
SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Objectives

The 1996 New York Orchard and Vineyard Survey had the following objectives: establish the number of acres and trees of each major fruit by county; obtain counts of commercial operations growing each fruit species; summarize apple acres by age, variety, and density; establish the number of acres of each major grape variety and rootstock by county. This publication is used by growers, the fruit industry, researchers, marketing and promotion associations, processors, and agricultural government agencies to assess changes occurring in the New York fruit industry. The publication continues the data series established in 1957 and last conducted for the 1990 crop year.

Survey Design

Three separate questionnaires were developed for use in gathering 1996 crop data. A single fruit tree questionnaire was designed to collect data for all growers with one or more acres of apples, peaches, pears, tart or sweet cherries. There was a shift from previous surveys to a breakdown of apple acres by year planted in place of the number of trees by year planted. In addition, number of apple acres were obtained by planted density as opposed to rootstock. These changes were made upon the request of growers and industry specialists to make the 1996 summary more informative. Data for grape growers with less than 10 acres was collected on an abbreviated questionnaire while those with 10 or more acres of grapes completed a detailed version.

Data Collection

The list construction for this survey began with the New York Agricultural Statistics Service's fruit list. Lists were also obtained from grower associations, fruit processors, Cooperative Extension Service and other related fruit organizations. These lists were merged and duplication removed.

The first phase of data collection began with mailing grape growers a questionnaire in November 1996 and mailing to tree fruit growers the end of January 1997. If any grape grower was found to have the other fruits of interest they were sent a tree fruit questionnaire and vice versa. Response was excellent with 35 percent of the tree fruit growers and 42 percent of the grape growers responding by mail.

The second phase of data collection involved telephone follow-up of operations that failed to respond by mail. Grape growers were called the end of December and tree fruit growers the middle of February. An additional 41 percent of the fruit tree questionnaires and 31 percent of the vineyard questionnaires were completed by telephone.

The third and final phase consisted of sending the remaining questionnaires to field enumerators for personal interviews. Data collection was completed on this phase in April 1997.

Data Tabulation and Estimation

Approximately 2,000 questionnaires were tabulated for the orchard and vineyard surveys. After editing the data for completeness, the records were then summarized using Statistical Analysis Systems (SAS) software. The five tree fruits were summarized separately from the grapes. Survey results were tabulated by county, variety, density, and age of plantings. In addition, rootstock data was summarized for grapes.

Refusals and inaccessible fruit operations were estimated by using alternate sources. The relative size of the operation and fruit types grown were estimated based on past surveys, observations, and similar operations. Expansions were computed by county for nonresponse and an additional expansion was applied to account for incompleteness in our list.

SUMMARY

New York's tree fruits and grapes totaled 89,436 acres as of January 1, 1997. This is 8 percent less than the comparable acres (*excluding plums and prunes*) recorded from the 1990 survey.

All of New York's major tree fruits and grapes registered decreases in acreage since 1990 except sweet cherries which showed a 3 percent increase in acreage and a 55 percent increase in trees. The greatest decline was noted for tart cherries with acreage down 32 percent and trees down 31 percent. Pear acreage declined 19 percent and trees dropped 23 percent.

Recorded apple acreage declined 9 percent while the total number of trees increased 36 percent, reflecting the newer, denser planting methods. Peaches were down 8 percent for acreage and 6 percent for total trees.

Grapes showed the least amount of variation with only a 4 percent decline in acreage compared with the 1990 survey. If growers intentions are realized only a slight decrease in acreage will take place in 1997.

TREE FRUITS AND VINEYARDS

Number of farms, trees, and acres, by kind of fruit, 1962-1996

Fruit and Year	Number of Farms	Number of Trees	Number of Acres	Fruit and Year	Number of Farms	Number of Trees	Number of Acres
<u>APPLES</u>				<u>SWEET CHERRIES</u>			
1962	2,072	2,691,660	76,066	1962	908	138,888	2,571
1966	1,741	2,886,752	74,376	1966	801	149,240	2,663
1970	1,288	3,255,888	72,569	1970	553	132,049	2,038
1975	1,218	3,554,996	66,742	1975	441	103,203	1,749
1980	1,183	4,554,483	74,346	1980	394	87,875	1,665
1985	1,043	5,052,307	68,520	1985	257	66,695	1,073
1990	801	5,484,346	56,101	1990	183	40,600	743
1996	679	7,444,164	51,097	1996	128	62,997	768
<u>PEACHES</u>				<u>GRAPES</u>			
1962	935	411,671	4,775	1962	N/A	-	N/A
1966	722	342,400	3,777	1966	2,176	-	33,211
1970	454	217,376	2,462	1970	2,058	-	36,879
1975	405	207,692	2,275	1975	2,153	-	42,553
1980	471	240,748	2,725	1980	1,968	-	41,979
1985	377	249,558	2,260	1985	1,524	-	38,226
1990	306	195,434	1,757	1990	1,095	-	32,846
1996	207	183,962	1,611	1996	990	-	31,401
<u>PEARS</u>				<u>TOTAL FRUIT 1/</u>			
1962	1,012	403,811	4,716	1962	N/A	-	N/A
1966	987	511,534	5,593	1966	N/A	-	128,974
1970	734	456,822	5,044	1970	3,245	-	126,579
1975	620	392,285	4,282	1975	3,244	-	124,091
1980	549	338,419	3,946	1980	3,024	-	132,184
1985	447	312,425	2,868	1985	2,754	-	120,113
1990	329	280,426	2,406	1990	2,148	-	98,246
1996	209	214,866	1,951	1996	1,744	-	89,436
<u>TART CHERRIES</u>							
1962	1,277	758,150	8,754				
1966	923	625,658	7,056				
1970	585	542,530	5,985				
1975	441	443,994	4,942				
1980	421	552,366	6,247				
1985	347	668,156	6,339				
1990	218	392,948	3,831				
1996	130	270,475	2,608				

N/A - Not available.

1/ 1962-1990 including plums and prunes.

ALL FRUIT
Acres by kind and county, 1996

County	Apples	Grapes	Peaches	Pears	Tart Cherries	Sweet Cherries
Albany	513	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Broome	<u>1/</u>	-	-	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Cattaraugus	<u>1/</u>	343	-	-	-	-
Cayuga	152	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	<u>1/</u>
Chautauqua	127	15,500	62	<u>1/</u>	18	74
Clinton	2,854	-	-	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Columbia	2,657	153	58	159	12	30
Dutchess	1,088	135	44	35	-	-
Erie	<u>1/</u>	2,002	-	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Essex	391	-	-	-	<u>1/</u>	-
Fulton	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Greene	<u>1/</u>	-	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Livingston	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Monroe	1,669	46	132	<u>1/</u>	33	62
Montgomery	<u>1/</u>	-	-	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Niagara	4,949	1,040	462	587	611	297
Oneida	757	-	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	<u>1/</u>
Onondaga	1,388	-	-	-	-	-
Ontario	640	605	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Orange	1,209	<u>1/</u>	99	39	-	<u>1/</u>
Orleans	5,855	<u>1/</u>	65	51	147	59
Oswego	592	-	<u>1/</u>	84	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Rensselaer	129	-	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Rockland	113	-	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Saratoga	412	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Schoharie	136	-	-	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Schuyler	<u>1/</u>	984	16	<u>1/</u>	7	52
Seneca	60	866	<u>1/</u>	-	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Steuben	<u>1/</u>	1,884	-	<u>1/</u>	-	<u>1/</u>
Suffolk	116	1,557	177	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Ulster	8,632	149	136	288	<u>1/</u>	50
Washington	209	-	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-
Wayne	15,502	220	260	486	1,729	94
Westchester	167	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Wyoming	141	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	-	-
Yates	130	5,748	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Other	509	169	100	222	51	50
TOTAL	51,097	31,401	1,611	1,951	2,608	768

1/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Included in State total.