

# Tomato Industry Overview & Outlook

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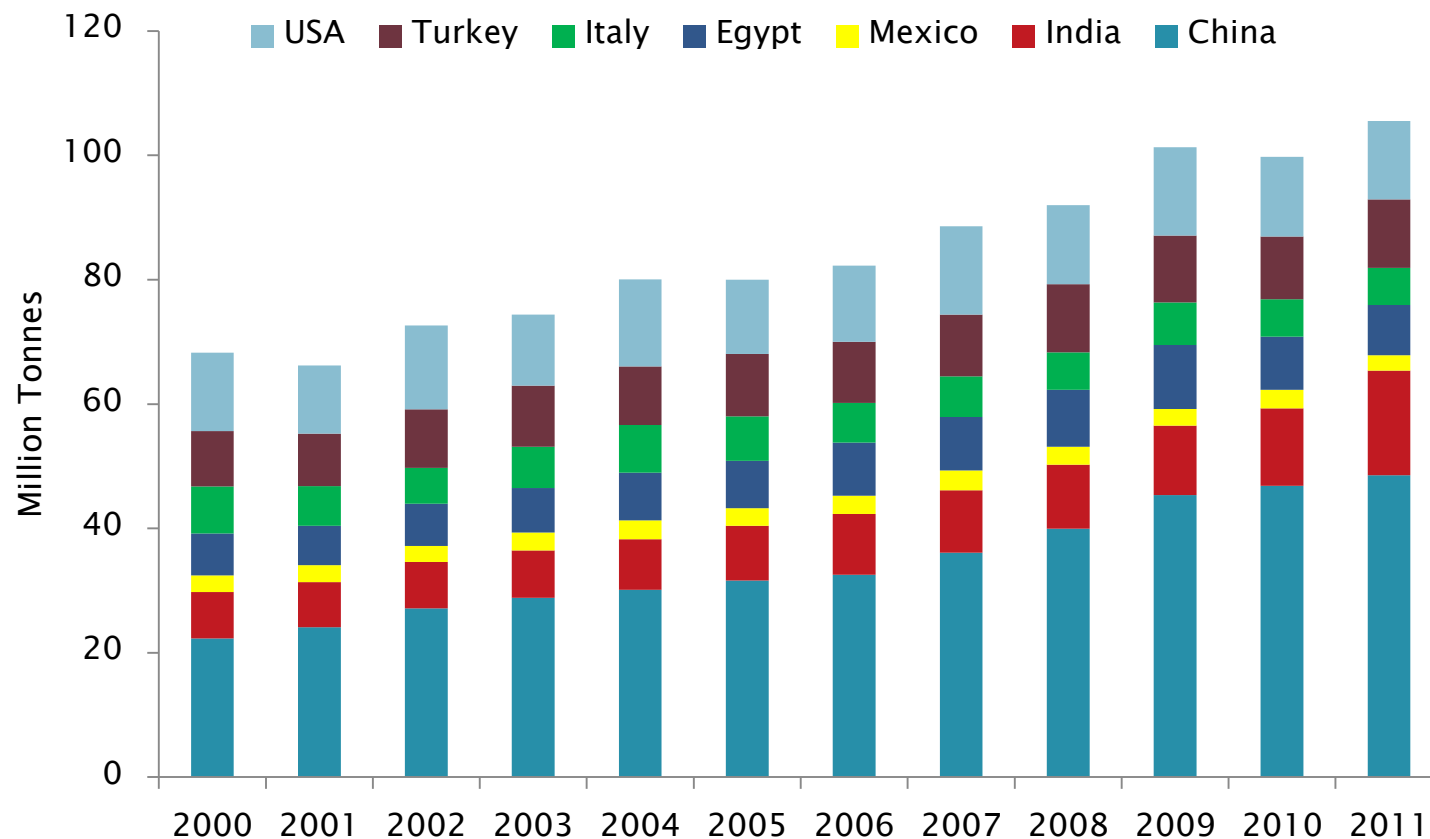
Gulf Coast Research & Education Center

University of Florida/IFAS

# Outline

- Overview of the world tomato production
  - US Tomato Production and Value
  - Mexico Tomato Industry and Government Support
  - U.S.-Mexico Trade
  - Florida Tomato Industry and Market Share
  - Threats and Opportunities
  - Concluding remarks
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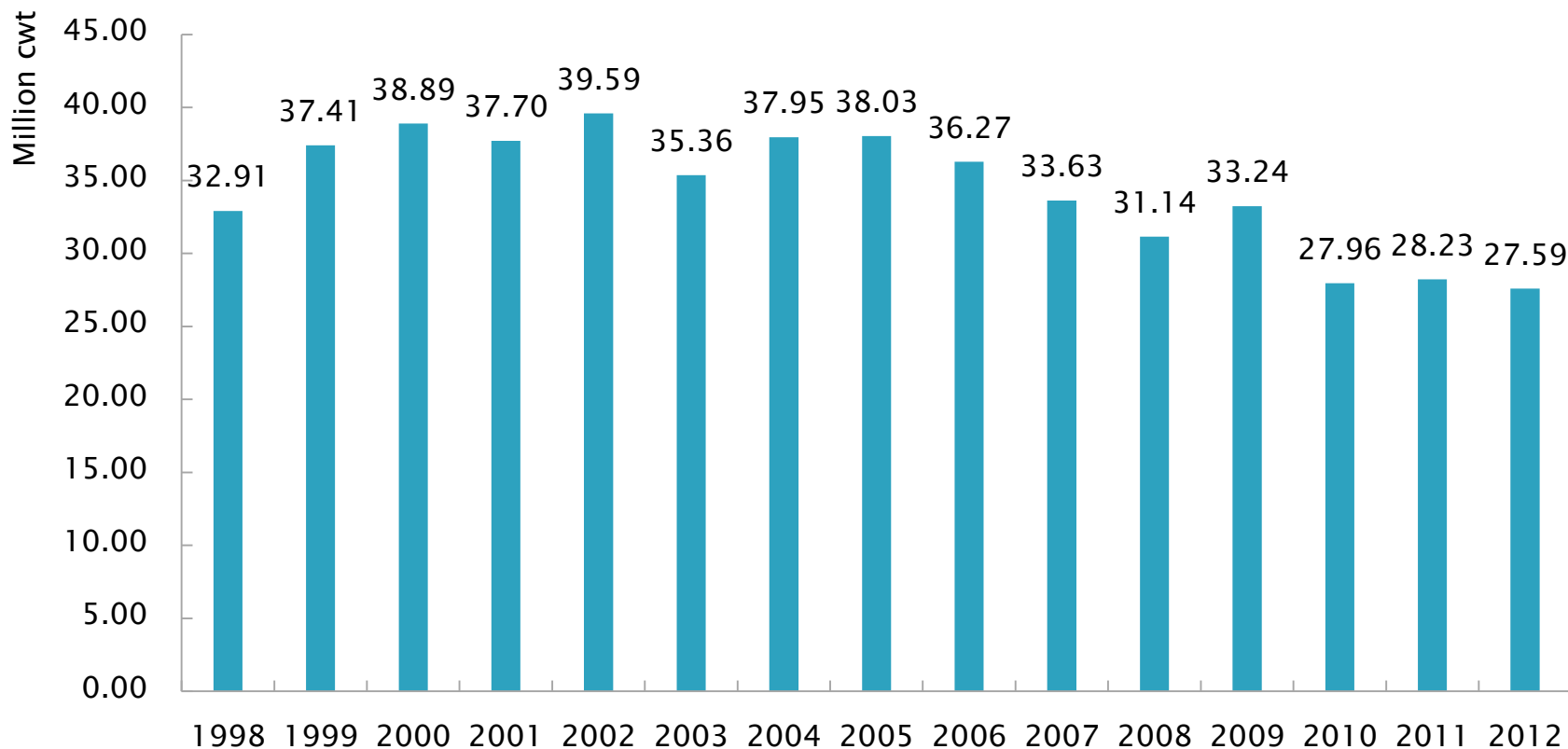
# World Tomato Production



Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

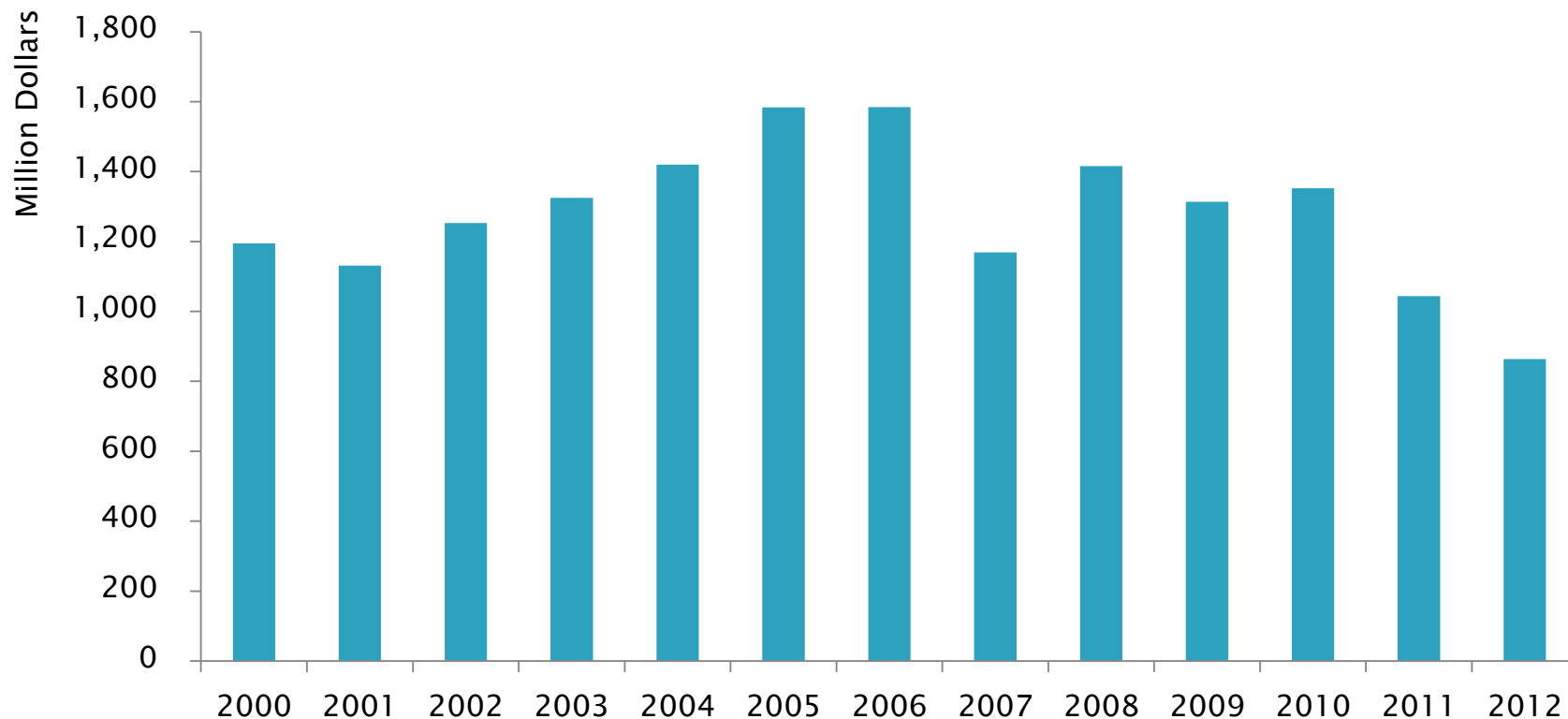
# U.S. Fresh Tomato Production

In cwt, 1998-2012



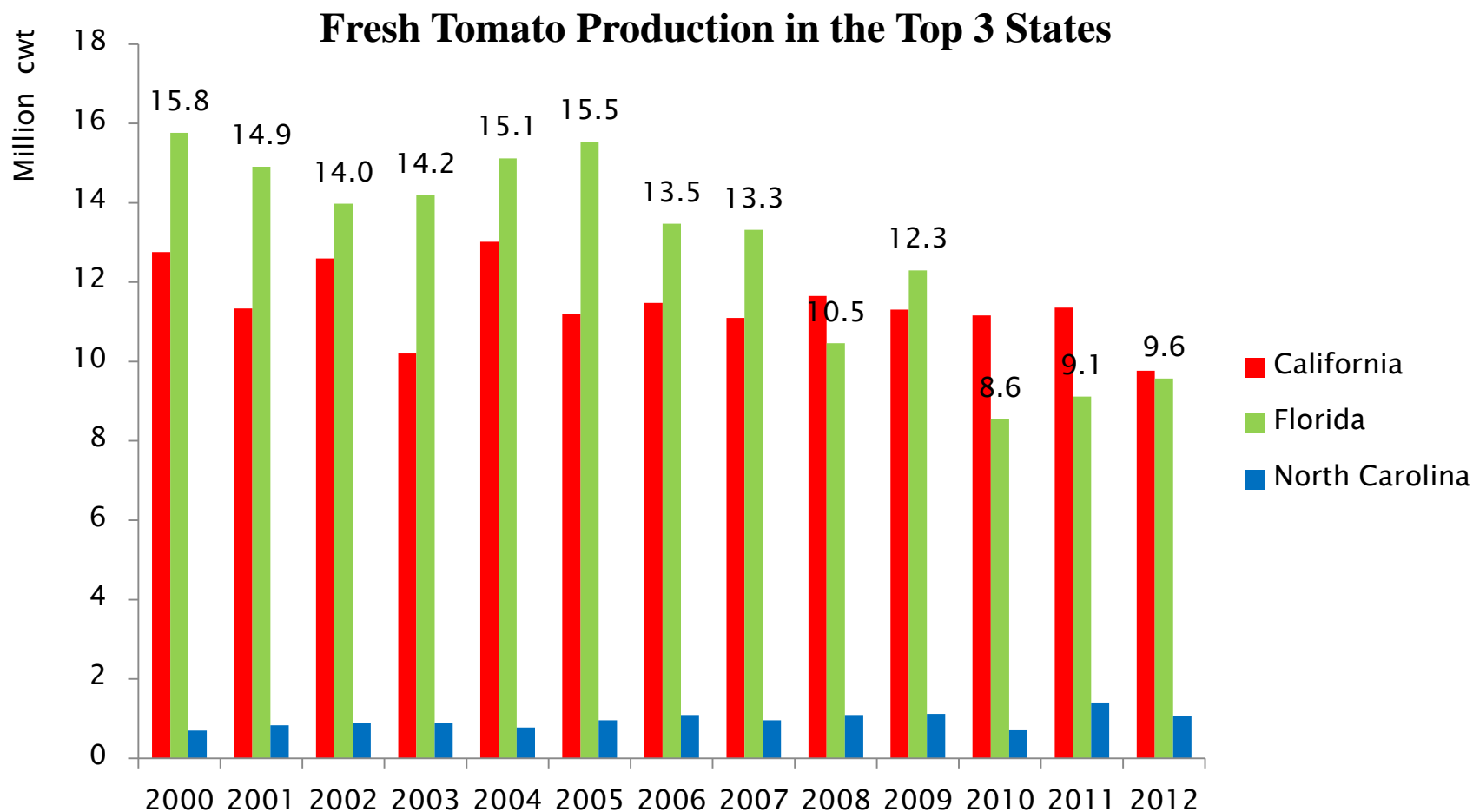
Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Vegetables Summary

# U.S. Fresh Tomato Value



Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Vegetables Summary

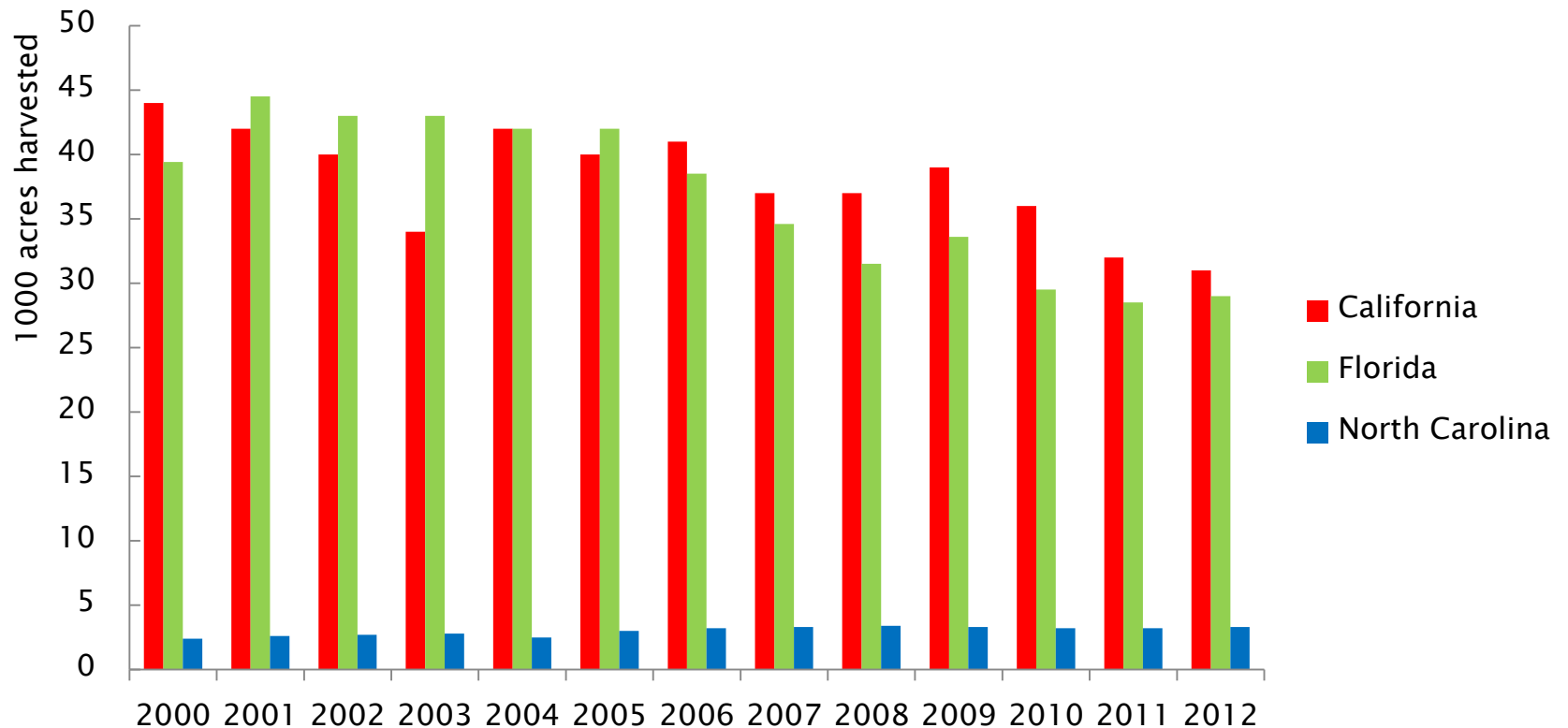
# U.S. Fresh Tomato Production



Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# U.S. Tomato Acreage

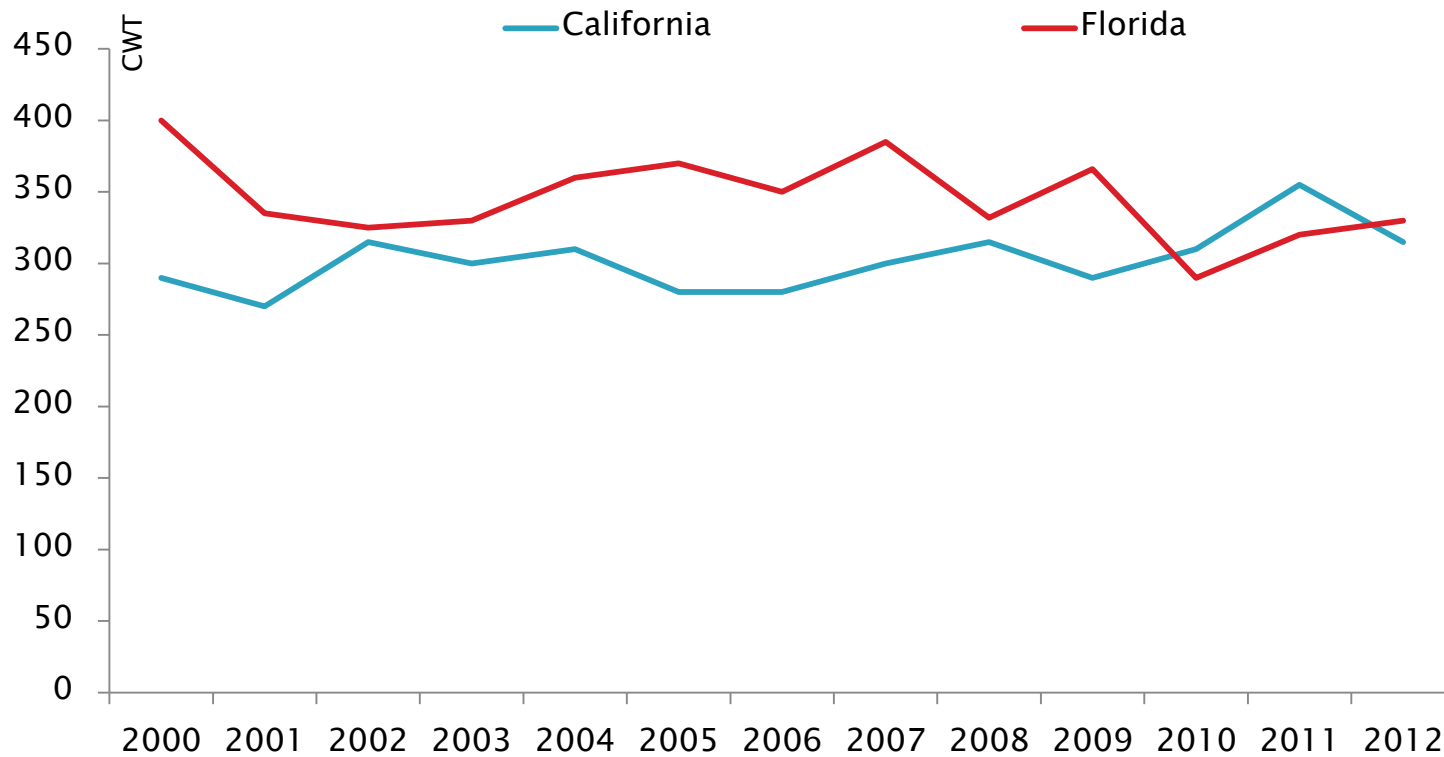
## Harvested Acreage of Fresh Tomatoes in the Top 3 States



Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Per Acre Yield in CA & FL

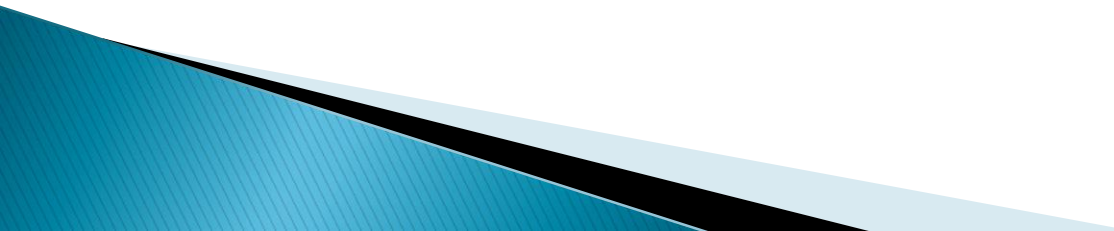
Per Acre Yield in cwt, 2000-2012



Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

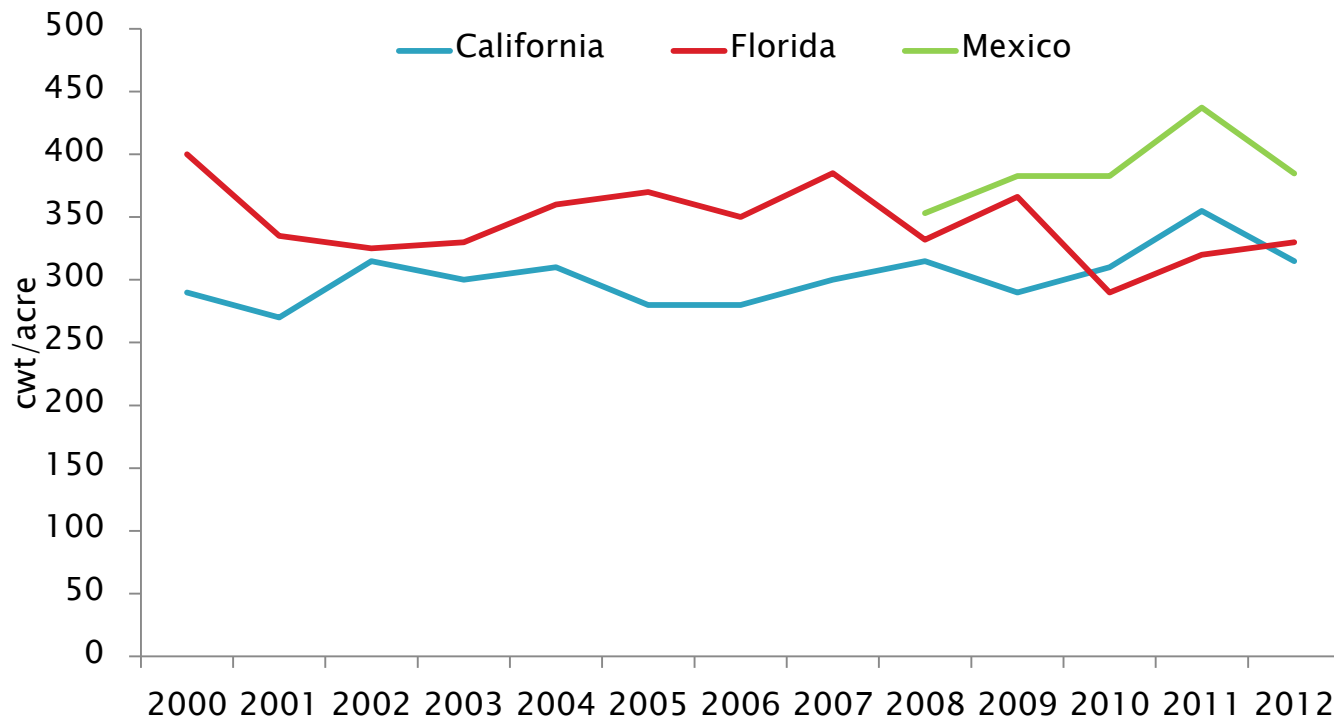


# Mexico Production

- ▶ Production cost is much lower
  - ▶ Leading country for tomato exports; has significant impact on U.S. Market
  - ▶ Open field yields have risen from 20,000 lbs per acre in 1990 to 25,000 lbs/acre in 2000 and to 37,000 lbs/acre in 2010.
  - ▶ Yield increased 50% in 10 years
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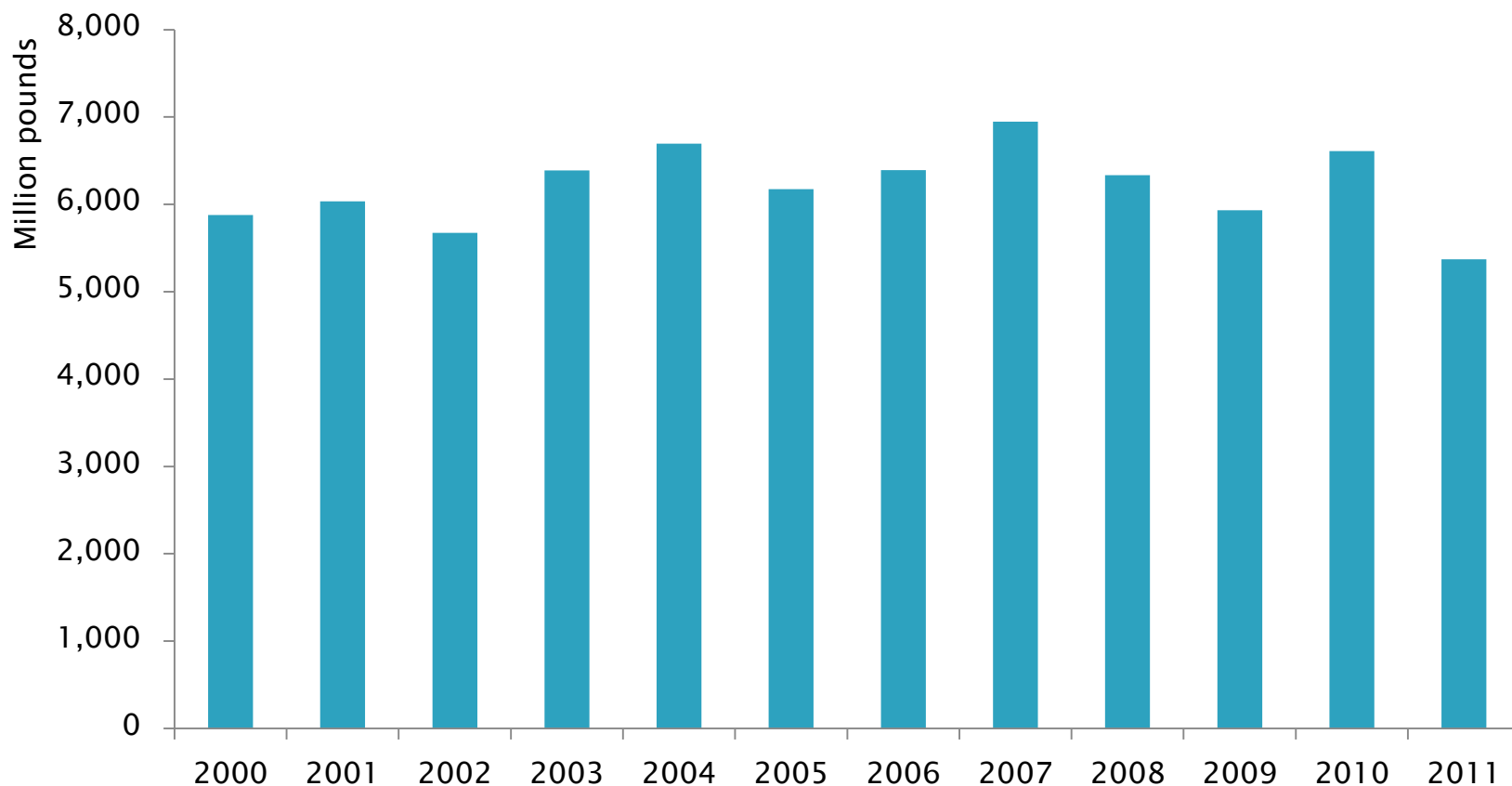
# Per Acre Yield Comparison

Per Acre Yield in cwt, 2000-2012



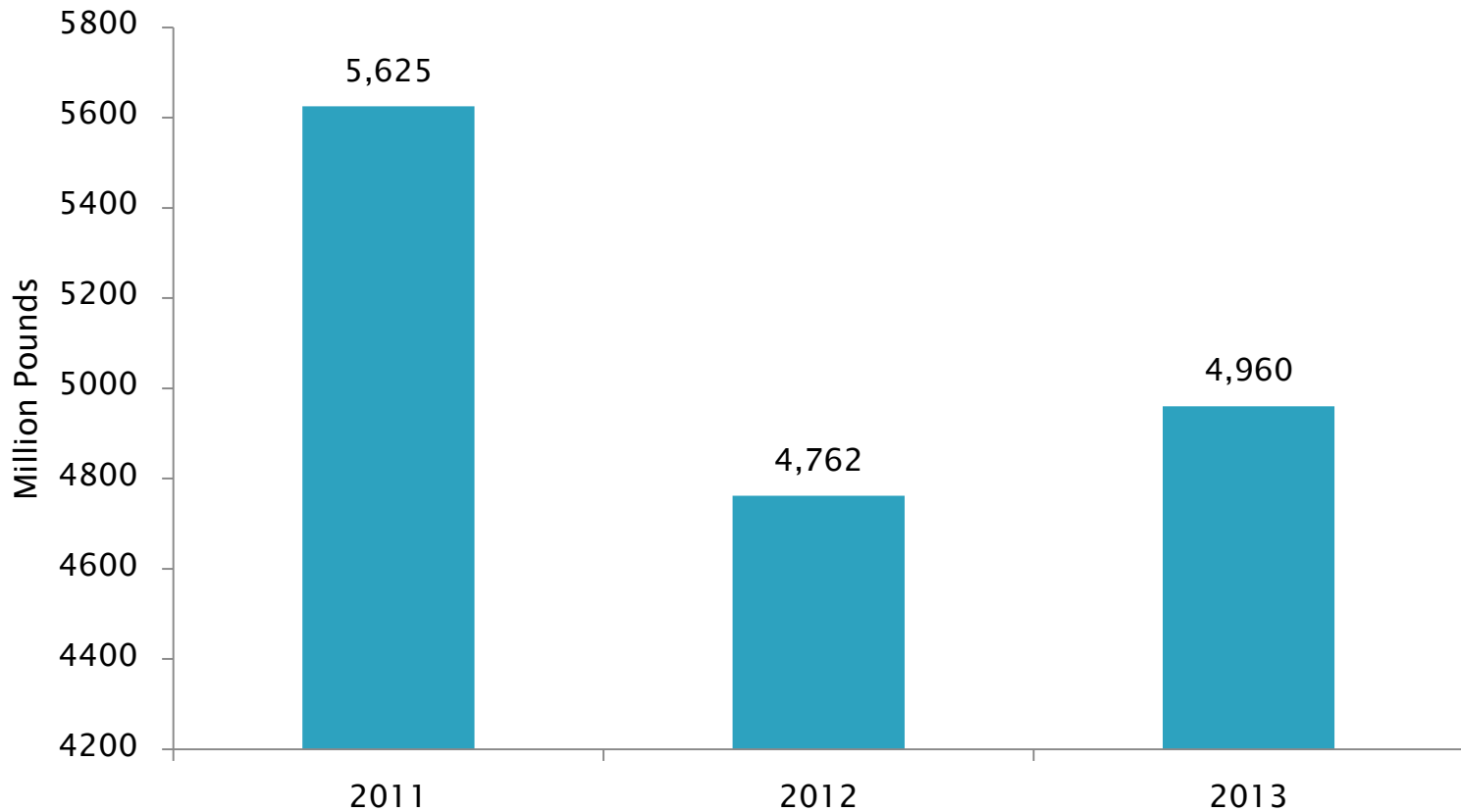
Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Mexican Total Tomato Production



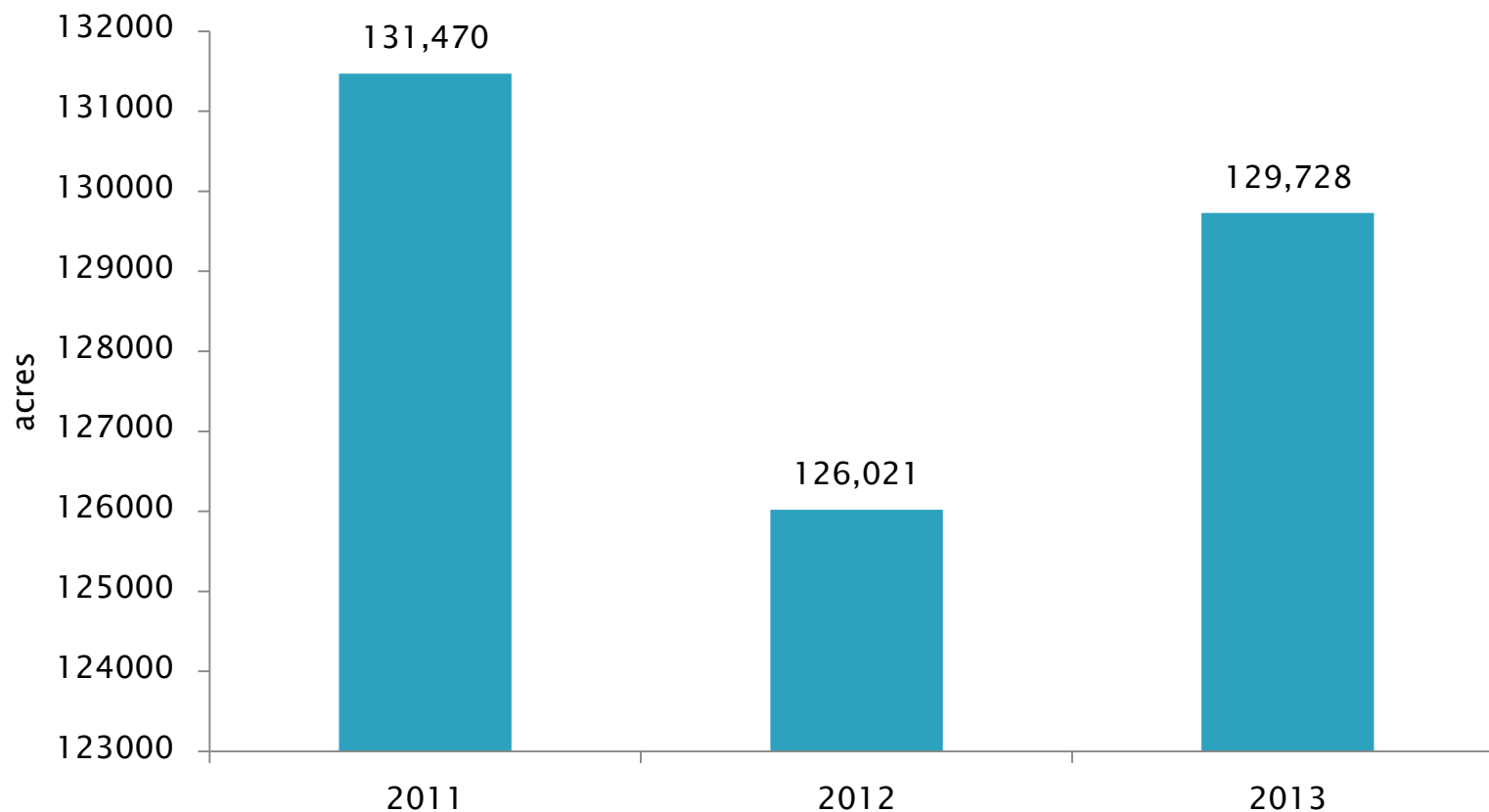
Source: United Nations, Food and Agriculture Organization

# Mexican Fresh Tomato Production



Source: USDA/FAS

# Mexican Fresh Tomato Planted Area



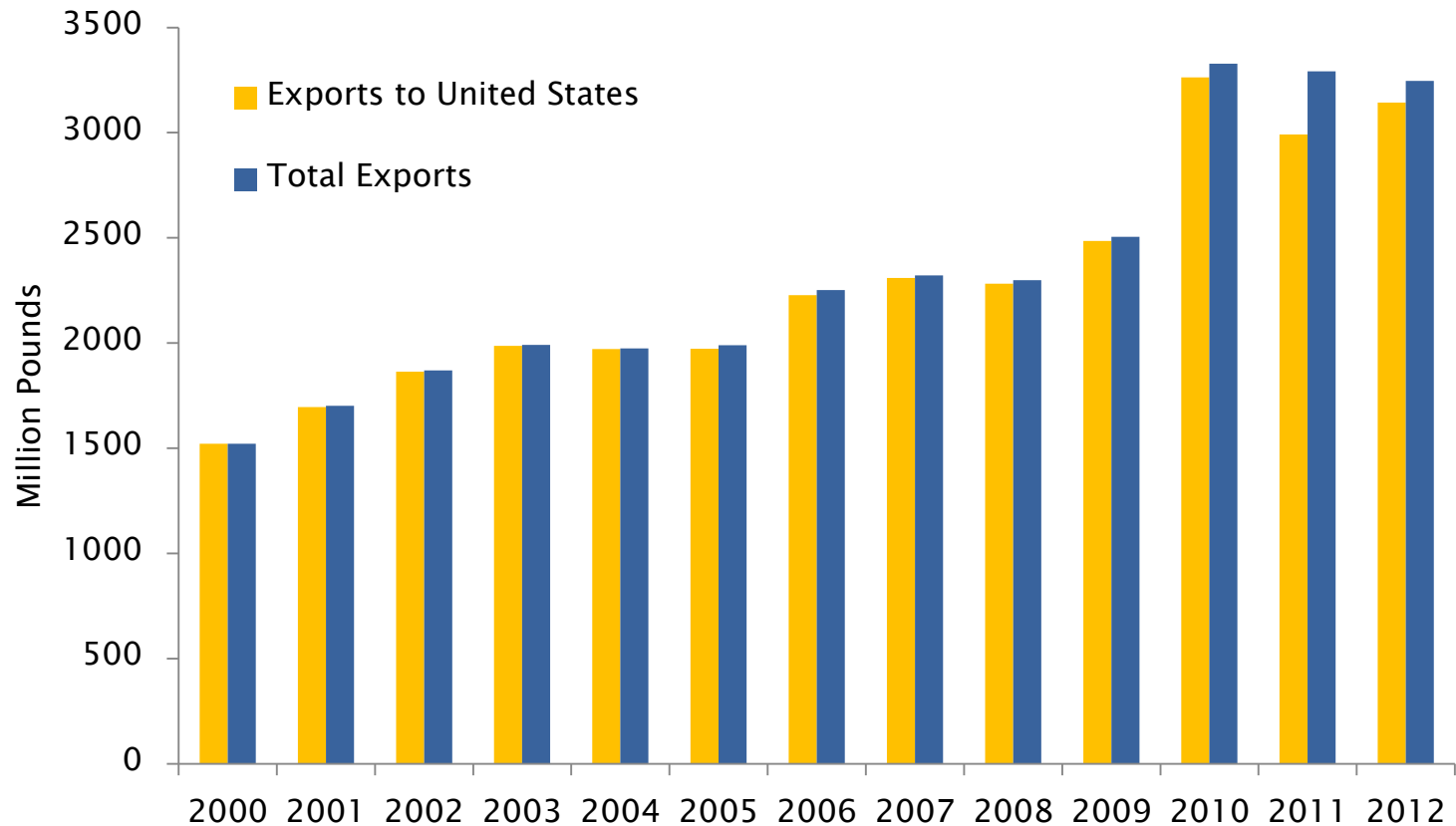
Source: USDA/FAS

# Mexico Fresh Tomato Trade, 2000-2012



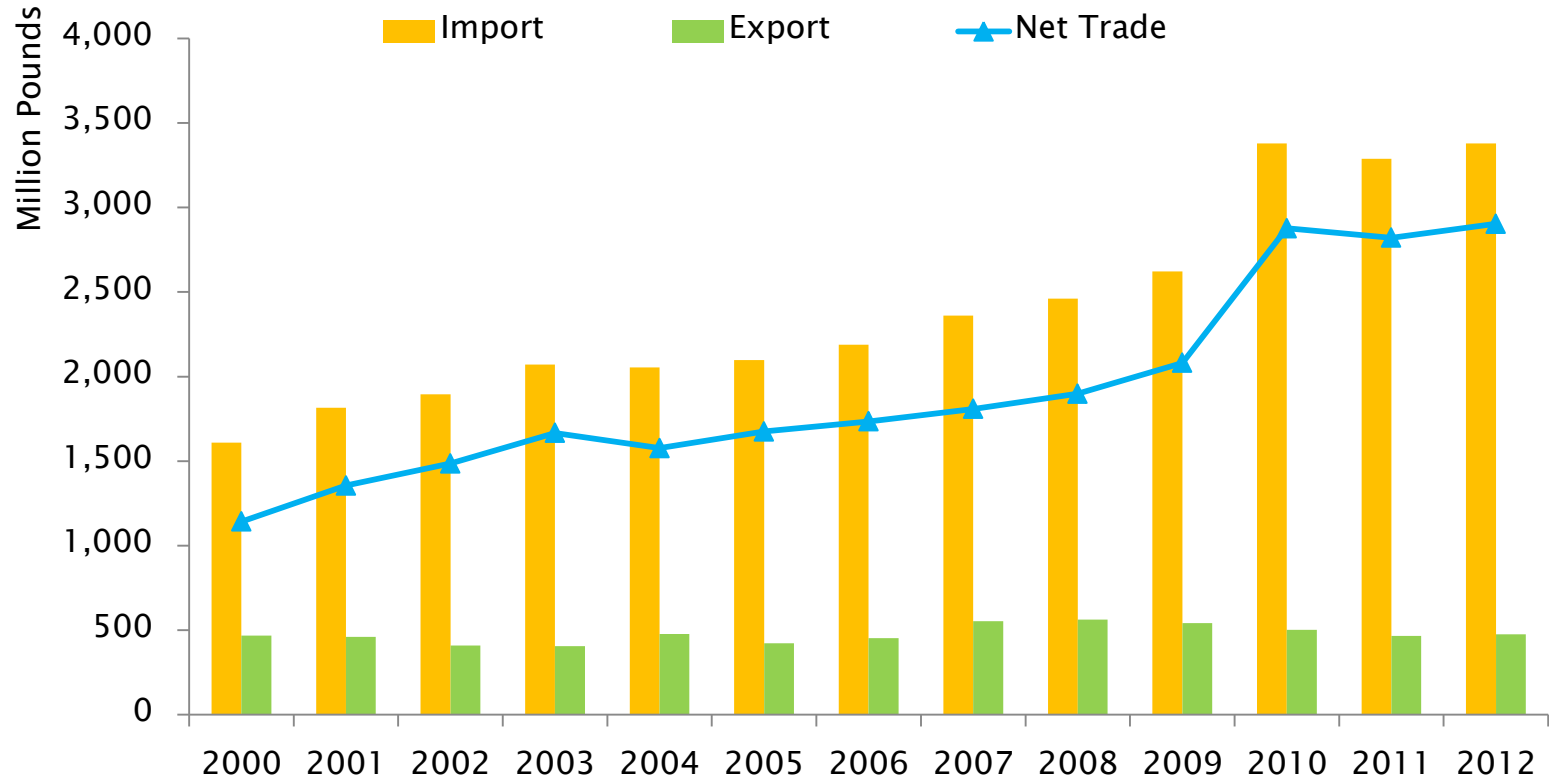
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

# Mexico Fresh Tomato Export, 2000-2012



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

# U.S. Trade in Fresh Tomatoes, 2000-2012

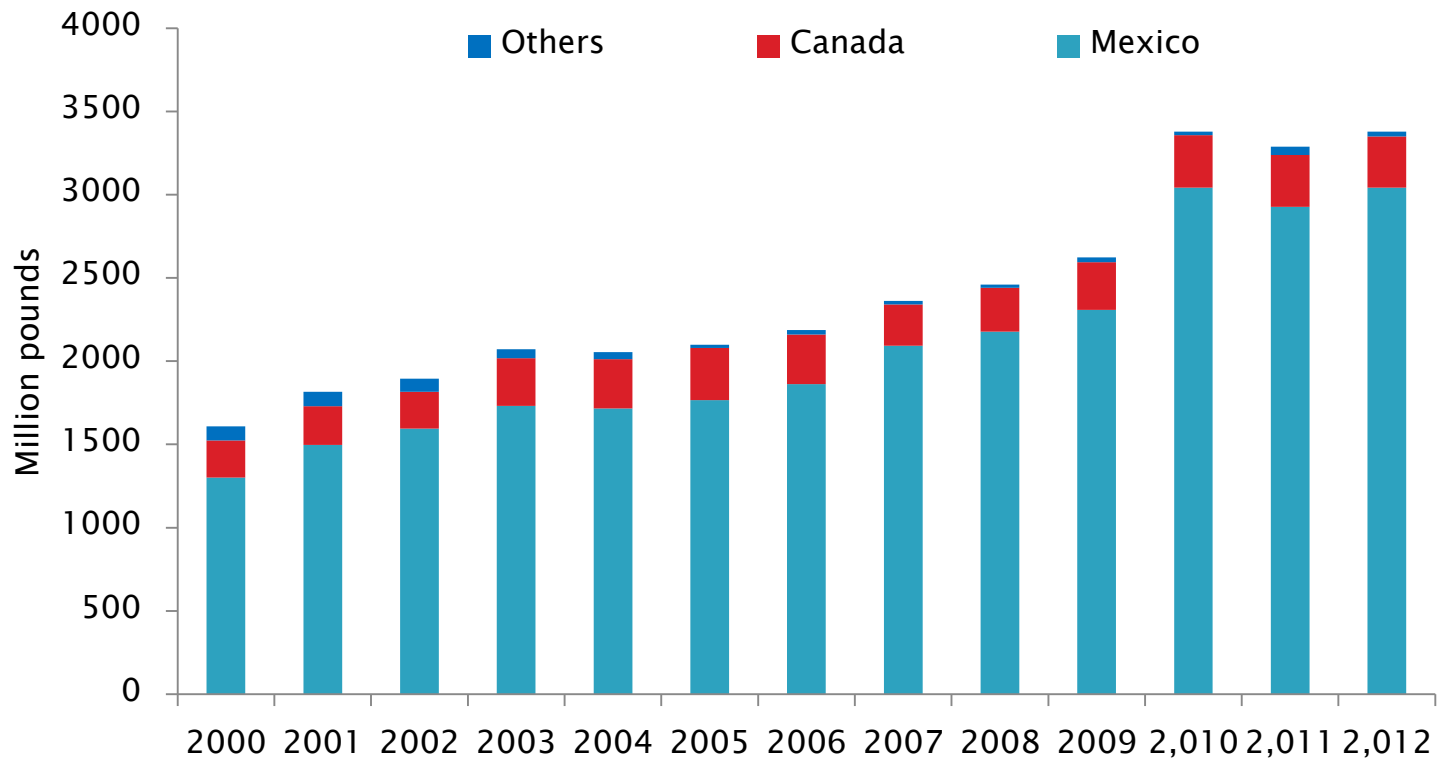


Source: U.S. Department of Commerce



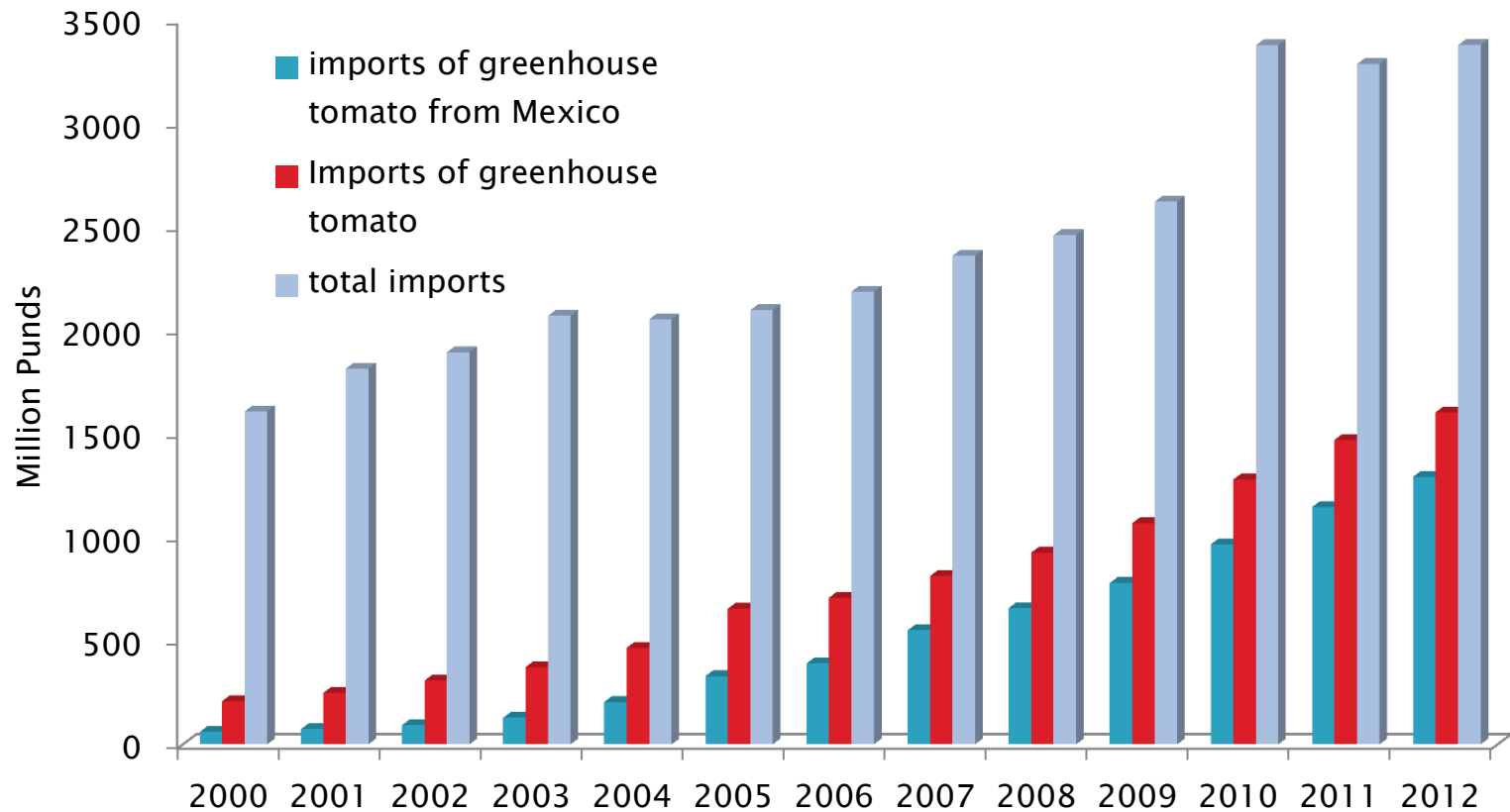
# Origins U.S. Imports of Fresh Tomatoes

**From Mexico, Canada and Other Countries**



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

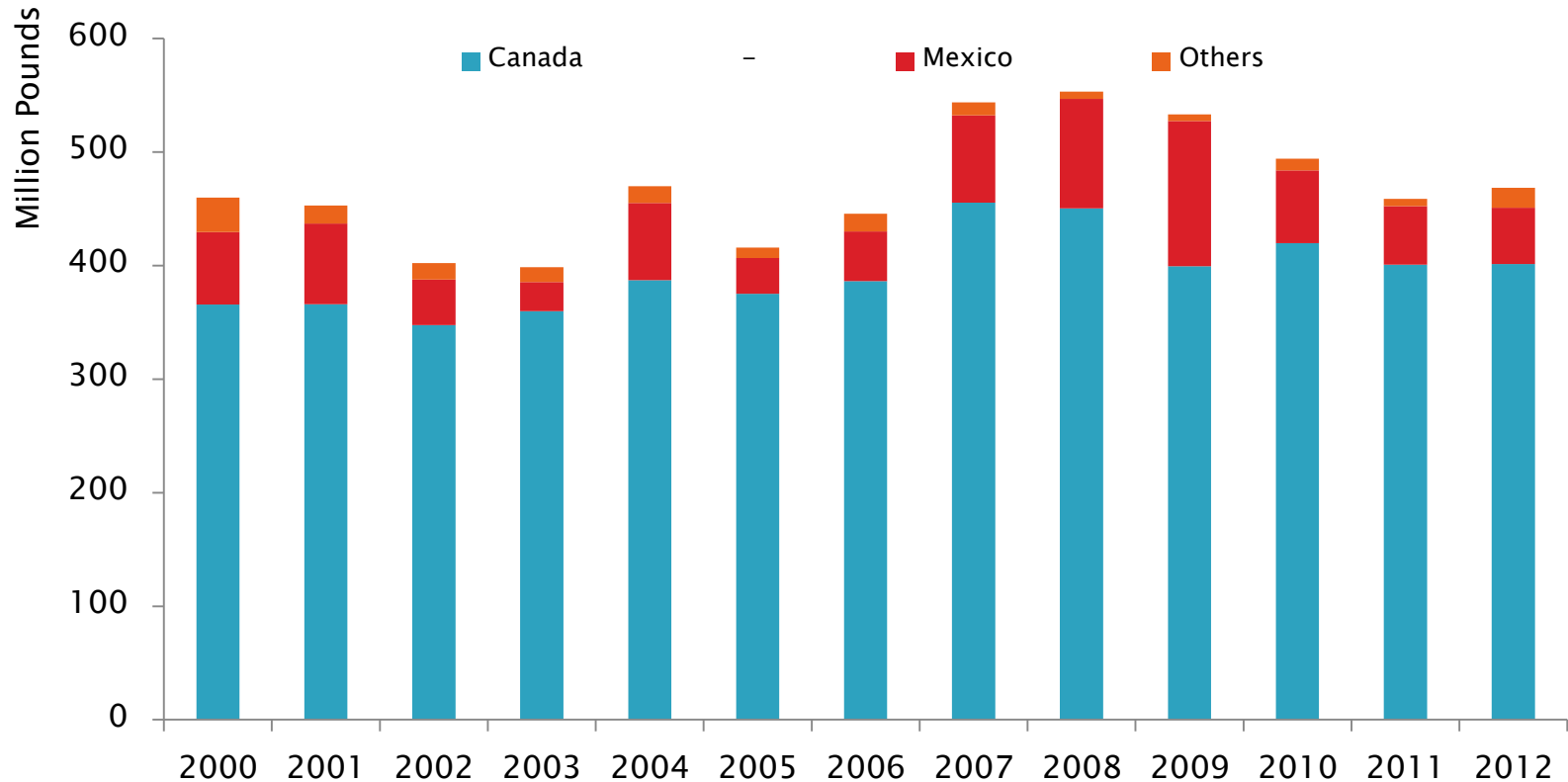
# U.S. Imports of Fresh Greenhouse Tomatoes



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

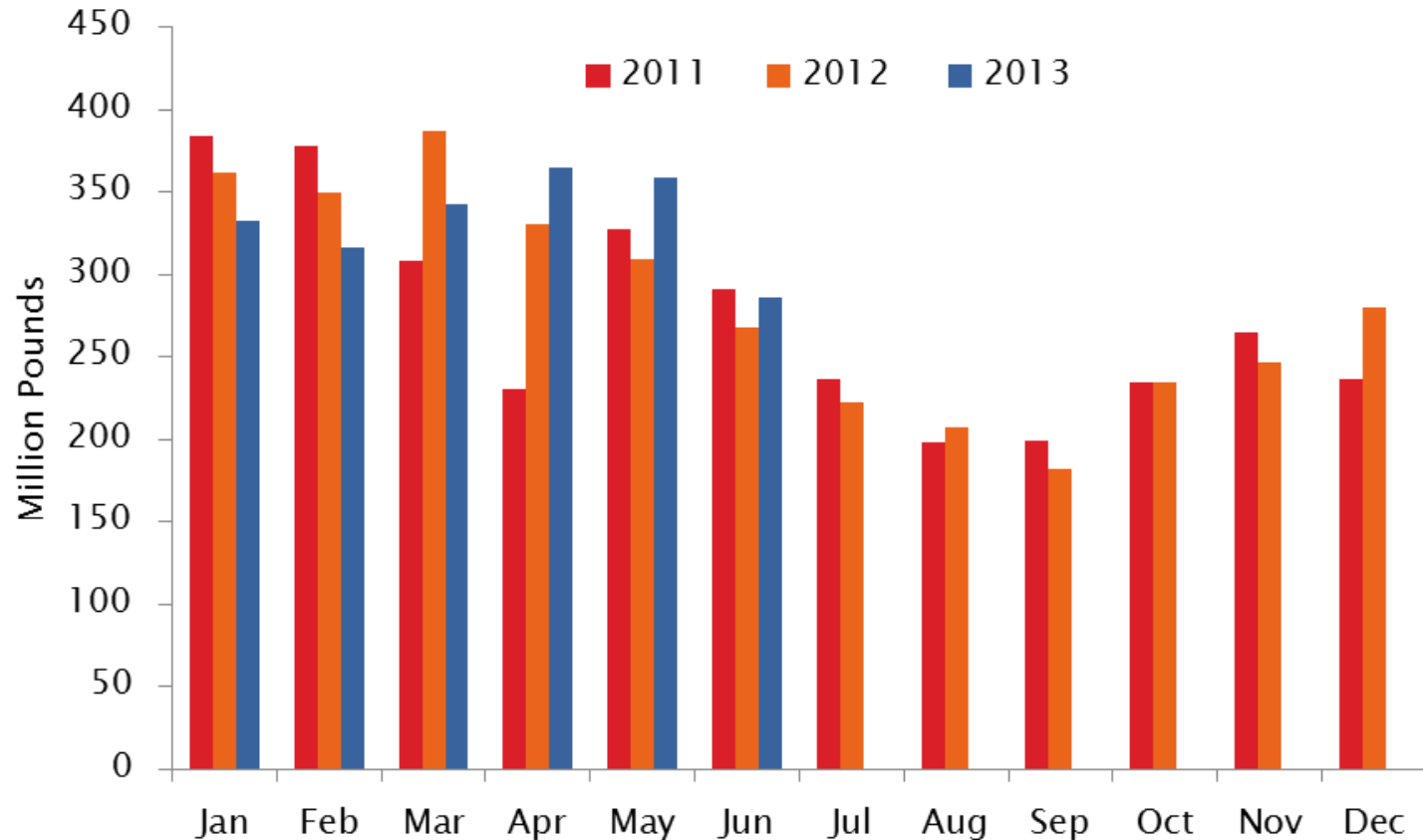
# U.S. Exports of Fresh Tomatoes

## To Mexico, Canada and Other Countries



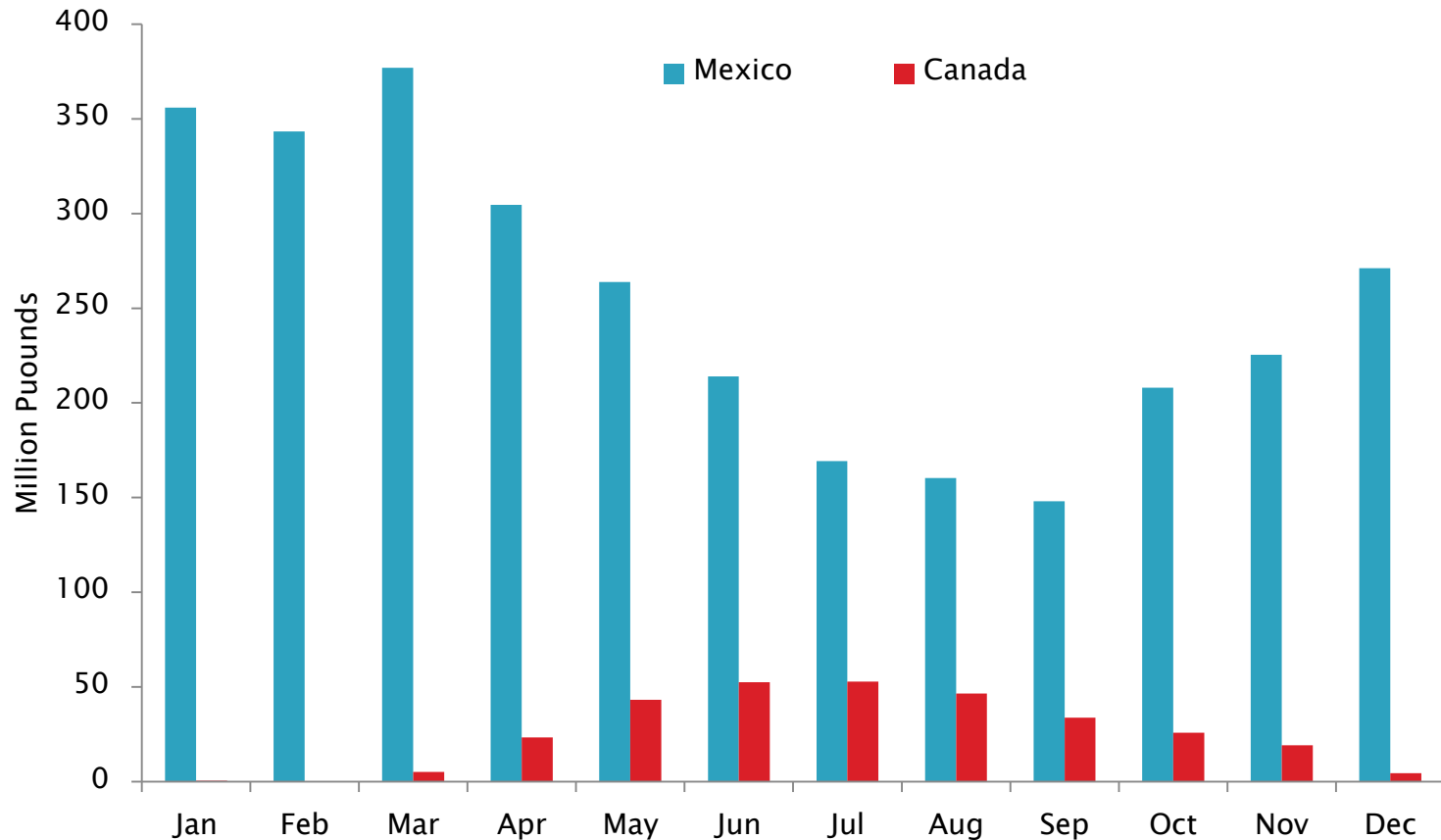
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

# U.S. Monthly Fresh Tomato Imports, 2011-June 2013



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

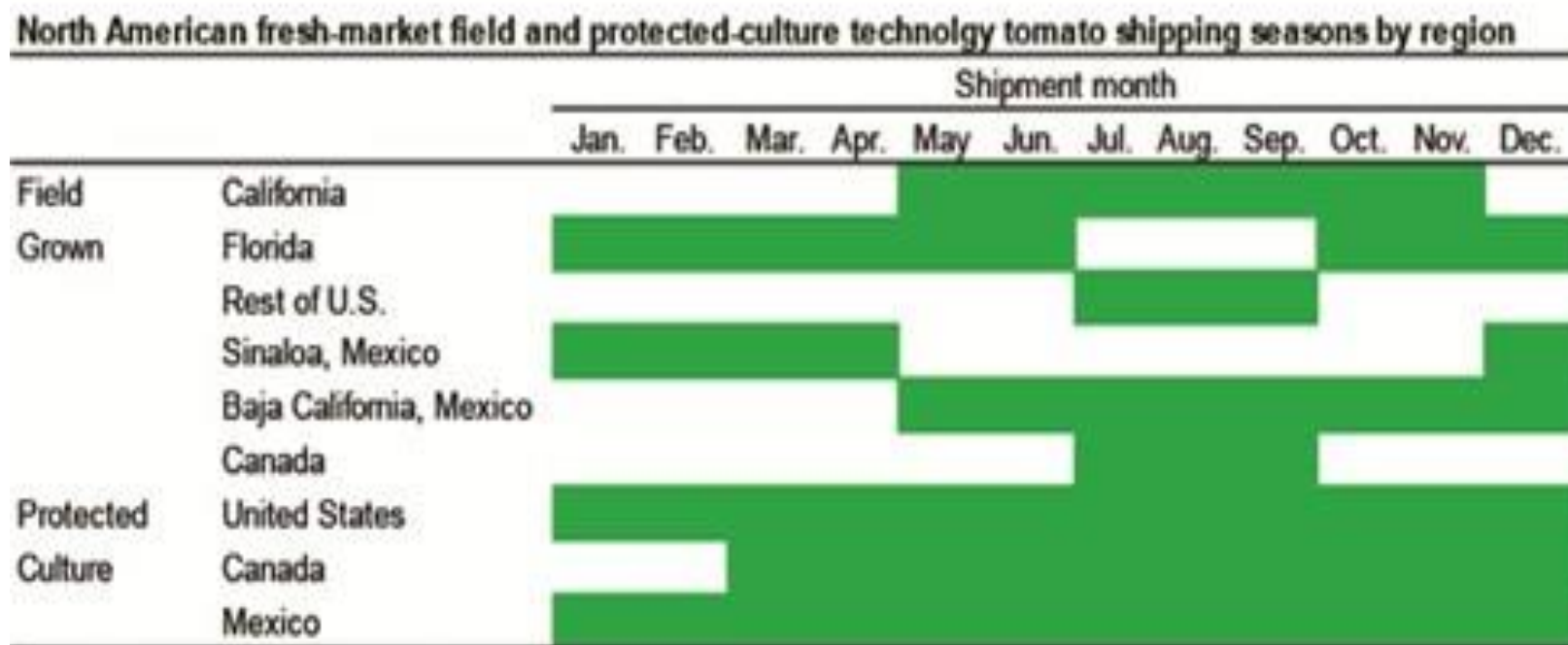
# U.S. Monthly Imports Pattern (2012)



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

# Tomato Shipping Seasons by Region

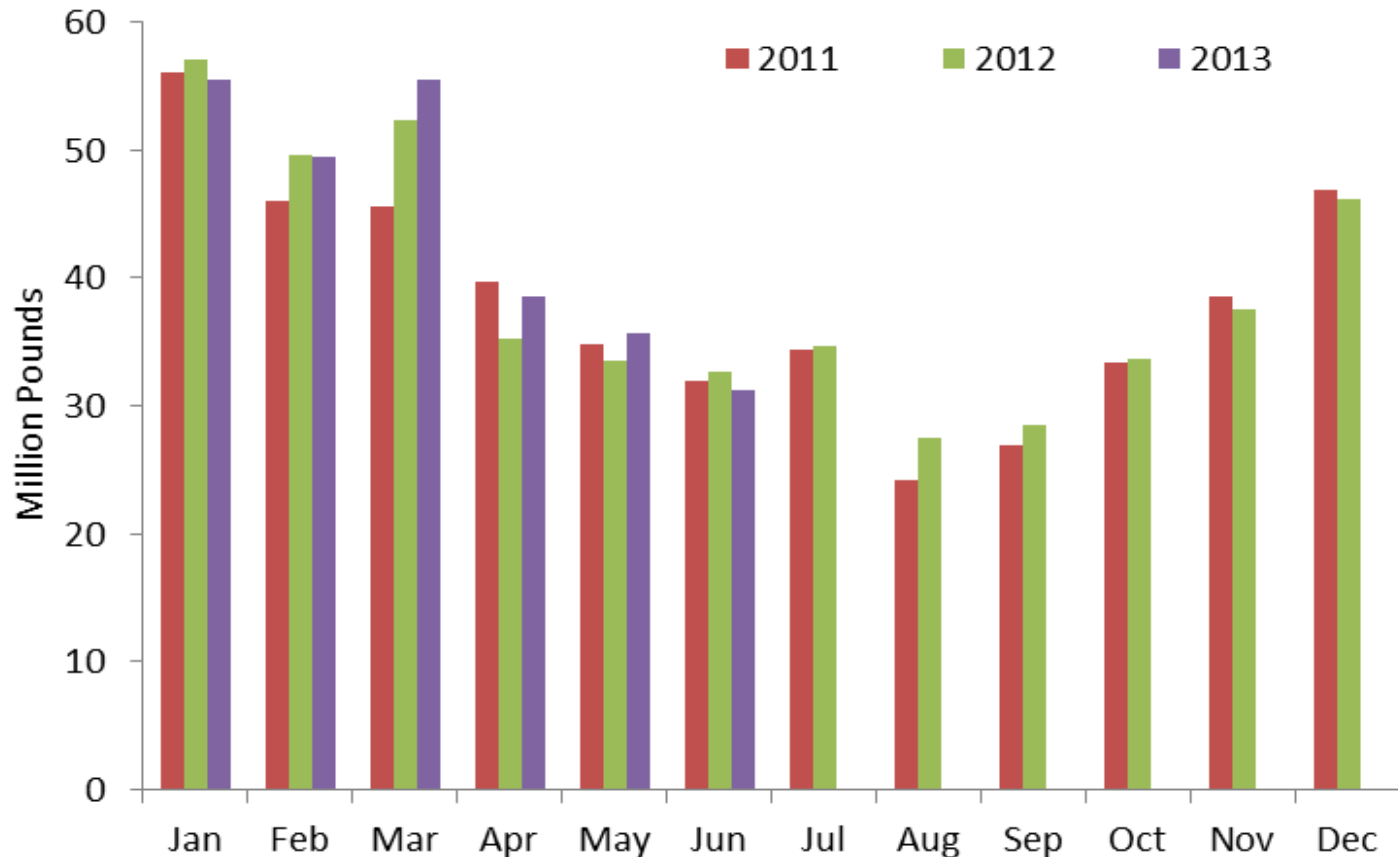
**North American fresh-market field and protected-culture technology tomato shipping seasons by region**



Source: USDA Economic Research Service.

Source: USDA/ERS

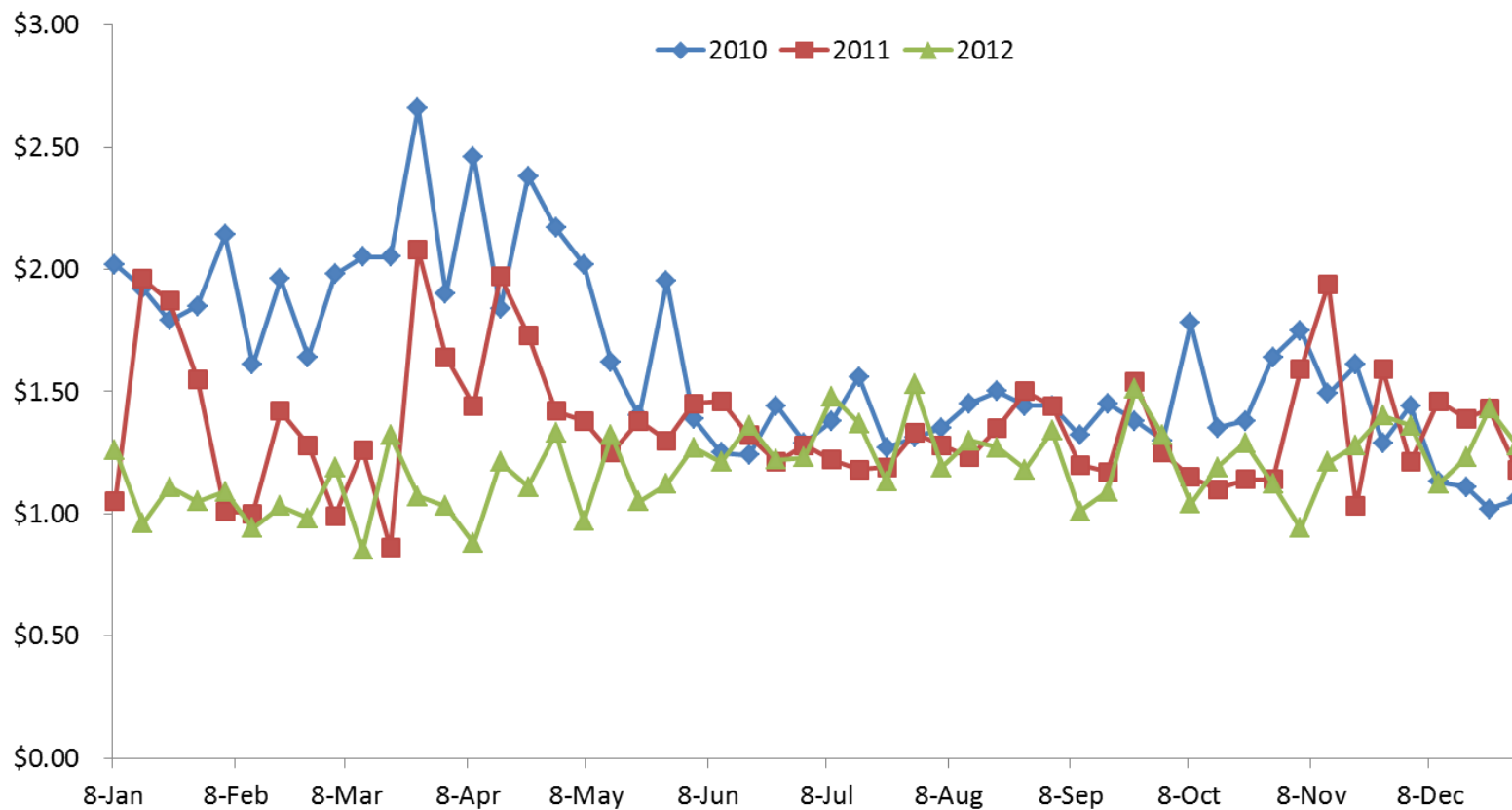
# U.S. Monthly Fresh Tomato Exports, 2010-June 2013



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

# U.S. Fresh Tomatoes Price

## U.S. Retail Advertised Prices for Tomatoes(\$/lbs)

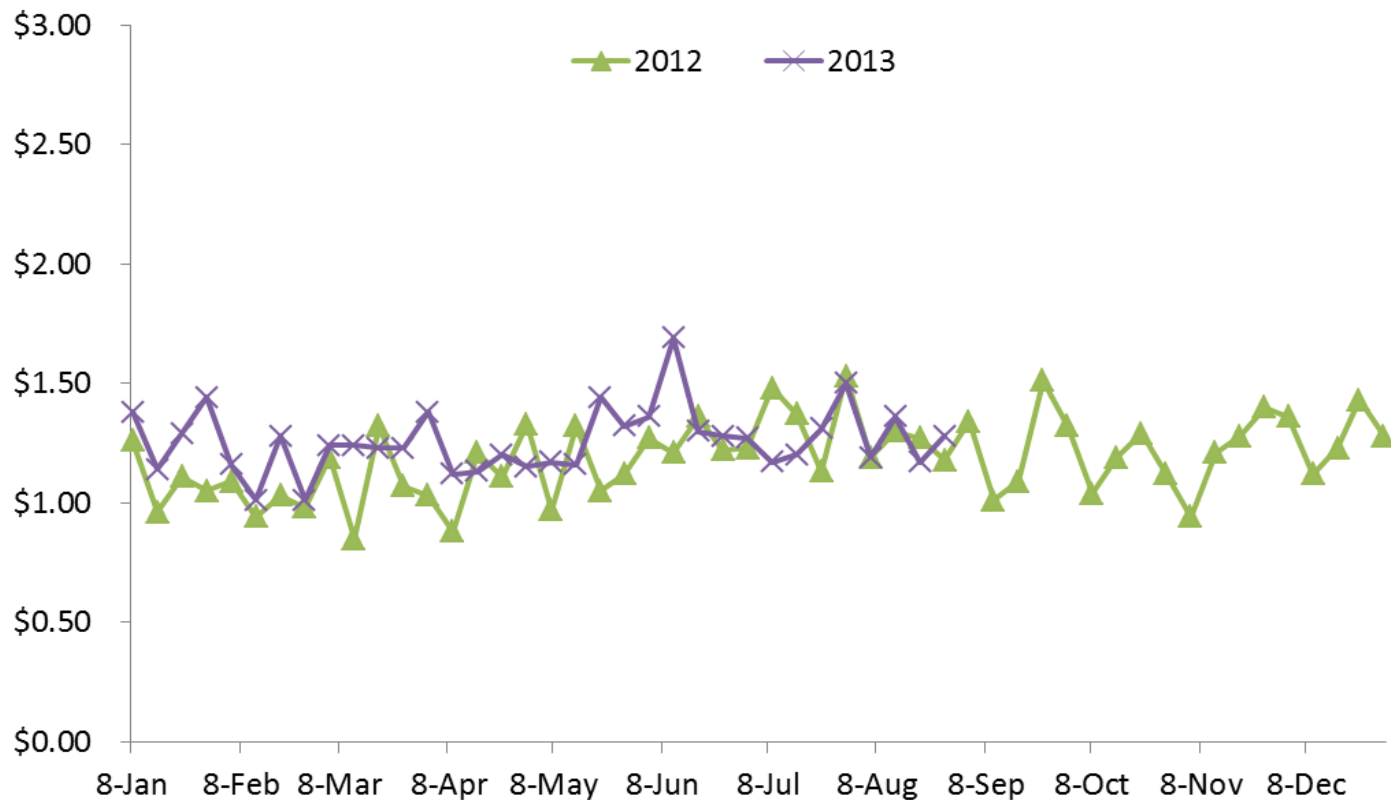


Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, National Fruit and Vegetable Retail Report



# U.S. Fresh Tomatoes Price

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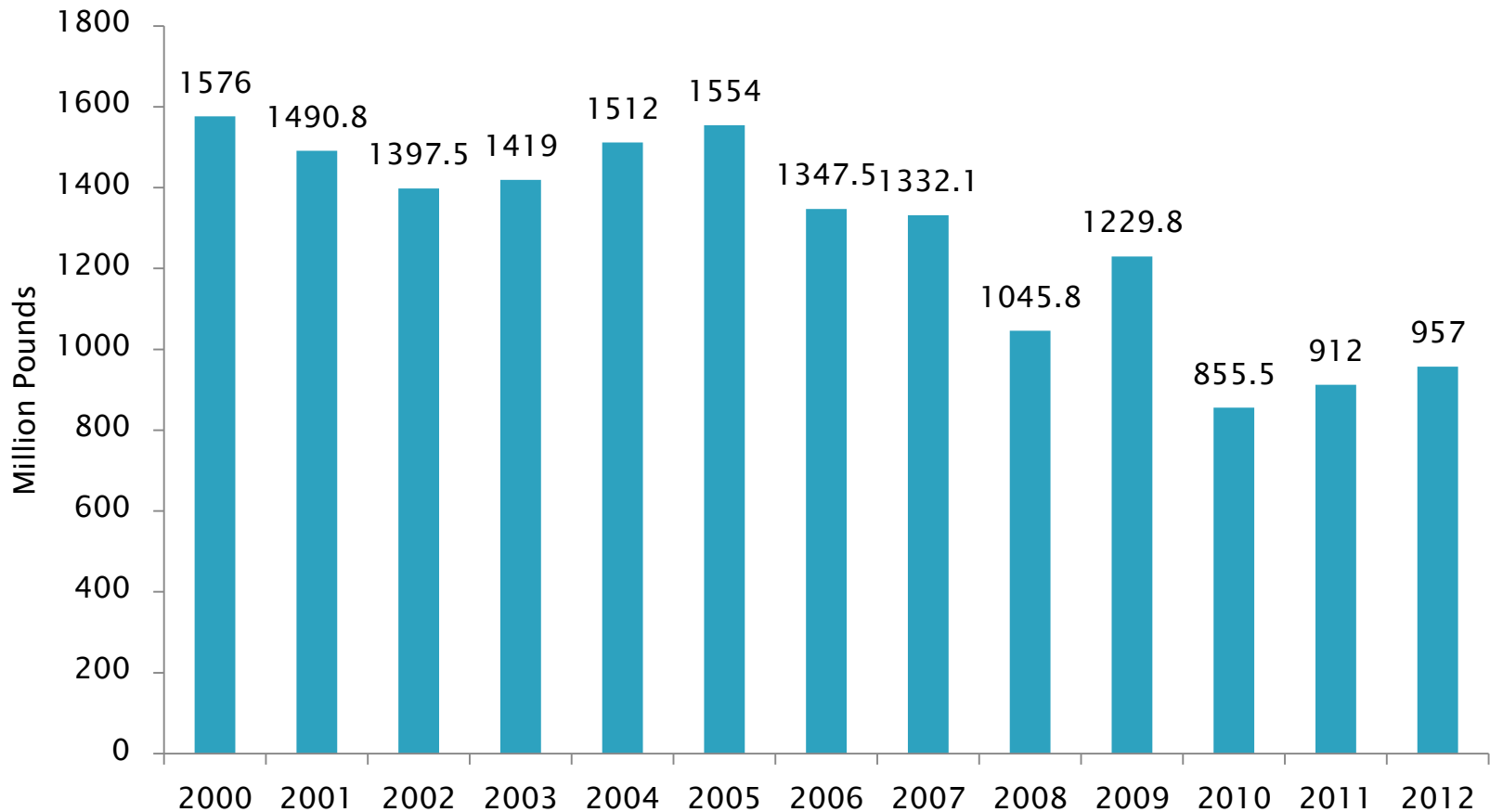
Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, National Fruit and Vegetable Retail Report

# Florida Tomato Production

- ▶ The largest supplier of fresh tomatoes, accounting for nearly 50% of the total crop value
- ▶ Winter production predominantly in FL

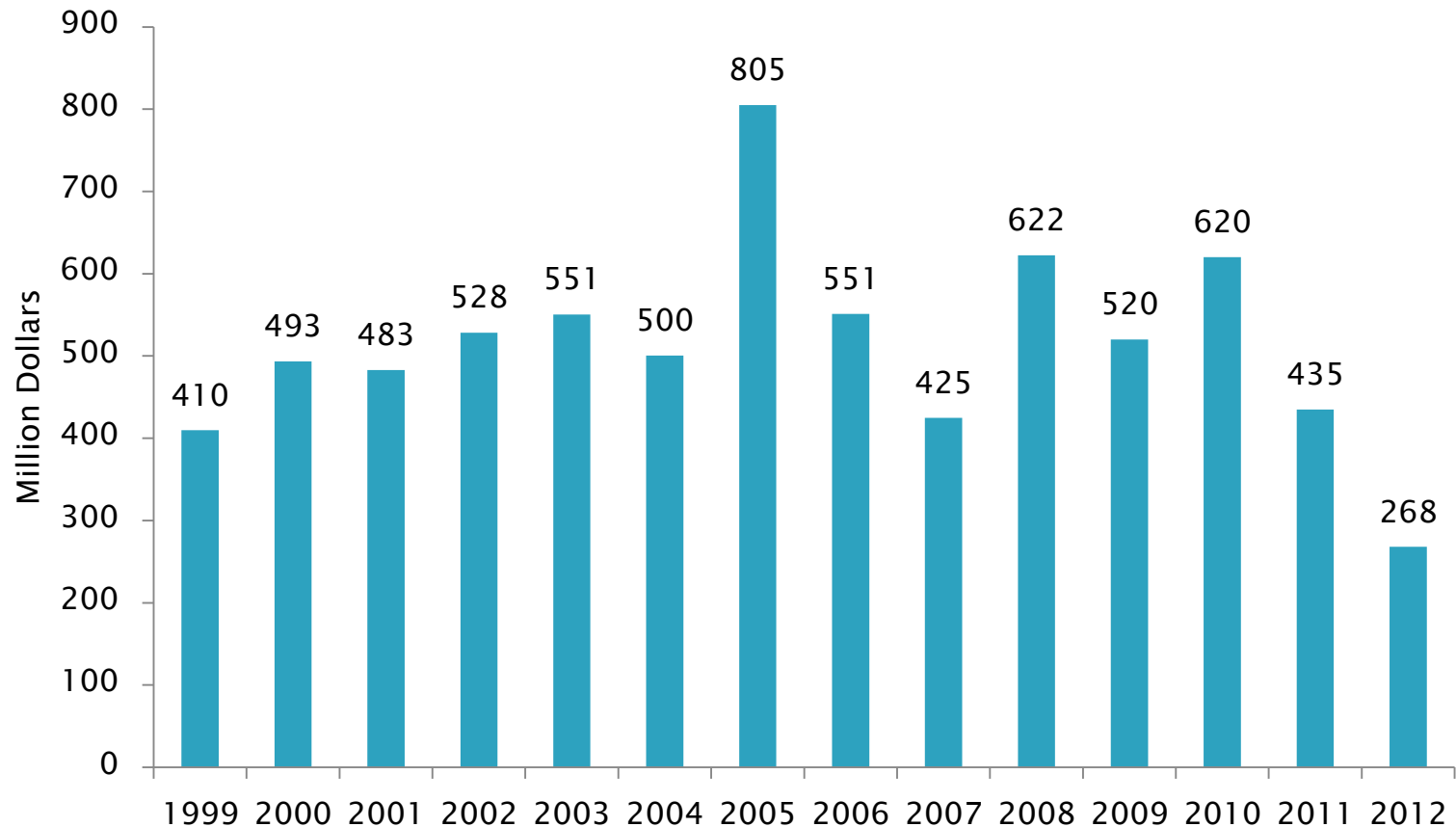


# Florida Fresh Tomatoes Production from 2000 to 2012



Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

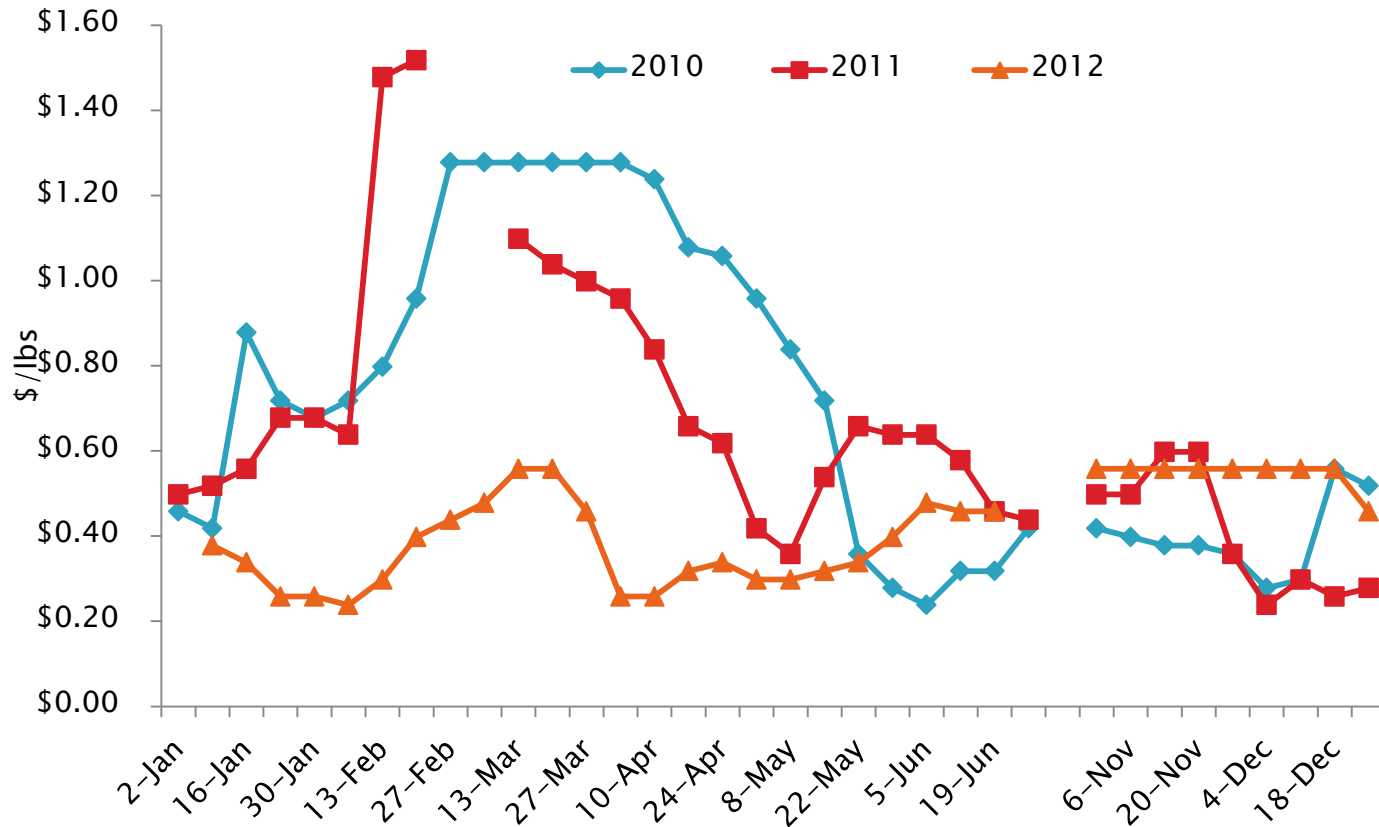
# Florida Fresh Tomato Value



Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

# FL Tomato Farm Gate Price

Tomato farm gate Prices at Florida (\$/lbs)



Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, National Fruit and Vegetable Retail Report

# Threats/Challenges for FL Industry

## ► Mexico competition

- ❑ U.S. tomato production decreased from 3324 million lbs in 2009 to 2759 million lbs in 2012
- ❑ Tomatoes imported increased significantly from 2623 million lbs to 3379 million lbs over the same period; increased by 750 million lbs;
- ❑ Farm gate value of Florida tomato industry and the national values slumped sharply, from \$620 to \$268 million;
- ❑ Market share of Florida tomatoes shrank due to the dumping of Mexican tomato to U.S. domestic tomato industry.



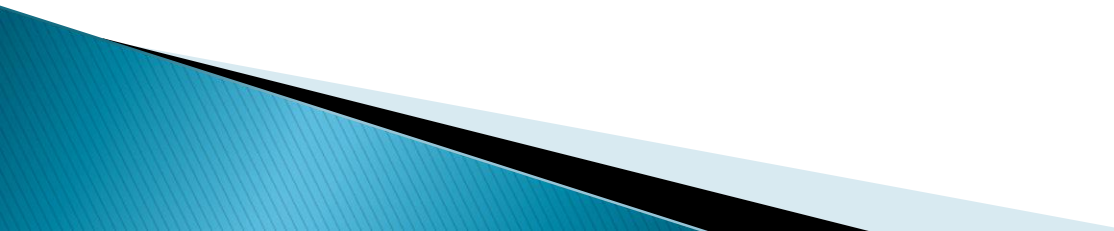
# Threats/Challenges for FL Industry

## ▶ Mexico Protected Agriculture Policy

- ❑ The Mexican greenhouse horticulture received substantial amounts of governmental subsidies.
- ❑ In 2009, SAGARPA announced a strategic project for protected agriculture.
  - ❑ For greenhouses: \$1.2 million Peso/ha, up to \$3 million peso per project (\$246,000).
  - ❑ Furthermore, specialized training and technical assistance eligible for subsidy of 50% of total cost, up to \$100,000 peso (roughly \$10,000).
  - ❑ The same subsidy applies for insurance for greenhouses, market studies; certification of GAP and GMP; promotion of products originating from protected agriculture, etc.

# Threats/Challenges for FL Industry

## ▶ Benefits of Protected Agriculture

- Higher Yield
  - The benefits in production, quality, pest control, and reduced risk exposure to climate change
  - Higher market price
- 



# Threats/Challenges for FL Industry

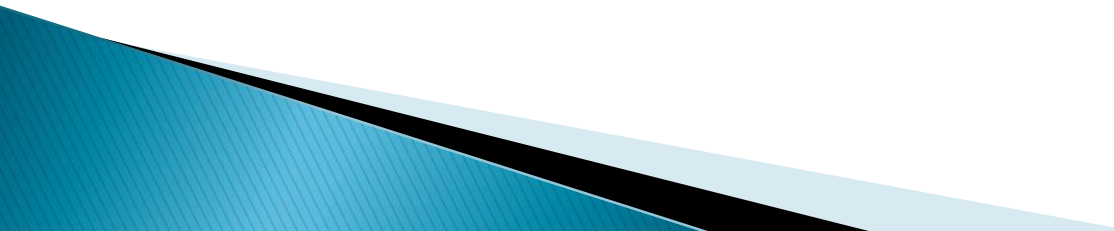
## ▶ Mexico Protected Tomato production

Year	hectares	acres
2010	4000	9884
2011	13000	32124
2012	14700	36324

# Threats/Challenges for FL Industry

- ▶ Increasing government regulation
  - ❑ Methyl bromide ban caused technological shocks, impacted yields, risks, and costs
- ▶ Increase in production costs
  - ❑ high labor rates, high transportation costs;
  - ❑ Cost disadvantage compared to Mexico (plenty of cheap labor force).

# Labor Shortage

- “Americans don’t want to do labor work”
  - “90 percent of labor force is **ILLEGAL**”
  - E-Verify policy is threatening the supply
  - Guest Worker Program (H-2A) expensive and cumbersome
  - Solution: “Ag Card”?
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# Opportunities


- ▶ New variety development for mechanical harvesting
- ▶ New Suspension Agreements

# Innovate and change

- ▶ New varieties
- ▶ Protected production
- ▶ Labor solution



# Concluding Remarks

- The industry is operating under increased costs, competition and regulation
  - Inefficient growers forced to exit, industry getting more consolidated
  - The industry has been trending down, but the new Suspension Agreement may slow/change this trend
  - Need to INNOVATE and CHANGE
  - Need new varieties and labor solutions
  - & Promote “buy local” , “Made in U.S.A.”; “Fresh from Florida”!
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THANK Y  U!

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