

This publication contains results of the 2004 West Virginia Orchard and Vineyard Survey. You will find it a valuable and comprehensive analysis of the state's orchards and vineyards. Of particular interest will be the changes in the fruit industry since the last survey completed a decade ago.

Fruit production is important to agriculture in West Virginia. Our apple and peach industries nationally rank 11th and 14th, respectively, despite growing pressure from urban sprawl in the Eastern Panhandle. Our growers invest a tremendous amount of time, energy and resources in this segment of agriculture.

The information in this bulletin will help growers, Extension Specialists, and researchers prepare for the future and the inevitable forces that affect the fruit industry. There will be changes, whether they arise from weather, the market, the economy or the government. The information herein will help the industry keep abreast of current knowledge, trends, and intentions so that it will remain viable and prosperous.

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Sincerely,



Gus R. Douglass
Commissioner of Agriculture