnes in the Lutzville area and 110,000 tonnes in the Musina Area.



WPTC World production estimate of tomatoes for processing
(in 1000 metric tonnes)

Date of last update: 02/04/2021

		2019		2020		2021		AVERAGE	VARIATION	
		FINAL		FINAL		FORECAST		2018-2020	2021 vs 2020	
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE*	MEMBERS IN MEDITERRANEAN AREA (AMITOM)	Algeria**	800	Mem.	800	Est.	800	Est.	700	0%
		Egypt	400	Mem.	420	Mem.	440	Mem.	407	5%
		France	154	Mem.	136	Mem.	180	Mem.	143	32%
		Greece	400	Mem.	420	Mem.	460	Mem.	380	10%
		Hungary**	100	Mem.	82	Mem.	100	Mem.	96	22%
		Iran**	1 650	Mem.	1 300	Mem.	1 300	Est.	1 233	0%
		Israel	200	Mem.	200	Mem.	200	Est.	200	0%
		Italy	4 801	Mem.	5 166	Mem.	5 300	Mem.	4 872	3%
		Malta**	8	Est.	8	Est.	8	Est.	8	0%
		Portugal***	1 410	Mem.	1 262	Mem.	1 400	Mem.	1 290	11%
		Russia**	552	Mem.	515	Mem.	550	Mem.	521	7%
		Spain***	3 200	Mem.	2 650	Mem.	2 900	Mem.	2 883	9%
		Syria**	42	Mem.	42	Est.	40	Est.	42	-5%
		Tunisia	815	Mem.	961	Mem.	1 000	Mem.	798	4%
		Turkey	2 200	Mem.	2 500	Mem.	2 100	Mem.	2 000	-16%
Ukraine**	720	Mem.	800	Mem.	800	Mem.	752	0%		
Subtotal AMITOM		17 452		17 262		17 578		16 078	2%	
of which members in EU		10 073		9 724		10 348		10 033	6%	
OTHER MEMBERS	Brazil	1 200	Mem.	1 421	Mem.	1 480	Mem.	1 340	4,2%	
	Canada	434	Mem.	438	Mem.	450	Mem.	441	3%	
	California	10 144	Mem.	10 258	Mem.	10 970	Mem.	10 513	7%	
	China	4 600	Mem.	5 800	Mem.	4 800	Mem.	4 733	-17%	
	Japan	27	Mem.	23	Mem.	32	Mem.	26	39%	
	Subtotal Other Members	16 405		17 940		17 732		17 054	-1,2%	
NON MEMBERS	Bulgaria	40	Misc.	40	Est.	40	Est.	37	0%	
	Czech Republic	25	Est.	25	Est.	25	Est.	25	0%	
	Morocco	130	Est.	100	Misc.	100	Est.	120	0%	
	Poland	175	Misc.	175	Est.	175	Est.	183	0%	
	Slovakia	20	Est.	20	Est.	20	Est.	20	0%	
	USA excluding California	370	Misc.	463	Misc.	453	Misc.	414	-2%	
	Subtotal Non Members	760		823		813		799	-1%	
Total Northern Hemisphere		34 617		36 025		36 123		34 178	0,3%	
of which WPTC members		33 857		35 202		35 310		33 378	0,3%	
of which European Union		10 333		9 984		10 608		9 937	6,3%	
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE*	MEMBERS	Argentina	395	Mem.	454	Mem.	540	Mem.	437	14,9%
		Australia	212	Mem.	210	Mem.	248	Mem.	208	-0,9%
		Chile	1 100	Mem.	907	Mem.	1 130	Mem.	1 130	-17,5%
		Peru	100	Mem.	100	Mem.	120	Mem.	103	0,0%
		South Africa	140	Mem.	150	Mem.	150	Mem.	152	7,1%
	Subtotal members	1 947		1 821		2 188		1 956	20,2%	
	NON MEMBERS	Dominican Republic	258	Est.	181	Misc.	227	Misc.	232	25,4%
		India	154	Misc.	152	Misc.	155	Misc.	150	2,0%
		Mexico	40	Est.	40	Est.	40	Est.	40	0,0%
		New Zealand	50	Est.	50	Est.	50	Est.	50	0,0%
		Senegal	77	Misc.	73	Misc.	73	Est.	68	0,0%
Thailand		43	Misc.	40	Misc.	40	Misc.	42	0,0%	
Venezuela	20	Est.	20	Est.	20	Est.	20	0,0%		
Subtotal non members	642		556		605		601	8,8%		
Total Southern Hemisphere		2 589		2 377		2 793		2 558	17,5%	
GENERAL TOTAL		37 206		38 402		38 916		36 735	1,3%	
of which members of the WPTC		35 804		37 023		37 498		35 335	1,3%	
WPTC as percentage of total production		96%		96%		96%		96%	-0,1%	

Sources:

Mem.= WPTC members, Off.= Official data, Misc.= Other sources (industry contacts, press, ...), Est.= WPTC estimate, in the absence of reliable data

Notes:

*Hemispheres are not defined in the strict geographic sense but as Northern Hemisphere: crop period mainly July to December & Southern Hemisphere: crop period mainly January to June

** AMITOM associate members

*** Tomatoes produced in Portugal but processed in Spain are reported in Spain

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