



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/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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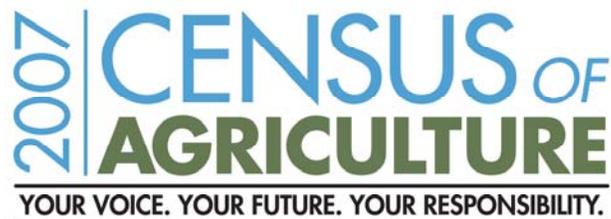
Pennsylvania October Fruit Report

HARRISBURG, PA, Oct 12, 2007 - - - Pennsylvania's apple and grape producers both anticipate harvesting a smaller crop of fruit in 2007 compared with 2006. The following forecasts are based on conditions as of October 1.

Apples: Pennsylvania's production is forecast at 455 million pounds, down 3 percent from last year's crop, and 9 percent lower than 2005. The October 1 forecast is unchanged from the August 1 forecast. Pennsylvania apples continued to be negatively affected by the dry conditions experienced this growing season. Growers report good crop loads, but smaller apples due to the dry conditions. Fruit finish and coloring have been excellent in 2007. The final U.S. forecast of the 2007 season is 9.25 billion pounds, down 7 percent from last year and 5 percent below the 2005 crop.

Grapes: Pennsylvania's production forecast is 80,000 tons, down 2 percent from last year and 11 percent below the 2005 crop. Concord and wine grape harvest is on-going. Niagara harvest is complete. Thus far in the season, juice grape growers report respectable yields. Brix levels have been excellent in both juice and wine grape varieties. Wine growers are reporting excellent potential vintages due to dry weather. Quality across all grape varieties has been excellent. U.S. grape production is forecast at 6.99 million tons, up 9 percent from 2006 but 11 percent below 2005.

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