

Fruit Review, 2005

By James R. Collom

Overall, 2005 was a good year for fruit in Pennsylvania. Commonwealth apple, peach, and grape growers reported good yields in 2005. Tart cherry and pear growers reported below average yields. Pear yields were some of the worst in recent history.

The Commonwealth's six major fruit crops are comprised of apples, peaches, pears, sweet cherries, tart cherries and grapes. These crops produced a total utilized weight of 750 million pounds, up 19 percent from 2004.

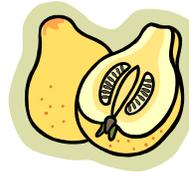


◆ **Apples:** The 2005 commercial apple crop, utilized production, in Pennsylvania totaled 510 million pounds, up 28 percent from the 400 million pounds utilized in 2004. The crop was valued at 50.9 million dollars, up 26 percent from the 2004 value.

Pennsylvania ranked 4th nationally in utilized apple production.



◆ **Grapes:** Pennsylvania's 2005 grape crop, utilized production, was 90,000 tons, up 4 percent from 2004. The price per ton averaged 218 dollars, down 3 dollars from last year. The total value of utilized production was 19.6 million dollars, up 2 percent from the previous year. The Commonwealth's utilized grape production ranked 5th nationally.



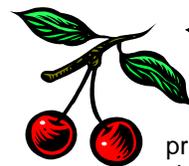
utilized pear production.

◆ **Pears:** The utilized production of pears in Pennsylvania totaled 2,100 tons, down 52 percent from 2004. The utilized crop was valued at 1.3 million dollars. The Commonwealth ranked 6th nationally in



Pennsylvania ranked 5th in utilized peach production.

◆ **Peaches:** Utilized peach production in Pennsylvania totaled 26,600 tons in 2005, up 17 percent from 2004. The season-average price of \$715 per ton was up \$5 from 2004. The total value of utilized production was 19.0 million dollars. Nationally,



Pennsylvania ranked 5th in utilized production of tart cherries.

◆ **Tart Cherries:** Utilized tart cherry production in Pennsylvania totaled 2.6 million pounds, down 400,000 pounds from last year's crop. The season average price was 0.315 dollars per pound, compared with 0.353 dollars per pound in 2004. The total value of utilized production was 0.8 million dollars. Nationally,

Usual Dates of Full Bloom, Harvest and Marketing for Principal Pennsylvania Fruit Crops

Crop	April					May					June					July					August					September					October					November					Marketing			
	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	Most Active	Ends
Apples																																											Oct 1	Jun 1
Peaches																																											Aug 15	Sep 30
Cherries-Tart																																											July 10	July 30
Pears																																											Aug 15	Oct 31
Grapes																																											Sep 30	Nov 1

Key: Full Bloom Harvesting Begin Most Active Ends