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The first production forecast for the 2004 crop year is 9.37 billion pounds, up 9 percent from last year and 10 percent above 2002, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service. Compared to 2003, production increases in the Eastern and Western States more than offset a projected decrease in the Central States. Production in the Central States (AR, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, OH, TN, WI) is forecast at 1.12 billion pounds, a decrease of 7 percent from 2003 but 36 percent above 2002. Michigan experienced severe frosts in May, and early summer hailstorms, which lowered prospective production. The harvest of summer varieties has begun. Ohio's forecast is 89.0 million pounds, 1 percent below 2003 but 27 percent above 2002. Weather conditions have been wet and cool through the spring and summer. Production in Wisconsin is forecast at 62.0 million pounds, down 9 percent from 2003 but 7 percent above 2002. Cool and wet conditions during the spring contributed to the drop in production.

**Apples, Commercial: Total Production by State and United States,
2002-2003 and Forecasted August 1, 2004**

State	Total Production ¹		
	2002	2003	2004
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>
AZ	26.2	7.0	30.0
AR	3.3	2.6	2.8
CA	470.0	450.0	440.0
CO	21.0	22.0	24.0
CT	12.0	21.5	20.0
GA	10.0	13.0	14.0
ID	80.0	70.0	100.0
IL	43.0	52.5	56.0
IN	40.0	51.0	50.0
IA	8.5	6.0	11.0
KS	2.5	3.4	4.8
KY	5.6	7.5	8.0
ME	48.5	44.0	45.0
MD	32.0	40.0	34.0
MA	33.0	42.5	41.0
MI	520.0	840.0	760.0
MN	25.0	27.0	26.0
MO	38.0	40.0	36.0
NH	26.5	26.0	28.0
NJ	35.0	40.0	40.0
NM ²	2.0	2.0	
NY	680.0	990.0	1,050.0
NC	160.0	135.0	170.0
OH	70.0	90.0	89.0
OR	202.0	133.0	170.0
PA	370.0	442.0	428.0
RI	2.6	2.3	2.3
SC	9.0	6.0	6.0
TN	7.2	12.0	10.0
UT	7.0	28.0	27.0
VT	31.0	42.0	36.0
VA	250.0	270.0	260.0
WA	5,100.0	4,500.0	5,200.0
WV	95.0	87.0	85.0
WI	58.0	68.0	62.0
US	8,523.9	8,613.3	9,365.9

¹ In orchards of 100 or more bearing age trees.² End of season estimate only.