

Weights and Measures for Horticultural Crops

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This NebGuide lists the most common units of sale used for selling vegetables and fruits through direct marketing outlets.

Growers raising horticultural crops in Nebraska sell part of their crop through direct marketing outlets such as pick-your-own farms, roadside stands, and farmers' markets. Produce sold through these marketing outlets is usually sold by one of the following: 1) number or count (a single tomato or fruit or a dozen ears of sweet corn); 2) weight (one pound of snap beans); or 3) volume (bushel, lug, carton, crate, or quart).

The following table has been developed to assist in selling horticultural crops for direct marketing to consumers. It lists the most common units of retail sales and the weight of

these units where applicable. Only the basic units are listed because many different sizes of containers are available for retail selling. Thus, these are only guidelines. Because of the variation in produce and containers, some of the unit weights are average and all are *approximations only*. State regulations regarding the sale of products by weight and scale inspections are available through the Division of Weights and Measures, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 94757, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509-4757.

Commercial growers, selling vegetables and fruits wholesale, should consult one of the following sources for weights and measures: <http://www.bae.ncsu.edu/programs/extension/publicat/postharv/ag-414-8/index.html> or www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/hort2/mf979.pdf.

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Common Units of Sale</i>	<i>Approximate Weight (pounds)</i>	<i>Yield*</i>
VEGETABLES			
Artichoke, Jerusalem	(sold by the pound) bushel	48	
Asparagus	(sold in bunches, weighing 1/2 to 2 pounds) bushel 3-quart basket crate	45 10 32	1 to 1 1/2 lb = 1 pt. frozen 3 to 4 lb. = 1 qt. canned
Beans, snap, green, wax	bushel	28 to 30	1 bu. = 30 to 45 pt. frozen 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 lb. = 1 qt. canned
Beans, dry edible	bushel	60	
Beans, lima dry	bushel	56	
Beans, lima pod	bushel	32	1 bu. = 12 to 16 pt. frozen 3 to 5 lb. = 1 qt. canned

*Yield as used here indicates canning and/or freezing yield per unit.

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Common Units of Sale</i>	<i>Approximate Weight (pounds)</i>	<i>Yield*</i>
Beets, (without tops)	(sold in 2 lb. bunches with leaves) bushel	50 to 56	1 bu. = 35 to 42 pt. frozen 2 to 3 1/2 lb. = 1 qt. canned
Broccoli	(sold by head or bunch) crate or bushel	23 to 25	1 lb. = 1 pt. frozen 1 bu. = 10 to 12 qt. canned
Brussel sprouts	quart	1 1/2	1 qt. = 1 1/2 pt. frozen
Cabbage	(often sold by the head) crate	50	3 lb. = 1 qt. canned sauerkraut 1 lb. = 4 cups shredded
Carrot (without tops)	(sold in 1 lb. bunches with tops) bushel	50	1 bu. = 32 to 40 pt. frozen 2 to 3 lb. = 1 qt. canned
Cauliflower	(sold as a head) bushel, topped	50	1 head = 1 1/2 pt. frozen or 3/4 qt. canned
Celery	(sold as a bunch) crate	60	
Chard, swiss	(sold as a bunch)		
Cucumbers	(slicers sold by count) bushel	48 to 50	1 bu. = 24 qt. of dill pickles
Eggplant	(sold by count) bushel	33 to 35	1 qt. canned or 2 pt. frozen
Garlic	(sold by bunch or pound)		
Gourds	(sold by count)		
Horseradish	(sold by bag, 2 to 4 lb.) bushel	50	
Kale	(sold in 1 to 1 1/2 lb. bunches) bushel	18	
Kohlrabi	(sold by count)		
Lettuce	(sold as bunch or head) carton, 2 dozen		
Muskmelon	(sold by count) bushel	48	
Okra	bushel	26 to 30	1 bu. = 34 to 40 pt. frozen, 17 qt. canned
Onions	(often sold by count) bushel sack	57 50	
Onions, green bunching	bunch	1/3 to 1/2 lb.	

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Common Units of Sale</i>	<i>Approximate Weight (pounds)</i>	<i>Yield*</i>
Parsnips	bushel	48	
Peanuts	bushel	22	
Peas, edible pods	peck	8 to 10	
Peas, unshelled green	bushel	28 to 30	1 bu. = 12 to 15 pt. frozen 3 to 6 lb. = 1 qt. canned
Pepper, sweet bell	(sold by count) bushel	25 to 30	
Pepper, hot	(sold as a bag)	1/2 to 5 lbs.	
Popcorn, ear	bushel	70	
Popcorn, shelled	(sold in 2 to 5 lb. bags) bushel	56	
Potatoes	(sold in 5 to 10 lb. bags) bushel	50	
Radish	(sold in 1/2 to 3/4 lb. bunches or by count) bushel	56	
Rhubarb	bunch	2 to 2 1/2	
Rutabaga	bushel	55	
Shallot	bushel bushel, 5 dozen bunches bunch, 1 dozen	25	
Spinach	(sold in 1 to 1 1/2 lb. bunches) bushel	18	
Squash	(sold by count) small, each medium, each large, each	1 to 4 6 to 12 15 to 40	
Sweet, corn, husk	(sold by dozen) bushel crate, 5 dozen	35 to 40	1 dozen = 2 1/2 to 4 pt. frozen 1 dozen = 1 to 1 1/2 qt. canned
Sweet potatoes	bushel	48 to 50	2/3 lb. = 1 pt. frozen 2 to 3 lb. = 1 qt. canned
Tomatoes	(sold by count) bushel	53	1 bu. = 15 to 20 qt. canned
Turnips	bushel	55	1 lb. = 2 1/2 to 3 cups diced
Watermelon	crate	70 to 90	

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Common Units of Sale</i>	<i>Approximate Weight (pounds)</i>	<i>Yield*</i>
FRUITS			
Apples	(volume containers of various sizes) bushel	42 to 48	1 bu. = 15 to 18 qt. canned applesauce
Apricots	bushel	50	1 bu. = 48 to 54 pt. frozen
Blackberries	quart	1 1/2 to 1 1/2	1 1/2 to 3 lb. = 1 qt. canned
Cherries	quart bushel lug	1 1/2 to 1 3/4 56 15 to 16	2 to 2 1/2 lb. = 1 qt. canned, unpitted
Currants	quart	3	
Gooseberries	quart	1 3/4 to 2	
Grapes, with stems	bushel lug 12-quart basket	44 to 50 24 to 28 16	1 bu. = 16 qt. of juice
Peaches	bushel	48 to 50	1 bu. = 18 to 24 qt. canned
Pears	bushel	50	1 bu. = 20 to 25 qt. canned
Plums	bushel	50 to 56	1 bu. = 24 to 30 qt. canned
Raspberries	quart	1 1/2	
Strawberries	quart 24-quart crate	1 1/2 46	1 lb. = 1 pt. frozen

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