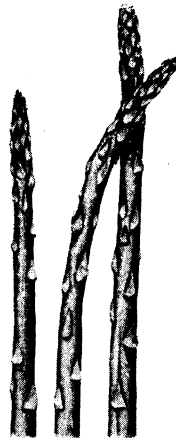


MARKETING CALIFORNIA

ASPARAGUS

1985



FEDERAL-STATE MARKET NEWS SERVICE

United States
Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Market News Branch

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Department of Food & Agriculture
Division of Marketing Services
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P R E F A C E

This publication summarizes available data and information on marketing California asparagus during the 1985 calendar year and includes statistical tabulations for the fresh market and processed portions of the crop. Data are included on fresh market distribution and wholesale values as well as shipping point prices. These statistical records reflect the supply and demand factors that affected the marketing of the 1985 crop.

Data were compiled from various printed reports provided by the Federal-State Market News Service, Crop Reporting Board, Economics and Statistics Service of the USDA; American Frozen Food Institute, Burlingame, California; National Food Processors Association, Washington, D.C.; and the California Asparagus Growers Association, Stockton, California. We wish to acknowledge and thank these agencies for the data and information furnished by them and used to complete this publication.

Price quotations shown in this summary reflect prices charged by primary shippers at shipping point and wholesalers at terminal markets for the principal packs, varieties, grades and sizes. Prices are for stock of generally good quality and conditions. Price ranges are shown for the majority of sales as reported. Occasional small volume sales, sales of fair or poor quality lots, and labels sold at extreme prices were omitted from this summary in order to clearly reflect general market trends.

Preparation of this summary was made by personnel of the Federal-State Market News Service and includes contributions by Linnis Edwards and Valerie Price at Stockton, Jack R. Kloth at El Centro, and David E. Vassar and Julie Hollingshead at Sacramento.

Additional copies of this summary are available at \$2.00 per copy. Checks can be made payable to the **Department of Food and Agriculture** and mailed to the following address.

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Note: Current prices and shipment information on asparagus is available from the "California Tender Vegetables, Asparagus and Sweetpotatoes Report" issued by the Stockton Market News Service office, and the "Western Desert Vegetable Report" issued by the El Centro Market News Service office.

Released February 1986

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Table No.</u>		<u>Page No.</u>
	Preface	3
	Summary of the 1985 Season.	5
	District Shipping Point Trends.	5-7
	Chart: California Shipping Periods By District for Fresh Market Asparagus Calendar Year 1985	8
1.	Fresh Market Asparagus Shipments, By Origin, By Carrier, By Month, 1985	9
2.	Fresh Market Asparagus Shipments from California Districts, By Carrier, By Month, 1985.	10
3.	Arrivals of Fresh Market Asparagus at the 22 Major U.S. and 5 Canadian Cities, By Origin, By Carrier, 1985	11
4.	F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices for Asparagus from the Imperial-Coachella Valleys and Mexican Imports Through Calexico, California, 1985	12
5.	F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices for Asparagus from Salinas District, 1985	13
6.	F.O.B. Shipping Point Prices for Asparagus from Stockton Delta District, 1985	14
7.	Wholesale Market Prices for California Asparagus at Los Angeles and San Francisco, By Weeks, 1985.	15
8.	Wholesale Market Prices for California Asparagus at Boston, Chicago, and New York, Each Monday, 1985	16
9.	Production, Price and Crop Value of California Asparagus By Utilization, 1983-1985.	17
10.	Canned Green Asparagus, U.S. Supply Stocks and Shipments, 1983-1985.	17
11.	Canned Green Asparagus Pack, By Container, 1985.	17
12.	Frozen Asparagus Packed in the U.S., By Style and By Container Size Classification, 1981-1984	17

MARKETING CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS

Summary of the 1985 Season

New record highs in production and crop value were established as both average yields and fresh market prices increased 12%. Total production reached 98.6 million pounds, well above the previous record of 91.5 million pounds produced in 1978. The second consecutive mild winter and spring boosted statewide average yields to 1.4 tons per acre. The increased yields were concentrated in the southern desert valleys where harvested acreage also increased 34%.

Fresh market prices averaged \$83.30 per hundredweight, only slightly below the record of \$83.70 per hundredweight set during the short crop year of 1983. Processing prices averaged \$38.85 per hundredweight, down 6% from 1984 as diversion to freezers and canners jumped 44% to 8,400 tons. Total crop value reached \$74.7 million.

Fresh market shipments rose nearly 11% as all districts except the Stockton Delta reported higher volume. California continued to be the nation's leading supplier with over 70% of the total domestic supply. Mexico replaced Washington as the second leading supplier with nearly 16 million pounds, an increase of 33% over 1984. A wet, cool spring in Washington decreased fresh market shipments by 27% to just over 15.25 million pounds.

1985 HIGHLIGHTS COMPARED WITH 1984

HARVESTED ACREAGE - STATEWIDE, ALL USES	
35,300	vs. 34,200 + 3.2%
YIELD PER ACRE (Hundredweight)	
28	vs. 25 + 12.0%
TOTAL PRODUCTION (Hundredweight)	
986,000	vs. 855,000 + 15.3%
UTILIZATION (Hundredweight)	
FRESH MARKET	818,000 vs. 739,000 + 10.7%
PROCESSING	168,000 vs. 118,000 + 44.8%
SEASON AVERAGE PRICE (Dollars per hundredweight)	
75.70	vs. 69.90 + 8.3%
AVERAGE PRICE BY UTILIZATION (Dollars per hundredweight)	
FRESH MARKET	83.30 vs. 74.40 +12.0%
PROCESSING	38.85 vs. 41.50 - 6.4%
CROP VALUE, BY UTILIZATION (Dollars)	
FRESH MARKET	68,139,000 vs. 54,982,000 + 23.9%
PROCESSING	6,527,000 vs. 4,814,000 + 35.6%
TOTAL	74,666,000 vs. 59,796,000 + 24.9%

FRESH MARKET SHIPMENTS (10,000 pound units)
7,897 vs. 7,144 + 10.5%

FRESH MARKET ARRIVALS AT 22 MAJOR U.S. AND 5
CANADIAN CITIES (10,000 pound units)
3,768 vs. 3,477 + 8.4%

MAJOR MARKETS FOR CALIFORNIA SHIPMENTS (10,000
pound units)

S.F. - OAKLAND	692	vs.	630	+ 10%
N.Y. - NEWARK	549	vs.	628	- 13%
PHILADELPHIA	394	vs.	274	+ 44%
LOS ANGELES	389	vs.	418	- 7%
BOSTON	359	vs.	310	+ 16%
CHICAGO	275	vs.	188	+ 46%

FRESH MARKET IMPORTS FROM MEXICO (10,000 pound units)
1,586 vs. 1,194 + 33%

DISTRICT SHIPPING POINT TRENDS

STOCKTON DELTA: Light shipments began February 23 compared to February 15 in 1984. Harvested acreage totaled 22,554 acres, down 684 acres from 1984.

During March, movement was fairly light due to cool temperatures. The first f.o.b. prices were quoted on March 18 when 30 pound pyramid cartons or crates were quoted at \$30.00 for large and \$29.00 for standard; demand was fairly good. Rains late in the month forced some shippers to curtail harvesting and demand exceeded supply for all sizes. Prices held steady.

Demand was generally light during April. Prices declined by mid-month to \$14.50-15.00 for both large and standard sizes. Movement increased sharply compared to the previous month. The peak shipment week for the season was April 7-13 when a total of 231,300 cartons and crates were shipped by truck and rail-truck. Prices at the end of the month were \$15.00 for both large and standard.

Shipments began their seasonal decline during May and prices held about steady. The final f.o.b. price was quoted on May 21. There was practically no demand and prices lowered to \$13.00-15.00 for large and \$13.00-14.00 for standard. Very light shipments continued through June.

The fall harvest started the last week of August and continued until late October with 12,300 cartons and crates shipped.

SALINAS VALLEY: Total harvested acreage for 1985 was 3,851 acres, an increase of 417 acres over 1984. Movement started February 20 compared to January 30 last year. Shipments were very light during February and March as cool and unsettled weather conditions prevailed until early April.

The first f.o.b. prices were quoted on March 18 with large and standard sizes at \$32.00 for thirty pound pyramid cartons and crates; demand was fairly good. On March 28-29 demand exceeded supply but prices remained unchanged. Movement increased sharply during April. Peak shipment week was April 7-13 when a total of 63,300 cartons and crates were packed. Demand for the first part of the month was light. Prices lowered to \$14.00-16.00 for large and standard. On April 18-19, demand exceeded supply and prices moved up to \$16.00-18.00 for both sizes.

Supplies were fairly light during May due to cool temperatures. Most shippers were running heavy to the large size with few standard. Consequently, shippers were able to sell the smaller size at a higher price. Demand for the first half of May was fairly good with prices ranging \$16.00-18.00 on large. Standard, due to short supply, was mostly \$18.00. Prices lowered during the last half of May under a light demand with large at \$14.00 and standard \$14.00-16.00.

Final f.o.b prices were quoted June 7 with large at \$16.00 and standard from \$16.00-18.00. Final shipments were recorded June 24.

IMPERIAL COACHELLA VALLEYS AND MEXICO

IMPORTS THROUGH CALEXICO: Bearing acreage in the Southern California desert area (Imperial and Coachella Valleys) was up approximately 34% from last year. Yields averaged higher. Prices averaged slightly higher. In the Imperial Valley, approximately 76% was packed loose in pyramid crates while 24% was bunch packed or loose packed in 1/2 pyramid cartons. Most of the 1/2 pyramid cartons were packed early in the season when prices were highest. In the Coachella Valley, most supplies were packed loose in 1/2 pyramid cartons.

Bearing acreage in the Southern California desert area totaled around 5,818 acres compared with 4,335 in 1984. This included around 2,500 acres in Imperial Valley, 2,718 in Coachella Valley and 600 in Palo Verde Valley. Last year acreage in Imperial Valley was around 2,100 acres and in Coachella Valley 2,235 acres. This was the first year of production in the Palo Verde Valley.

The average yield per acre was estimated to be around 1.31 tons or 87 thirty pound crates in Imperial Valley and 1.28 tons or 85 thirty pound crates in Coachella Valley. This compares with last year's yield of 1.08 tons or 72 thirty pound crates in both the Imperial and Coachella Valleys. Acreage and yield figures for the Mexicali Valley of Mexico were not obtained.

Production from the Southern California desert area totaled around 454,427 thirty pound crates including 222,427 from Imperial Valley and 232,000 for Coachella Valley. The Coachella Valley shipments included around 35,000 crates shipped from Blythe. This compares with the total last year of 311,760 thirty pound crates including 150,624 from Imperial Valley and 161,136 from Coachella Valley. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Plant Protection and Quarantine Service, there were around 10,783,569 pounds or the equivalent of 359,452 thirty pound crates of asparagus from Mexico crossing through the Calexico port of entry to California. This compares with 7,910,918 pounds or the equivalent of 263,697 thirty pound crates last year.

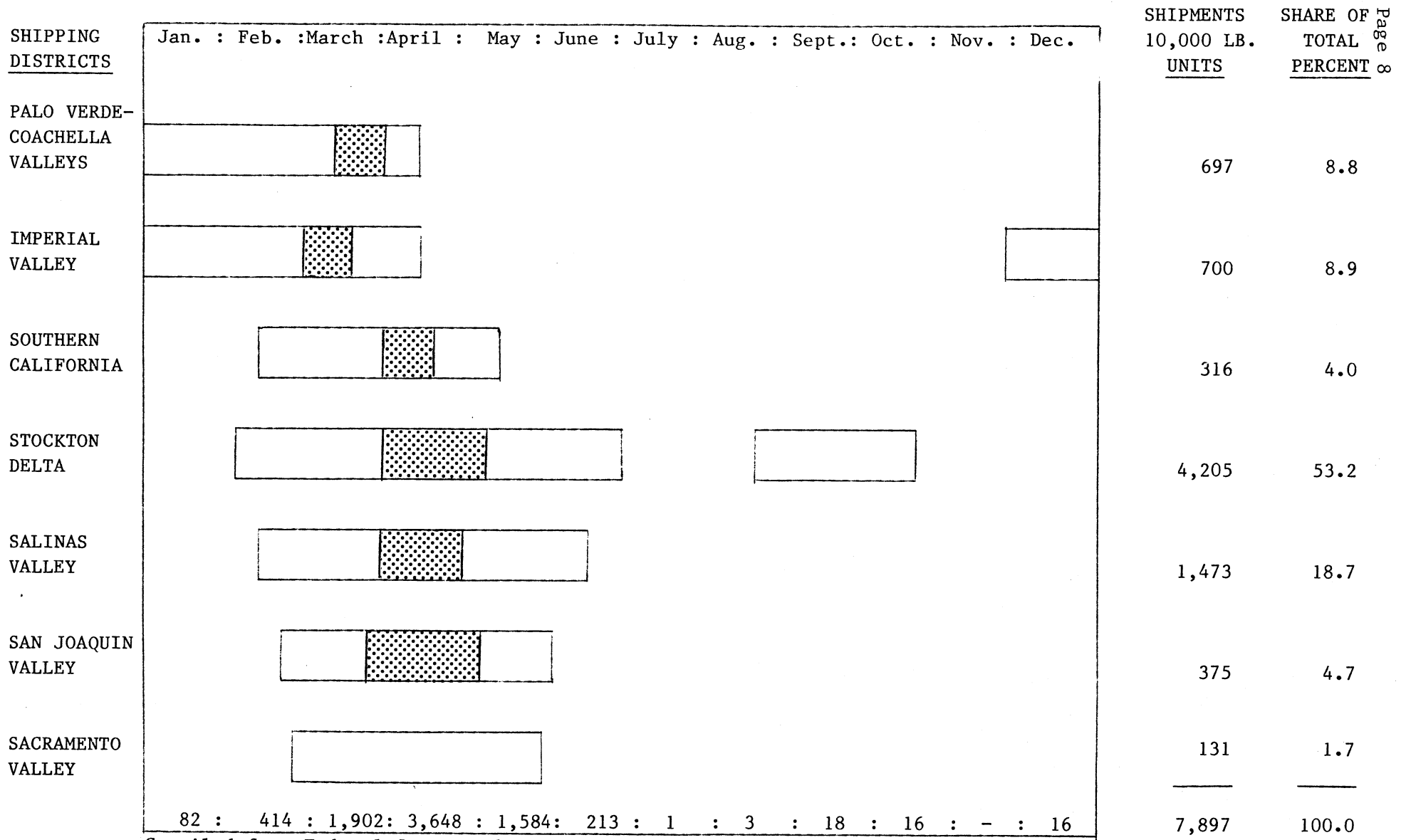
Very light harvest began in both the Imperial and Coachella Valleys in late December. The first crossings from Mexico through Calexico were on December 30. Movement from all three sections was heaviest during the latter part of February through March. Peak shipment day in Imperial Valley was March 11 when around 7,000 thirty pound crates were shipped. High days in Coachella Valley were March 13-14 and 18 when around 7,000 thirty pound crates were shipped each day. Peak day of imports crossing through Calexico was March 3 when 237,460 pounds or the equivalent of nearly 8,000 thirty

pound crates crossed. Final shipments from Imperial Valley were on April 11, six days earlier than last year. Final shipments from the Coachella Valley were on April 12, seven days later than last year. The last crossings from Mexico through Calexico were on April 13, twelve days earlier than last year. Some production in Mexico was diverted to cannery beginning about March 14.

Shipping point prices were reported from February 25 through April 5. The marketing pattern followed most past seasons. Prices were highest early in the season. Lowest prices were at the end of the season. Quotations for thirty pound

pyramid crates, green, loose, large on Monday February 25 were \$38.00-40.00 but by mid-week were down to \$32.00-34.00. This was a satisfying trading level and trading increased. The market held about steady with the majority of sales at \$32.00 through March 15. Prices eased slightly lower on March 18 to range \$30.00-32.00. This price level was maintained through April 2. Demand turned lighter and by April 4 the market was down to \$22.00-24.00, the lowest of the season. By this time, most growers were in the process of finishing the season. The simple average price for the season for pyramid crates, green, loose large was \$31.35, standard \$29.60 and small \$26.37.

CALIFORNIA SHIPPING PERIODS BY DISTRICT FOR FRESH MARKET ASPARAGUS CALENDAR YEAR 1985



Most active shipping period.

Compiled from Federal-State Market News Service shipment data.

TABLE 1.

FRESH MARKET ASPARAGUS SHIPMENTS, BY ORIGIN, BY CARRIER, BY MONTH, 1985 ^{a/}

Origin and Carrier	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	<u>10,000 pound units</u>												
<u>California</u>													
Air	-	-	13	18	21	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Piggyback Van	-	-	-	70	54	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	130
Truck	82	414	1,889	3,560	1,509	204	1	3	18	16	-	16	7,712
Total	82	414	1,902	3,648	1,584	213	1	3	18	16	-	16	7,897
<u>Arizona</u>													
Truck	7	14	36	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
<u>Washington</u>													
Truck	-	-	-	258	759	509	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,526
<u>Imports</u>													
Argentina	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11	-	13
Chile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	45	10	62
Air	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	28	18	68
Boat	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	-	-	2	1	-	-	11	-	9	7	1	-	31
Air	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Truck	52	291	682	101	1	-	-	126	182	94	11	14	1,554
New Zealand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	6
Air	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	63	92	684	102	1	-	11	126	181	123	97	46	1,736
<u>Total Domestic Supply</u>	152	720	2,622	4,021	2,344	722	12	129	209	139	97	60	11,229

Compiled from shipment records provided by the Transportation Reports Section, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Market News Branch, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.
^{a/} December data preliminary.

TABLE 2.

FRESH MARKET ASPARAGUS SHIPMENTS FROM CALIFORNIA DISTRICTS, BY CARRIER, BY MONTH, 1985

District and Carrier	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	<u>10,000 pound units</u>												
<u>Imperial Valley</u>													
Truck	42	183	387	69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	697
<u>Palo Verde - Coachella Valleys</u>													
Truck	40	177	393	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	700
<u>South Coast</u>													
Truck	-	22	102	169	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	316
<u>Central & Southern San Joaquin Valley</u>													
Truck	-	-	100	213	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	375
<u>Salinas Valley</u>													
Air	-	-	13	18	21	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Piggyback Van	-	-	-	30	22	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Truck	-	14	244	635	379	91	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,363
Total	-	14	257	683	425	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,473
<u>Stockton Delta</u>													
Piggyback Van	-	-	-	40	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
Truck	-	18	640	2,310	1,011	113	1	3	18	16	-	-	4,130
Total	-	18	640	2,350	1,044	116	1	3	18	16	-	-	4,205
<u>Sacramento Valley</u>													
Truck	-	-	23	74	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	131
<u>California Total</u>													
Air	-	-	13	18	21	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Piggyback Van	-	-	-	70	54	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	130
Truck	82	414	1,889	3,560	1,509	204	1	3	18	16	-	16	7,712
Total	82	414	1,902	3,648	1,584	213	1	3	18	16	-	16	7,897

Compiled from shipment data collected at Federal-State Market News Service offices in California.

TABLE 3. ARRIVALS OF FRESH MARKET ASPARAGUS AT THE 22 MAJOR U.S. AND 5 CANADIAN CITIES, BY ORIGIN, BY CARRIER, 1985

City	California		N.J.	Wash	Canada	Chile		Mexico		New Zealand	Other a/	Total
	Vans	Truck		Truck		Air	Boat	Air	Truck	Air		
<u>10,000 pound units</u>												
EASTERN												
Atlanta, Ga.	-	35	-	-	-	-	1	-	54	-	-	90
Balt., Md.-Wash., D.C.	-	218	6	28	-	-	11	-	59	-	-	322
Boston, Mass.	4 b/	355	4	153	-	1	27	-	28	-	2	574
Buffalo, N.Y.	-	75	2	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	82
Cincinnati, Oh.	-	75	-	9	-	-	3	-	33	-	1	121
Columbia, S.C.	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	7
Detroit, Mich.	-	67	-	12	-	-	6	-	41	-	10 c/	136
N.Y., N.Y.-Newark, N.J.	15 b/	534	15	39	-	142	32	17	42	-	5	841
Philadelphia, Pa.	6	388	18	101	-	1	11	2	30	-	6	563
Pittsburgh, Pa.	-	49	1	9	-	-	4	-	2	-	1	66
Total	25	1,801	46	354	-	144	95	19	293	-	25	2,802
WESTERN												
Chicago, Ill.	88	187	-	3	-	1	-	-	30	1	15 d/	325
Dallas, Tex.	-	46	-	10	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	82
Denver, Colo.	-	98	-	2	-	-	-	-	5	-	16 e/	121
Los Angeles, Calif.	-	389	-	22	-	4	3	3	116	14	3	554
New Orleans, La.	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	25
St. Louis, Mo.	-	91	-	2	-	-	2	-	16	-	1	112
San. Fran.-Oakland, Calif.	-	692	-	65	-	-	-	-	59	10	4	830
Seattle-Tacoma, Wash.	-	77	-	147	-	-	1	-	40	-	-	265
Total	88	1,604	-	251	-	5	6	3	293	25	39	2,314
TOTAL U.S.	113	3,405	46	605	-	149	101	22	586	25	64	5,116
CANADA f/												
Montreal, Que.	-	39	14	13	42	-	-	-	1	-	-	109
Ottawa, Ont.	-	19	-	-	10	-	-	-	3	-	-	32
Toronto, Ont.	-	116	-	6	46	-	-	-	5	-	-	173
Vancouver, B.C.	-	66	-	35	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	105
Winnipeg, Man.	-	10	-	54	14	-	-	-	6	-	-	30
Total	-	250	14	54	116	-	-	-	15	-	-	449
TOTAL U.S. & CANADA	113	3,655	60	659	116	149	101	22	601	25	64	5,565

Compiled from arrival data provided by the Transportation Reports Section, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Market News Branch, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

a/ Includes Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Netherlands, Ohio, Peru.

b/ Includes 1 air.

c/ Michigan.

d/ Includes Illinois 10.

e/ Colorado

f/ Complete through October.

TABLE 4.

**F.O.B. SHIPPING POINT PRICES FOR ASPARAGUS FROM THE IMPERIAL-COACHELLA
VALLEYS AND MEXICAN IMPORTS THROUGH CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA, 1985**

Date	Pyramid Crates/Cartons - Loose Pack, 30 lbs.			1/2 Pyramid Cartons/Crates - Loose Pack, 15 lbs.		
	Large	Standard	Small	Large	Standard	Small
<u>Dollars per container</u>						
Feb. 25	38.00-40.00	36.00-38.00	32.00-34.00	19.00-20.00	18.00	14.00-15.00
26	35.00-36.00	32.00-34.00	28.00-30.00	18.00-19.00	16.00-18.00	14.00-15.00
27	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	17.00-18.00	16.00-17.00	13.00-14.00
28	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	17.00-18.00	16.00	13.00-14.00
Mar. 1	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	16.00-17.00	15.00-16.00	13.00-14.00
4	32.00-33.00	30.00-32.00	26.00-28.00	16.00	15.00-16.00	13.00-14.00
5	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	26.00-28.00	16.00-17.00	15.00-16.00	13.00-14.00
6	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	26.00-28.00	16.00-18.00	15.00-18.00	13.00-14.00
7	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	26.00-28.00	16.00-18.00	15.00-18.00	13.00-15.00
8	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	26.00-28.00	16.00-18.00	15.00-18.00	13.00-15.00
11	32.00-34.00	30.00-32.00	28.00	16.00-17.00	15.00	13.00-14.00
12	30.00-33.00	30.00-32.00	26.00-28.00	16.00	15.00	13.00-14.00
13	30.00-33.00	30.00-32.00	26.00-28.00	15.00-16.00	14.00-15.00	13.00-14.00
14	30.00-33.00	30.00-32.00	25.00-28.00	15.00-16.00	14.00-15.00	13.00
15	30.00-33.00	30.00-32.00	25.00-28.00	15.00-16.00	14.00-15.00	12.00-13.00
18	30.00-32.00	28.00-32.00	25.00-26.00	15.00	14.00-15.00	12.00-13.00
19	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-26.00	15.00	14.00	12.00-13.00
20	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-26.00	15.00	14.00	12.00-13.00
21	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-26.00	15.00	14.00	12.00-13.00
22	30.00-32.00	29.00-30.00	25.00-26.00	15.00	14.00	12.00-13.00
25	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-26.00			
26	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-26.00			
27	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-26.00			
28	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-26.00			
29	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-27.00			
Apr. 1	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-27.00			
2	30.00-32.00	28.00-30.00	25.00-27.00			
3	28.00-32.00	26.00-30.00	24.00-26.00			
4	22.00-24.00	22.00-24.00	20.00-22.00			
5	22.00-24.00	21.00-23.00	18.00-22.00			

Compiled from f.o.b. reports issued by the Federal-State Market News Service office at El Centro, California.

TABLE 5. F.O.B. SHIPPING POINT PRICES FOR ASPARAGUS FROM
SALINAS DISTRICT, 1985

Date	Demand	30 Lb. Pyramid Crates or Cartons			
		Jumbo	Large	Standard	
<u>Dollars per container a/</u>					
Mar.	18	Fairly Good	32.00-34.00	32.00	32.00
	19	Fairly Good	32.00	30.00-32.00	30.00-32.00
	20	Good	32.00	30.00-32.00	30.00-32.00
	21	Very Good	32.00	32.00	32.00
	22	Very Good	32.00	32.00	32.00
	25	Good	32.00	32.00	32.00
	26	Jumbo Fairly Light, Others Good	30.00-32.00	32.00	32.00
	27	Very Good	32.00	32.00	32.00
	28	Exceeds Supply	32.00	32.00	32.00
	29	Exceeds Supply	32.00	32.00	32.00
Apr.	1	Good	32.00	32.00	32.00
	2	Fairly Light	30.00-32.00	30.00-32.00	30.00-32.00
	3	Very Light	26.00	26.00	26.00
	4	Light	22.00	22.00	22.00
	5	Light	22.00	22.00	22.00
	8	Light	18.00-20.00	18.00-20.00	18.00-20.00
	9	Light	18.00	18.00	18.00-20.00
	10	Fairly Light	16.00-18.00	18.00	18.00
	11	Light	16.00-17.00	16.00-17.00	16.00-18.00
	12	Jumbo Fairly Light, Others Fairly Good	14.00-16.00	16.00	16.00
	15	Fairly Good	14.00-15.00	14.00-16.00	14.00-16.00
	16	Jumbo Fairly Light, Others Good	14.00	14.00-16.00	14.00-16.00
	17	Jumbo Fairly Good, Others Very Good	14.00	16.00	16.00
	18	Exceeds Supply	14.00-16.00	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00
	19	Exceeds Supply	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00
	22	Jumbo Fairly Good, Others Good	20.00-22.00	20.00-22.00	22.00
	23	Fairly Good	20.00	20.00-22.00	22.00
	24	Very Light	18.00	18.00	18.00-20.00
	25	Very Light	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	18.00
	26	Fairly Good	16.00	16.00	16.00-18.00
	29	Light	16.00	16.00	16.00-18.00
	30	Fairly Light	16.00	16.00	16.00-18.00
May	1	Fairly Good	16.00	16.00	16.00-18.00
	2	Very Good	16.00	16.00	18.00
	3	Very Good	18.00	18.00	18.00
	6	Fairly Good	18.00-20.00	18.00-20.00	20.00
	7	Fairly Good	18.00	18.00	20.00
	8	Fairly Good	18.00	16.00-18.00	18.00-20.00
	9	Standard Fairly Good, Others Fairly Light	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	18.00-20.00
	10	Fairly Good	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	18.00-20.00
	13	Fairly Light	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	18.00
	14	Fairly Light	16.00-18.00	16.00	18.00
	15	Fairly Light	16.00-18.00	16.00	18.00
	16	Light	16.00-18.00	16.00	16.00-18.00
	17	Very Light	16.00-18.00	16.00	16.00-18.00
	20	Very Light	16.00-18.00	16.00	16.00
	21	Very Light	16.00-18.00	16.00	16.00
	22	Fairly Light	16.00	14.00-16.00	16.00
	23	Fairly Light	16.00	14.00-16.00	16.00
	24	Fairly Light	14.00-16.00	14.00-16.00	16.00
	27	HOLIDAY			
	28	Light	14.00-16.00	14.00-16.00	16.00
	29	Very Light	14.00-16.00	14.00	16.00
	30	Very Light	14.00-16.00	14.00	16.00
	31	Fairly Light	14.00	14.00	16.00
June	3	Light	14.00	14.00	14.00-16.00
	4	Fairly Light	14.00	14.00	14.00-16.00
	5	Fairly Good	14.00	14.00	14.00-16.00
	6	Fairly Good	14.00-16.00	14.00-16.00	15.00-16.00
	7	Good	16.00	16.00	16.00-18.00

Compiled from f.o.b. reports issued by the Federal-State Market News Service office at Stockton, California.

a/ Hydrocooling and palletizing charges extra.

TABLE 6.

**F.O.B. SHIPPING POINT PRICES FOR ASPARAGUS FROM
STOCKTON DELTA DISTRICT, 1985**

Date	Demand	30 Lb. Pyramid Crates or Cartons 9 Inch Cut, Green, Loose Pack			
		Jumbo	Large	Standard	
<u>Dollars per container a/</u>					
Mar.	18	Fairly Good	32.00	30.00	29.00
	19	Fairly Good	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	20	Good	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	21	Good	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	22	Very Good	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	25	Good	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	26	Jumbo Fairly Good, Others Very Good	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	27	Very Good	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	28	Exceeds Supply	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	29	Exceeds Supply	31.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
Apr.	1	Jumbo Fairly Good, Others Good	30.00-32.00	30.00	29.00
	2	Light	26.00-28.00	26.00	25.00
	3	Light	22.00	22.00	21.00
	4	Light	22.00	22.00	21.00
	5	Light	21.00-23.00	22.00	21.00
	8	Light	18.00	18.00	16.00
	9	Light	18.00	18.00	16.00
	10	Light	18.00	18.00	16.00
	11	Fairly Light	14.50-16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00
	12	Large Fairly Light, Others Fairly Good	15.00	15.00-16.00	15.00
	15	Light	14.50-15.00	14.50-15.00	14.50-15.00
	16	Jumbo Fairly Light, Others Fairly Good	14.50-15.00	14.50-15.00	14.50-15.00
	17	Jumbo Fairly Good, Others Good	14.50-16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00
	18	Exceeds Supply	15.00-16.00	16.00-18.00	15.00-17.00
	19	Exceeds Supply	18.00	18.00	17.00
	22	Jumbo Fairly Good, Others Good	17.00-19.00	18.00-20.00	17.00-20.00
	23	Fairly Good	17.00-19.00	18.00	17.00-18.00
	24	Very Light	16.00-17.00	16.00-17.00	15.00-16.00
	25	Very Light	16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00
	29	Light	16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00
	30	Light	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00
May	1	Light	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00
	2	Improved	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00
	3	Good	15.00-16.00	15.00-16.00	15.00
	6	Fairly Good	16.00	16.00-17.00	15.00-17.00
	7	Fairly Good	16.00	16.00-17.00	16.00
	8	Fairly Good	16.00	16.00	15.00-16.00
	9	Fairly Good	16.00	16.00	15.00-16.00
	10	Fairly Good	16.00	16.00	15.00-16.00
	13	Fairly Light	16.00	16.00	15.00-16.00
	14	Light	16.00	16.00	15.00-16.00
	15	Light	15.00	15.00-16.00	15.00
	16	Very Light	15.00	15.00	15.00
	17	Very Light	15.00	15.00	14.00-15.00
	20	Very Light	15.00	15.00	14.00-15.00
	21	Practically No Demand	13.00-15.00	13.00-15.00	13.00-14.00
	22	Fairly Light	16.00	14.00-16.00	16.00

Compiled from f.o.b. reports issued by the Federal-State Market News Service office at Stockton, California.

a/ Hydrocooling charges extra.

TABLE 7. WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES FOR CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS AT LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO, BY WEEKS, 1985

		Los Angeles			San Francisco		
		South-Central-Imperial Valley Dists.			All Calif. Dists.		
		Crates/Cartons		Crates	Pyramid Crates		
Midweek		Bunched, Select	Large		Midweek	Large	
Date		13.5 lb. cartons	15 lb., loose	30 lb., loose	Date	30 lb., loose	
<u>Dollars per container</u>							
January	3	-	-	-	January	2	-
	10	60.00	65.00 a/	-		9	-
	17	48.00	40.00	-		16	-
	24	40.00	35.00	-		23	-
	31	38.00-43.00	30.00-35.00	-		30	65.00
February	7	35.00-40.00	32.00-33.00	-	February	6	-
	14	31.00-33.00	30.00 a/	-		13	-
	21	28.00	22.00-26.00	45.00-50.00		20	65.00-75.00
	28	19.00-22.00	19.00	35.00		27	50.00-55.00
March	7	20.00	-	35.00	March	6	34.00-37.00
	14	-	18.00-20.00	33.00-36.00		13	33.00-34.00
	21	-	18.00	30.00-36.00		20	33.00-34.00
	28	-	-	32.00-35.00		27	33.00-34.00
April	4	-	-	25.00-32.00	April	3	33.00-34.00
	11	-	-	18.00-24.00		10	21.00-23.00
	18	-	-	15.00-21.00		17	14.00-16.00
	25	-	-	21.00-22.00		24	20.00-22.00
May	2	-	-	18.00-20.00	May	1	21.00-23.00
	9	-	-	20.00-21.00		8	21.00-23.00
	16	-	-	19.00-21.00		15	20.00-23.00
	23	-	-	17.00-20.00		22	20.00-23.00
	30	-	-	16.50-20.00		29	18.00-20.00
June	6	-	-	19.00-20.00	June	5	20.00-22.00
	13	-	-	-		12	18.00-20.00
	20	-	-	-		19	28.00
	27	-	-	-		26	INSFQ
July	4	HOLIDAY	-	-	July	3	36.00-38.00
	11	-	-	-		10	-
	18	-	-	-		17	-
	25	-	-	-		24	-
						31	-
August	1	-	-	-	August	7	-
	8	-	-	-		14	-
	15	-	-	-		21	-
	22	-	-	-		28	35.00-45.00
	29	-	-	-			
September	5	-	-	-	September	4	30.00-33.00
	12	-	-	-		11	25.00-26.00
	19	-	-	40.00-50.00		18	25.00-26.00
	26	-	-	-		25	25.00-26.00
October	3	-	26.00 b/	-			
	10	-	-	-			
	17	-	26.00 b/	-			

Compiled from the "Los Angeles Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Report" and the "San Francisco Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Report" issued by the Federal-State Market News Service offices at Los Angeles and San Francisco, California.

a/ Select, bunched.

b/ 12 pound cartons, loose, large.

INSFQ = Insufficient to quote.

TABLE 8.

**WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES FOR CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS AT BOSTON,
CHICAGO, AND NEW YORK, EACH MONDAY, 1985 a/**

Date	Boston		Chicago		New York	
	30 Pounds	15 Pounds	30 Pounds	15 Pounds	30 Pounds	15 Pounds
	<u>Dollars per carton/crate</u>					
January	7	-	-	-	-	-
	14	-	60.00	-	-	-
	21	-	-	55.00 <u>a/</u>	-	-
	28	-	35.00	-	-	35.00
February	4	-	26.00-30.00	-	-	26.00-28.00
	11	-	40.00-45.00	-	38.00 <u>b/</u>	-
	19	55.00	25.00-28.00	-	38.00-39.00	-
	25	-	23.00-25.00	-	24.50 <u>b/</u>	50.00
March	4	40.00-41.00	24.00-25.00	41.00-42.00	21.00-22.00	40.00
	11	39.00-42.00	18.00-22.00	-	20.00-21.00	-
	18	38.00-40.00	18.00-19.00	-	20.00-21.00	40.00
	25	35.00-39.00	18.00-19.00	37.00-39.00	19.00-20.00	38.00-40.00
April	1	35.00-38.00	18.00	38.00-39.00	19.00-20.00	36.00-38.00
	8	27.00-30.00	13.00-14.00	34.00-35.00	-	26.00-28.00
	15	20.00-24.00	-	21.00-23.00	-	18.00-22.00
	22	20.00-23.00	-	21.00-22.00	-	20.00-22.00
	29	22.00-24.00	-	22.00-24.00	-	20.00-22.00
May	6	18.00-24.00	-	20.00-22.00	-	22.00
	13	24.00-26.00	-	20.00-22.00	-	24.00-25.00
	20	26.00	-	23.00	-	18.00-20.00
	28	19.00-20.00 <u>c/</u>	-	22.00	-	15.00-18.00
June	3	26.00	-	16.00 <u>d/</u>	-	-
	10	-	-	-	-	-
	17	-	-	-	-	-
	24	-	-	-	-	35.00 <u>e/</u>
July	1	-	-	-	-	40.00

Compiled from wholesale market wires issued by the Federal-State Market News Service offices at Boston, Massachusetts, Chicago, Illinois, and The Bronx, New York.

- a/ Extra large.
b/ 16 pound cartons.
c/ Some fair condition.
d/ Holdovers.
e/ Bunched.

TABLE 9. PRODUCTION, PRICE AND CROP VALUE OF CALIFORNIA ASPARAGUS
BY UTILIZATION, 1983-1985

Utilization	Production			Average Price Per Unit			Crop Value		
	1983	1984	1985	1983	1984	1985	1983	1984	1985
	1,000 cwt.			Dollars per cwt.			1,000 dollars		
Fresh Market	557	739	818	83.70	74.40	83.30	46,621	54,982	68,139
Cannery ^{a/}	35	116	178	43.80	41.50	38.85	1,551	4,814	6,527
Freezer	44	-	-	39.10	-	-	1,704	-	-
Total/Average	636	885	986	78.40	69.90	75.70	49,876	59,796	74,666

Compiled from "Vegetables - 1985 Preliminary Acreage, Yield, Production & Value" issued by the Crop Reporting Service, Statistical Reporting Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. December 30, 1985.

^{a/} Cannery and freezer combined as total processing beginning in 1984.

TABLE 10. CANNED GREEN ASPARAGUS, U.S. SUPPLY STOCKS AND SHIPMENTS, 1983-1985 ^{a/}

Supply Stocks	1983	1984	1985	% Change One Year Ago
	Actual Cases			
Carryover, March 1	797,000	685,000	792,000	+16
Pack	2,265,000	2,548,000	2,752,000	+ 8
Total Supply	3,062,000	3,233,000	3,544,000	+10
Stocks, October 1	1,764,000	1,833,000	2,051,000	+12
Shipments March 1 to October 1	1,298,000	1,400,000	1,493,000	+ 7

Compiled from National Food Processors Association Statistical Report for October 1, 1985 issued at Washington, D.C.

^{a/} Green only; does not include white asparagus.

TABLE 11. CANNED GREEN ASPARAGUS PACK, BY CONTAINER, 1985

	24-8 Ounce	48-1 Picnic	24-15 Ounce	24/300 Cans	6-5 Squat	6-10 Instl.	Misc. Tin and Glass	Total Green
Actual Cases	^{a/}	^{a/}	^{b/}	2,071,000	50,000	36,000	595,000	2,752,000

Spears Including
Salad Points

Cut Tip Removed

Cut Spears

Actual Cases	^{c/}	^{c/}	^{c/}					
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Compiled from National Food Processors Association Statistical Report for October 1, 1985 at Washington, D.C.

^{a/} Combined in miscellaneous total.

^{b/} Combined in 24-300.

^{c/} Not available for disclosure reasons.

TABLE 12. FROZEN ASPARAGUS PACKED IN THE U.S., BY STYLE AND
BY CONTAINER SIZE CLASSIFICATION 1981-1984

Pack and Container	1981	1982	1983	1984
	1,000 pound units			
<u>Pack Style</u>				
Spears	6,489	9,681	7,563	7,776
Cuts & Tips	4,800	7,277	6,036	7,323
<u>Container Size</u>				
Retail	5,280	4,090	4,666	4,263
Food Service	6,006	11,502	8,134	8,168
Bulk	3	1,366	1,387 ^{a/}	2,668
Total Pack	11,289	16,958	13,599	15,099

Compiled from data obtained from the American Frozen Food Institute, Burlingame, California.

^{a/} Plus 588; carryover from previous year's pack and imports.

NOTE: 1985 data not available at time of publication.