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National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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USDA TO MEASURE 2007 MARKETED APPLE CROP

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – Fall assessments of the 2007 New England apple crop placed fruit available for utilization at 3.7 million bushels, nineteen percent above the previous year's utilized output. Now that spring has arrived and the bulk of the fruit has been sold, the New England field office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will be conducting the annual Apple Production and Disposition Survey of apple producers within the region. Grower response to this survey will update the end of season estimate and establish the final utilization and price figures used by the apple industry.

In early May, apple producers nationwide will be asked to provide utilization and price information concerning the 2007 crop. In New England, questionnaires will be mailed to approximately 550 apple producers. If necessary, interviewers will follow-up with telephone or personal contacts through the end of May. Response to the survey is voluntary. However, cooperation from all growers is essential to provide an accurate picture of the apple industry in this region. **Individual reports are kept strictly confidential** and used only with other reports for statistical purposes. NASS does not exchange reports or any information with other agencies or individuals and is exempted from the Freedom of Information Act.

The national survey results will be available in the ***Annual Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts Report*** from Washington, D.C. on July 8, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. All reports are available on the Internet within minutes of the scheduled release time. The statistics are also reprinted in the July issue of the ***Agricultural Review***, which is available on the Internet at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/nh/>. Complimentary copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request.