

Fast Facts: Lettuce/Leafy Greens

Acres planted and value of annual crop

- Value and production estimates for lettuce have been discontinued by state agencies since the mid 1990s.

Growing season

- Planted mid-August through March
- Harvesting begins mid-October through November
- Most active December through April
- Ends in May

Harvest method

- Most lettuce is hand-picked
- The spring salad mix lettuce is harvested with a suction-type mechanical harvester



Number of pickings

- Almost all lettuce is picked just once. Sometimes romaine is picked twice if the price is favorable.

Common pests and diseases

- Aphids
- Cabbage looper
- Leafhoppers
- Six-spotted leafhopper
- Vegetable weevil
- Wireworms
- Alternaria leaf spot
- Bacterial leaf spot
- Botrytis
- Corky root rot
- Damping-off
- Downy mildew
- Drop
- Erwinia soft rot
- Mosaic
- Rhizoctonia bottom rot
- Tipburn

Sources:

2008 Florida Agriculture Statistical Directory

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI070>