

# Fruit Review, 2002

By Pamela K. Kanagy

Fruit trees and blooms were hampered by spring freezes, frost and cool weather. Growing conditions were then hampered by the dry summer and hot temperatures.

The Commonwealth's six major fruit crops, comprised of apples, peaches, pears, sweet cherries, tart cherries and grapes, utilized production totaled 272,955 tons in 2002. Utilized production was down 21 percent from the 346,230 tons utilized in 2001.

**g Apples:** The 2002 commercial apple crop, utilized production, in Pennsylvania totaled 369 million pounds, down 23 percent from the 480 million pounds utilized in 2001. The crop was valued at 37.0 million dollars, down 20 percent from the 2001 value. Pennsylvania ranked 5th nationally in apple production.

**g Grapes:** Pennsylvania's 2002 grape crop, utilized production, was 53,200 tons, down 13 percent from 2001. The price per ton averaged 282 dollars, down 14 dollars from last year. The total value of utilized production was 15.0 million dollars, down 18 percent from the previous year. The Commonwealth's grape production ranked 4th nationally.

**g Pears:** The utilized production of pears in Pennsylvania totaled 3,500 tons, down 33 percent from 2001. The utilized

crop was valued at 1.7 million dollars, 43 percent less than the previous year. The Commonwealth ranked 5th nationally in pear production.

**g Peaches:** Utilized peach production in Pennsylvania totaled 59.0 million pounds in 2002, down 20 percent from 2001. The season-average price remained steady at 0.335 dollars per pound. The total value of utilized production was 19.8 million dollars. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked 5th in peach production.

**g Tart Cherries:** Utilized tart cherry production in Pennsylvania totaled 3.8 million pounds, down 100,000 pounds from last year's crop. The season average price was 0.558 dollars per pound, compared with 0.127 dollars per pound in 2001. The total value of utilized production was 2.1 million dollars, more than 4 times the previous year's value. Nationally, Pennsylvania ranked 5th in the production of tart cherries.

**g Sweet Cherries:** Utilized production of Pennsylvania's sweet cherries in 2002 totaled 355 tons, down 39 percent from a year ago. The average price per ton increased from 2,260 dollars in 2001 to 2,480 dollars in 2002. The Commonwealth's crop for 2002 was valued at 880,000 dollars. Sweet cherry production from Pennsylvania ranked 8th nationally.

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

Crop	April					May					June					July					August					September					October					November					Marketing														
	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	5	10	15	20	25	30	Most Active	Ends											
Apples							█	█	█	█	█	█							█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	Sept 10 Oct 25	Nov 5		
Peaches							█	█	█	█	█	█														█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█																	Aug 10 Sept 25	Oct 1
Cherries-Sweet																			█	█	█	█	█	█	█																													Jun 20 July 8	July 10
Cherries-Tart													█	█	█	█	█	█																												July 5 July 25	Aug 1								
Pears							█	█	█	█	█	█														█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█									Aug 15 Sept 30	Oct 31								
Grapes																																														Sept 25 Oct 25	Nov 1								

**Key:** Full Bloom  Harvesting    
 Begins Most Ends   
 Active