



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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**Results** of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## August Fruit Report

HARRISBURG, PA, Aug 10, 2007 - - The following forecasts are made based upon conditions on August 1, 2007:

**Apples:** Pennsylvania's production is forecast at 455 million pounds, down 3 percent from last year's crop, and 9 percent below 2005. The 2007 Pennsylvania apple crop got off to an excellent start with favorable weather after bloom. Apples sized well early in the season. However weather of late has turned dry and apple sizing has slowed considerably. Apple trees are carrying good crop loads but yields and sizing are being negatively affected by dry weather. All other quality factors this season have been good. Fruit finish has been excellent and there have been no issues with uncontrolled insects or diseases to date. Hail damage is virtually nonexistent in the major apple producing counties. The first U.S. forecast of the 2007 season is 9.28 billion pounds, down 7 percent from last year and 4 percent lower than the 2005 crop.

**Grapes:** Pennsylvania's production forecast is 83,000 tons, up 1 percent from last year but down 8 percent from 2005. Juice grape growers report a decent crop of grapes with little frost damage. Grape berry moth damage has been low while Japanese beetle pressure has been very high. Most growers have sprayed at least once for this pest. Some Concord growers have sprayed twice. Downey and powdery mildew pressure has been low. Wine grape growers across the Commonwealth report very good crops with anticipation for good vintages due to the hot, dry weather of late. U.S. grape production is forecast at 6.99 million tons, up 9 percent from 2006 but 11 percent lower than 2005.

**Peaches:** Pennsylvania peach producers expect to harvest 19,100 tons of peaches from their orchards in 2007. This estimate is up 100 tons from the July 1 forecast. Most growers reported a good peach crop with average to large size and excellent flavor. Peach growers in Pennsylvania were negatively affected by the Easter frost and report that peaches this year have been smaller than normal due to the drier than normal conditions. Twenty-eight percent of PA peaches were harvested as of the 29<sup>th</sup> of July. The U.S. peach production forecast is 1.03 million tons, 2 percent above 2006.

**Pears:** The Pennsylvania crop is forecast at 2,800 tons, down 28 percent from 2006 but up 33 percent from the frost damaged 2005 crop. Pear growers report that the lack of rainfall is hampering production. U.S. pear production is forecast at 878,050 tons, up 4 percent from last year and up 7 percent from 2005.

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