

Fresh Market Tomato Fact Sheet

<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/HortBiz/>

Production

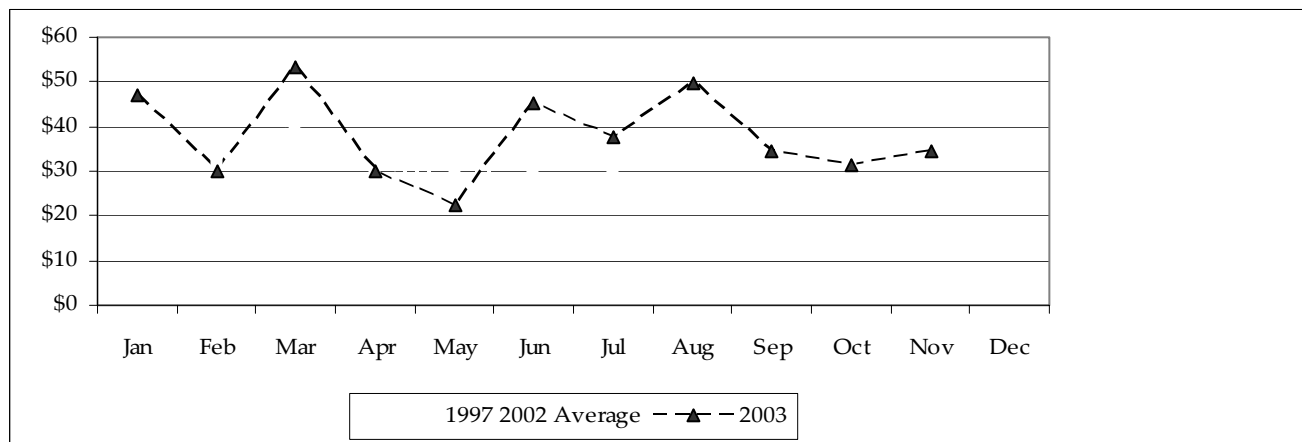
- Tomatoes remain one of the most profitable and popular crop alternatives in KY
- U.S. field-grown tomatoes face increased competition from both domestic and import hothouse varieties
- Fresh tomato prices were up sharply due to supply and production problems in 2003

U.S. Fresh Market Tomato Production Data (USDA/ERS)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Area Harvested	120,640	115,190	121,710	132,880	123,170	124,250	124,900
Yield Per Acre (cwt)	279	285	268	276	306	286	299
Production (1,000 cwt)	33,634	32,777	32,628	36,735	37,665	35,527	37,302
Value per Cwt	\$28.16	\$31.74	\$35.24	\$25.89	\$30.79	\$30.40	\$31.39
Total Value (\$1,000)	\$947,031	\$1,040,382	\$1,149,713	\$951,046	\$1,159,590	\$1,080,166	\$1,170,922

Source: USDA/ERS

U.S. Fresh Market Tomatoes F.o.b. Shipping Point Prices (\$/cwt)



Source: USDA/ERS

Fresh tomato shipping-point prices hit decade highs for much of the 2003 summer

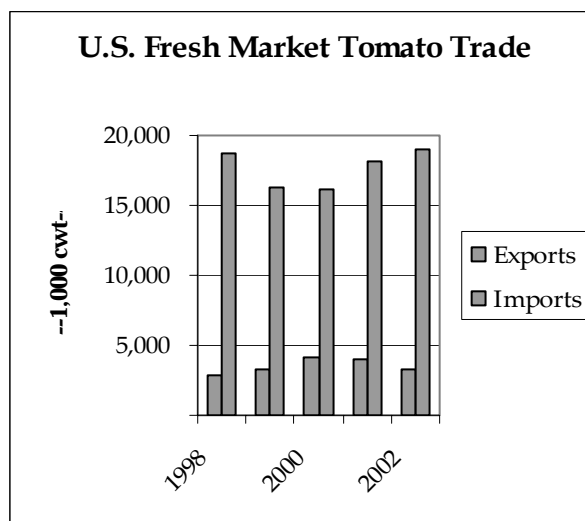
About 650 acres of tomatoes were grown in Kentucky in 2002, with a 4% increase anticipated for 2003

Greenhouse tomato production also expanded in Kentucky during the 2003 season

TRADE DATA

- Mexico is the largest international source for fresh market tomatoes to the U.S.
- A Census Bureau HS import code for greenhouse tomatoes was added in July 2000

Source: USDA/ERS



2003 KY Staked Fresh Tomato Breakeven Prices

	-----yield per acre-----							
25# boxes per acre	1,450	1,500	1,550	1,600	1,650	1,700	1,750	1,800
\$/box*	\$ 7.15	\$ 6.95	\$ 6.76	\$ 6.58	\$ 6.42	\$ 6.26	\$ 6.11	\$ 5.98

*Price required for \$0 to land, capital and management

Source: UK Vegetable Budget Updates

Information Sources

USDA/ERS Tomatoes Briefing Room
 USDA Vegetable and Melons Report
 UF Marketing Information System
 UK Horticulture Budgets
 NASS Vegetable Reports

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/tomatoes/>
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/vgs/>
<http://mids.ifas.ufl.edu/>
<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/HortBiz/pubs.html>
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/fruit/pvg-bban/>

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