

**BRIEF REVIEW OF THE LAKE OKEECHOBEE
CABBAGE SEASON OF 1948**

The primary producing areas of Florida winter cabbage are the Lake Okeechobee and the Hastings sections. Acreage of Florida winter cabbage was first estimated at 14,000 intended acres as compared with the 1947 acreage of 12,200 acres and the ten year average acreage for the years 1937-46 of 13,650 acres. This intended acreage was 1,800 acres more than the 1947 and 440 more than the ten year average of 1937-46. Later estimates set the winter cabbage acreage at 15,000 acres which was 2,800 more than the 1947 and 1,440 more than the 1937-46 ten year average. The yields per acre at this time were estimated at 8 tons for 1948 as compared with 8.2 tons for 1947 and the 1937-46 ten year average of 7.0 tons. Production for 1948 was estimated at 120,000 tons which was 20,000 more than 1947 and 23,900 tons more than the ten year average of 1937-46. Estimates are from the U. S. Department of Agriculture Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The hurricane of September 17-18th. and the high water following the storm of October 11-12th. combined caused the loss to practically all of the early seeded acreage plus most of the seedbeds in the Lake Okeechobee Section. Plants for the early resetting of the crop were scarce and seeding was light during most of October but were fairly heavy during the latter part of October and early November. The warm weather during the month of December was unfavorable for the development of the crop as a whole. During January the weather was cooler and development was much improved over November. The freeze of January 14-16th. caused very little if any damage outside of holding back production a little. More than the usual amount of disease was apparent as the crop matured. Setting of the crop continued later than usual due to the early setbacks.

The cabbage began to show some volume the week of January 18th. during which time Florida shipped 104 cars by rail and 174 carlot equivalents by truck. Shipments increased and continued near normal until the week of February 22nd. and then dropped off until the week of February 29th. The peak movement of the crop took place during the week of April 10th. when 673 cars were shipped by rail and 326 carlot equivalents moved by truck. Prices for the period January 1st. through February 15th. ranged .65-1.60 for 50 lb. sacks and \$1.00-2.10 for 1 3/4 bushel crates. From February 15th. through March 6th. harvesting was restricted on account of market conditions and there were too few sales during this period to establish a market. From March 8th. through March 26th. prices showed slight but steady increases, after this period the highest prices of the season were received F.O.B. shipping point from March 22nd. to April 16th. ranging from \$1.00-2.50 for 50 lb. sacks and \$1.35-3.10 for 1 3/4 bushel crates. Quality for the season was fair to good and the condition was definitely brought into the picture by unfavorable weather conditions.

The primary containers for the season were the 50 lb. mesh sack and the 1 3/4 bushel crate. There was a definite tendency on the part of most south Florida growers and shippers to use the crate container for their best stock. Shipments from the state of Florida for the period November 30th through May 1st. were 4,737 cars by rail as compared with 2,333 cars during the 1947 season. Shipments by truck for the same period November 30th. through May 1st. were the equivalent of 3866 cars. All in all approximately double the shipments of the 1947 season. Texas shipments by rail for the period November 30th. through May 1st. were 9,031 cars, as compared with 7,594 cars for a similar period during the 1947 season.

WEEKLY CARLOT SHIPMENTS OF CABBAGE AND F.O.B. PRICES IN THE LAKE OKEECHOBEE SECTION

Week Ending	Florida		Texas	Other US	Sales F.O.B. shipping point	Dom. round type	1947 * Florida
	Rail	Truck	Rail	Rail			
Jan. 3	85	91	502	70	1.40 - 1.60	2.10	171
10	60	129	708	76	.95 - 1.25	1.40	216
17	38	135	733	97	1.00	1.40	276
24	104	174	712	67	.95 - 1.25	1.40 - 1.60	188
31	290	171	405	161	.75 - 1.15	1.25	196
Feb. 7	253	218	662	95	.85 - 1.25		115
14	234	236	1035	46	.65 - .75	1.00 - 1.10	73
21	150	237	672	32			85
28	141	239	613	18			29
Mar. 6	95	206	527	26			30
13	208	297	552	22	.75 - .85	.95 - 1.00	42
20	394	265	326	28	.75 - 1.10	1.00 - 1.25	44
27	470	250	183	36	1.00 - 1.50	1.35 - 1.75	83
Apr. 3	466	276	166	49	1.50 - 2.00	1.50 - 2.25	70
10	673	326	172	81	1.65 - 2.50	2.00 - 3.00	69
17	434	232	100	192		2.00 - 3.10	62
24	356	172	54	457			165
May 1	201		22	767			65

* Does not include truck.

WEEKLY JOBBING PRICES OF FLORIDA CABBAGE IN TERMINAL MARKETS

The prices below are weekly ranges and are confined to the ranges at which the bulk of the good merchantable quality and condition sold. Rail and truck arrivals and unloads are weekly totals of new cabbage. Stock quoted is Domestic Round type. Prices ranges Monday through Friday each week.

Week Ending	NEW YORK					BOSTON				
	Unloads		Other	US	50 lb. sacks	Arrivals		US	50 lb. sacks	1 3/4 bu. crts.
	Florida	Truck				Fla.	Other			
Jan. 2	4	3	55	2.50 - 3.00	2.00 - 3.75			2.50 - 3.00		
9	23	1	88	1.00 - 2.00	1.75 - 2.25	9	47	1.50 - 2.75	2.50	-2.75
16	11	2	70	1.50 - 1.75	2.00 - 3.00	2	15	2.00 - 2.25		2.25
23	14	3	94	1.50 - 2.25	1.75 - 3.00	4	49	2.25 - 2.50		
30	21	3	85	1.25 - 1.75	1.50 - 2.00	14	61	1.25 - 2.00		
Feb. 6	34	1	67	1.50 - 2.25	1.75 - 5.00	9	23	1.75 - 2.00	1.75	-2.25
13	52		54	1.25 - 1.75	1.75 - 2.25	13	17	1.00 - 2.00	1.40	-2.00
20	59	4	63	.75 - 1.50	1.00 - 2.00	14	39	1.00 - 2.00	1.25	-2.00
27	36	2	73	.75 - 1.25	1.00 - 1.50	12	48	.75 - 1.00	1.00	-1.25
Mar. 5	32	1	70	1.00 - 1.50	1.25 - 1.75	1	40		.75	-1.25
12	36	2	66	1.25 - 1.62 1/2	1.25 - 2.00	1	32	1.00 - 1.25	1.50	-1.75
19	51	2	49	1.50 - 2.00	1.75 - 2.25	10	22	1.75 - 2.00	1.75	-2.00
26	81	4	24	1.25 - 1.87 1/2	2.00 - 2.62 1/2	27	4	1.50 - 2.25	2.25	-2.50
Apr. 2	79	2	20	1.50 - 2.25	2.50 - 3.00	25	10	1.25 - 3.00	2.25	-3.00
9	114		7	2.25 - 3.25	2.75 - 4.00	20	5	2.75 - 4.00	3.00	-4.50
16	100	1	5	1.75 - 3.25	2.50 - 4.00	50	4	3.00 - 4.00	3.00	-4.50
23	95	1	16	2.25 - 3.50	2.50 - 4.00	23	7	3.00 - 4.00	3.00	-4.25
30	92	1	40	1.50 - 3.00	2.00 - 3.75	34	15	2.00 - 3.00	2.50	-3.75
May 7	72	2	55	1.00 - 2.25	1.50 - 2.50	16	29	1.25 - 1.50	1.50	-2.25

WEEKLY JOBBING PRICES OF CABBAGE IN TERMINAL MARKETS CONT'D.

