



Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2007 Sweet Cherry Production, Utilization, and Value

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Montana sweet cherry growers produced a total of 2,430 tons in 2007, 1 percent above the 2006 production of 2,400 tons, and nearly double the 2005 production of 1,230 tons. Of the 2,430 tons produced, 2,160 tons were utilized, far above the 580 tons utilized in 2006 and 83 percent above the 2005 utilized total of 1,180 tons. The value of production for 2007 was \$3.3 million compared with \$1.1 million in 2006 and \$4.2 million in 2005. The average price per ton received for cherries during 2007 was \$1,520 compared with \$1,850 in 2006 and \$3,530 per ton in 2005. In 2007, there were 700 bearing acres with an average yield of 3.47 tons per acre, compared with 2006 when there were 750 bearing acres and an average yield of 3.20 tons per acre, and 2005 when there were 740 bearing acres with an average yield of 1.66 tons per acre.

Sweet cherry producers in the United States harvested 323,670 tons in 2007, 10 percent higher than the 2006 total of 294,160 tons, and 29 percent higher than the 2005 crop of 250,830 tons. Producers utilized 319,190 tons in 2007, 11 percent higher than the 287,520 tons utilized in 2006, and 31 percent higher than the 2005 utilized total of 243,570 tons. Value of production for the 2007 crop totaled \$583.7 million, which is 25 percent higher than the \$465.2 million in 2006, and 21 percent higher than the 2005 total of \$484.3 million. The price per ton was \$1,830 in 2007 compared with \$1,620 in 2006 and \$1,990 in 2005. In 2007 there were 83,550 bearing acres with an average yield of 3.87 tons per acre, compared with 81,600 bearing acres and an average yield per acre of 3.60 tons in 2006, and 78,790 bearing acres with an average yield of 3.18 tons per acre in 2005.

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