

Fruit trees and blooms were damaged by a late spring freeze and snowstorm. Growing conditions improved during the summer with near normal temperatures and precipitation prevailing.

The Commonwealth's six major fruit crops, comprised of apples, peaches, pears, sweet cherries, tart cherries and grapes, utilized production totaled 337,200 tons in 2000. Utilized production was down 12 percent from the 385,350 tons utilized in 1999.

◆ **Apples:** The 2000 commercial apple crop in Pennsylvania totaled 475 million pounds, down 6 percent from the 505 million pounds in 1999. The crop was valued at 54.0 million dollars, down 1 percent from the 1999 value. Pennsylvania ranked fifth nationally in apple production.

◆ **Grapes:** Pennsylvania's 2000 total grape crop was 63,000 tons, down 28 percent from 1999. The price per ton averaged 265 dollars, down 10 dollars from last year. The total value of utilized production was 16.7 million dollars, down 31 percent from the previous year. The Commonwealth's grape production ranked fifth nationally.

◆ **Pears:** The production of pears in Pennsylvania totaled 4,400 tons, up 10 percent from 1999. The utilized crop was

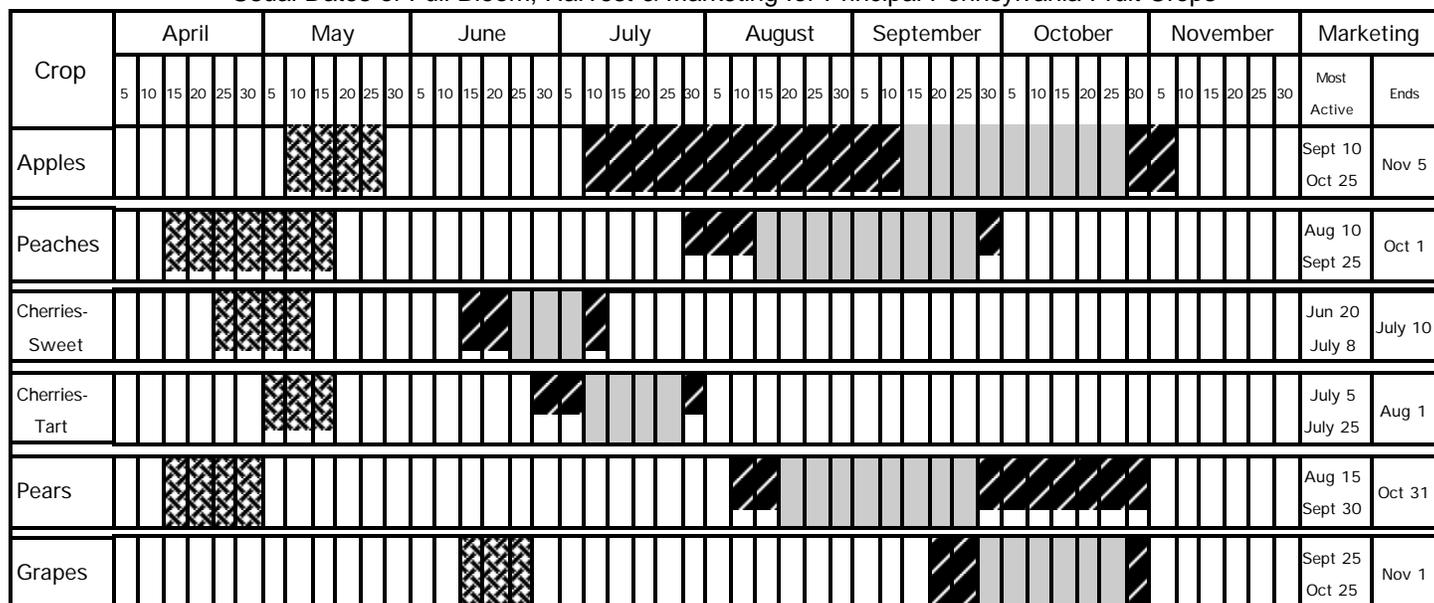
valued at 2.2 million dollars, 32 percent more than the previous year. The Commonwealth ranked sixth nationally in pear production.

◆ **Peaches:** Peach production in Pennsylvania totaled 58.0 million pounds in 2000, down 21 percent from 1999. The season-average price decreased from 0.322 dollars per pound in 1999 to 0.287 dollars in 2000. The total value of utilized production was 16.7 million dollars. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked fifth in peach production, tied with New Jersey.

◆ **Tart Cherries:** Tart cherry production in Pennsylvania totaled 5.6 million pounds, down 1.6 million pounds from last year's crop. The season average price was 0.149 dollars per pound, compared with 0.293 dollars per pound in 1999. The total value of utilized production was 832 thousand dollars, 61 percent less than the previous year. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked sixth in the production of tart cherries.

◆ **Sweet Cherries:** Production of Pennsylvania's sweet cherries in 2000 totaled 500 tons, down 33 percent from a year ago. The average price per ton decreased from 2,600 dollars in 1999 to 2,180 dollars in 2000. The Commonwealth's crop for 2000 was valued at 1.1 million dollars. Sweet cherry production from Pennsylvania ranked ninth nationally.

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



Key: Full Bloom  Harvesting  Begin Most Ends Active