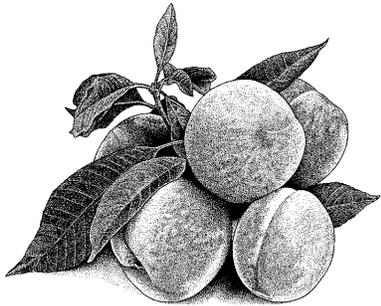


Peaches



Commercial peach production was valued at 1.22 million dollars in 2003, compared to 1.05 million dollars in 2002. Peach producers had excellent yields due to ideal weather conditions. Yield per acre averaged 5,520 pounds, up 520 pounds from the 2002 peach crop. Though yield was extremely good, the number of acres of bearing age trees continued to decline. In fact, acreage was down to 290 acres, a 3 percent drop from 2002, and less than half of the acreage the state had in 1996.

Peaches - Production, Price and Value of Production: Louisiana, 2000-2003

Year	Acres of Bearing Age	Yield per Acre	Total Production	Utilized Production	Season Average Prices	Value of Utilized Production
		---Pounds---	-Million Pounds-	-Million Pounds-	-Cents per Pound-	-1,000 Dollars-
2000	320	3,750	1.2	1.1	77.1	848
2001	310	4,520	1.4	1.3	87.1	1,132
2002	300	5,000	1.5	1.4	75.1	1,051
2003	290	5,520	1.6	1.5	81.5	1,223

Pecans

Louisiana's total pecan production was valued at 15.2 million dollars in 2003. Of this total, native and seedling varieties represented 72 percent, while improved varieties represented 28 percent. Excellent weather conditions from the previous year and the cyclical nature of this crop resulted in the higher production in 2003. Production of all pecans totaled 20 million pounds, compared to 6 million pounds the previous year. Of the total, native and seedling varieties represented 80 percent, while improved varieties represented 20 percent.

