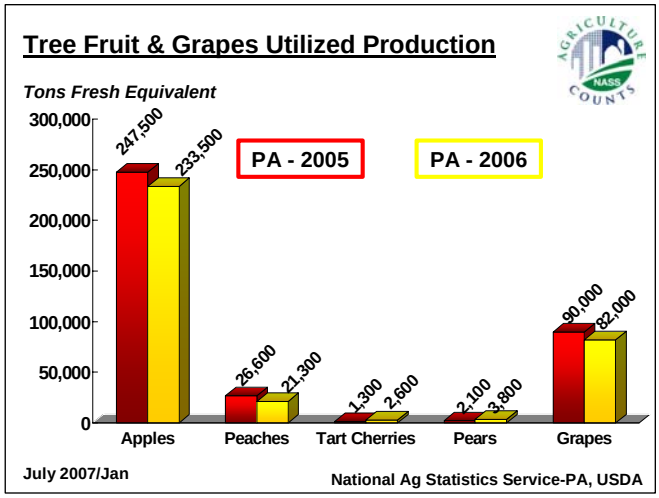
Fruit Review, 2006

By James R. Collom

The Commonwealth's five major fruit crops are comprised of apples, peaches, pears, tart cherries and grapes. These crops produced a total utilized weight of 686 million pounds, down 7 percent from 2005.

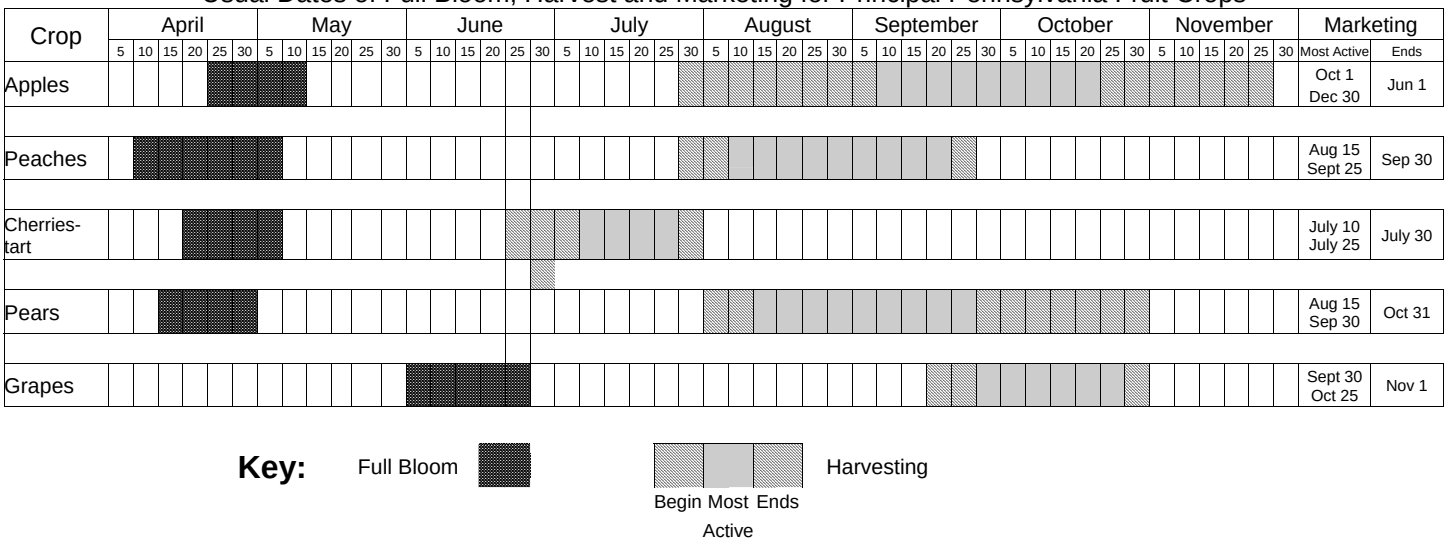


✦ ***Apples -*** The 2006 commercial apple crop, utilized production, in Pennsylvania totaled 467 million pounds, down 6 percent from the 495 million pounds utilized in 2005. The crop was valued at 59.8 million dollars, up 21 percent from the 2005 value. Pennsylvania ranked 4th nationally in utilized apple production.

✦ ***Grapes -*** Pennsylvania's 2006 grape crop, utilized production, was 82,000 tons, down 9 percent from 2005. The total value of utilized production was 20.6 million dollars. The Commonwealth's utilized grape production ranked 4th nationally.

✦ ***Pears -*** The utilized production of pears in Pennsylvania totaled 3,800 tons, up 81 percent from 2005. The utilized crop was valued at 2.7 million dollars. The Commonwealth ranked 5th nationally in utilized pear production.

✦ ***Peaches -*** Utilized peach production in Pennsylvania totaled 21,300 tons in 2006, down 20 percent from 2005. The season-average price of $913 per ton was up $198 from 2005. The total value of utilized production was 19.5 million dollars. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked 6th in utilized peach production.

✦ ***Tart Cherries -*** Utilized tart cherry production in Pennsylvania totaled 5.2 million pounds, up 2,600,000 pounds from last year's crop. The season average price was 0.283 dollars per pound, compared with 0.315 dollars per pound in 2005. The total value of utilized production was 1.5 million dollars. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked 5th in utilized production of tart cherries.

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