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Dear Respondent:

This issue of the Idaho Crop and Livestock Producers' News covers the results of the August Fruit Survey. Apple and prune & plum production is reported for Idaho, selected states, and the U.S.

This release is sent to survey participants in appreciation for their time spent responding to the survey. For more information contact us at nass-id@nass.usda.gov or at 1-800-691-9987. Thank you for reporting and your continued support.

Sincerely,

William R. Meyer
Director

Idaho 2008 Apple Production

Idaho is expecting an apple crop of 55 million pounds, up 57 percent from last year but 8 percent below 2006. If realized, this production ranks behind last year as the second smallest apple crop in Idaho since 1972. Prune and plum production in Idaho is expected to total 2,700 tons, up 50 percent from the last year.

The initial 2008 U.S. apple production forecast is set at 9.17 billion pounds, slightly more than the 2007 crop year but down 7 percent from 2006. Multiple spring freezes and summer hailstorms damaged orchards across the nation. However, trees in most areas of the U.S. experienced a recovery from the devastating growing weather in 2007.

Production in the Western States (AZ, CA, CO, ID, OR, UT, and WA) is forecast at 5.99 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2007 but down 3 percent from 2006. Washington production, which makes up 59 percent of the U.S. total, is forecast at 5.40 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2007 but down 3 percent from 2006. Most Washington orchards rebounded from the poor 2007 growing year. Furthermore, the frost occurrence did not affect bloom in the later maturing varieties. However, the late spring is expected to delay maturity and reduce sizing of the Red Delicious and Gala varieties. Oregon's apple production forecast is set at 170 million pounds, up 26 percent from 2007 and up 13 percent from 2006. Yields increased in both the Washington-Oregon border and the western part of the State as growers recouped production losses from the 2007 crop year. Furthermore, the late-maturing varieties, which are most of Oregon's apples, avoided the adverse spring weather. Apple production in California is forecast at 320 million pounds, a decrease of 7 percent from 2007 and a decrease of 10 percent from 2006. An April frost and declining bearing acreage contributed to the reduced yields from 2007.

Prune and plum production in Idaho, Michigan, Oregon, and Washington is forecast at 18,800 tons, up 55 percent from last year but 13 percent lower than 2006. Oregon's forecast, at 9,000 tons, is 200 percent above last year but 14 percent below 2006. Orchards on the western part of Oregon have rebounded from last year's devastating growing season, thereby accounting for much of the increase in production. Orchards along the Washington border have also increased their yields from last year. Washington's production is forecast at 4,800 tons, up 14 percent from 2007 but 11 percent below the 2006 level. The increased yields in Washington plum and prune orchards are due to a recovery from a poor 2007 growing season. While a mid-April freeze and poor pollination were expected to decrease production, most orchards are unaffected. Michigan's production is forecast at 2,300 tons, down 26 percent from 2007 and 36 percent from 2006. Michigan orchards suffered from multiple spring freezes, poor pollination during bloom, and a summer hailstorm.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.

**Apples, Commercial: Total Production, Selected States and United States,
2006 – 2007 and Forecasted August 1, 2008**

State	2006	2007	2008
	<i>Million Pounds</i>		
Arizona	30.1	23.0	20.0
California	355.0	345.0	320.0
Colorado	15.0	13.0	15.0
Connecticut	17.5	23.0	20.0
Georgia	13.0	2.0	12.0
Idaho	60.0	35.0	55.0
Illinois	52.5	5.0	52.0
Indiana	55.0	33.0	42.0
Maine	23.5	40.0	37.0
Maryland	34.0	33.0	26.0
Massachusetts	32.0	38.5	38.0
Michigan	880.0	770.0	540.0
Minnesota	23.0	26.0	23.1
Missouri	53.0	3.0	54.0
New Hampshire	28.5	34.5	35.5
New Jersey	45.0	42.0	40.0
New York	1,260.0	1,310.0	1,150.0
North Carolina	173.0	60.0	165.0
Ohio	102.0	55.6	95.0
Oregon	150.0	135.0	170.0
Pennsylvania	470.0	470.0	400.0
Utah	10.0	19.0	9.0
Vermont	36.0	38.0	40.5
Virginia	220.0	215.0	230.0
Washington	5,550.0	5,200.0	5,400.0
West Virginia	90.0	80.0	88.0
Wisconsin	65.0	59.0	55.0
United States	9,871.7	9,113.9	9,165.2

**Prunes and Plums: Total Production by State and 4-State Total,
2006 – 2007 and Forecasted August 1, 2008**

State	2006	2007	2008
	<i>Tons</i>		
Idaho	2,000	1,800	2,700
Michigan	3,600	3,100	2,300
Oregon	10,500	3,000	9,000
Washington	5,400	4,200	4,800
4-State Total	21,500	12,100	18,800

A THANK YOU TO ALL IDAHO FARM AND RANCH OPERATORS

Your cooperation in completing agricultural surveys from this office is greatly **APPRECIATED**. Accurate, useful estimates are vital in decision making. All estimates derived from these surveys, along with other pertinent agricultural data, are published in our regular series of releases. All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. If you have any questions or require additional information, you may reach us toll free at 1-800-691-9987.