

# Cherries

**Number of Orchards & Trees:** The number of commercial fruit growers with tart cherry trees decreased 31 percent to 111 growers in 2002, compared to 161 growers in 1997. Commercial and non-commercial tart cherry growers had 76,741 trees in 2002, compared to 121,502 trees in 1997, a decrease of 7 percent. Commercial and non-commercial sweet cherry growers, at 116, were down from the 155 in 1997, a 25 percent decrease. Sweet cherry tree numbers increased by 20 percent, from 15,819 in 1997 to 18,958 in 2002.

**Acreage in Orchards:** Tart cherry acreage at 710 decreased by 36 percent, from 1,106 in 1997. Tart cherry trees per acre decreased from 110 in 1997 to 108 in 2002. Sweet cherry acreage increased from 190 acres to 192 acres, or 1 percent during the same period. As well, sweet cherry trees per acre increased from 83 in 1997 to 98 in 2002.

**Location of Trees:** Region I has 94 percent or 72,500 tart cherry trees of the total 76,741. Adams County has the largest number with 64,965 tart cherry trees.

Other leading counties are Erie, Franklin and York. Region I has the largest percentage of sweet cherry trees at 29 percent, or 5,486 trees. Adams County led all counties with 3,123 sweet cherry trees. Other leading counties were Erie and York.

**Age of Trees:** Of the total 76,741 tart cherry trees, 4 percent were 1 to 3 years old; 14 percent were 4 to 6 years old; 39 percent were 7 to 21 years old; and 43 percent were 22 years or older. Of the 18,958 sweet cherry trees, 15 percent were 1 to 3 years old; 18 percent were 4 to 6 years old; 55 percent were 7 to 21 years old; and 12 percent were 22 years or older.

**Varieties:** Montmorency tart cherries accounted for 97 percent of total tart cherry trees. Dark varieties made up 52 percent of the sweet cherry trees and light varieties made up 11 percent. Leading varieties as a percent of total were: Hedelfingen, 10 percent; Bing, 8 percent; Ulster, 7 percent; and Van, 6 percent.



Pennsylvania: Tart Cherries (Commercial) - Comparison of Orchards, Tree Numbers and Acres by Region, 1992, 1997 and 2002 <sup>1</sup>

Region	Number of Orchards			Number of Trees			Number of Acres		
	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002
I	50	36	25	106,523	91,298	72,207	1,110	839	652
II	16	9	4	8,505	2,642	860	83	33	11
III, IV & V	20	16	11	13,163	25,245	1,767	103	196	18
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>128,191</b>	<b>119,185</b>	<b>74,834</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>681</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes orchards with less than 100 tart cherry trees.

Pennsylvania: Sweet Cherries (Commercial) - Comparison of Orchards, Tree Numbers and Acres by Region, 1992, 1997 and 2002 <sup>1</sup>

Region	Number of Orchards			Number of Trees			Number of Acres		
	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002	1992	1997	2002
I	15	9	10	4,056	2,448	3,487	58	24	58
II	13	10	10	5,514	2,784	3,987	86	28	33
III, IV & V	21	19	18	6,250	7,488	6,972	72	79	58
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15,820</b>	<b>12,720</b>	<b>14,446</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>149</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes orchards with less than 100 sweet cherry trees.