



# NEWS RELEASE

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## 2015 PEACH, APPLE AND GRAPE PRODUCTION

**Richmond, Virginia** – In 2015, total **peach production** was 5,120 tons (10.2 million pounds), down 180 tons (360,000 pounds) from 2014. Utilized production totaled 5,100 tons (10.2 million pounds), an increase of 80 tons (160,000 pounds) from 2014. Value of utilized production totaled \$6.83 million, an increase of 16 percent from 2014. The average price received per ton was estimated at \$1,340. This was an increase of \$170.00 per ton from 2014. Bearing acres were estimated at 1,200 acres, unchanged from 2014, with an average yield of 4.27 tons (8,540 pounds) per acre, down 0.15 tons (300 pounds) from 2014. Based on utilized production, Virginia ranks 14th in the nation for peach production.

Total **apple production** for 2015 was estimated at 195.2 million pounds (4.6 million, 42 lb. bushels), down 5 percent from 2014. Utilized production totaled 195.0 million pounds, down 10.0 million pounds from 2014. Apples for fresh market totaled 65.0 million pounds, down 13 percent from 2014. Apples for processing accounted for 130.0 million pounds of the 2015 crop, unchanged from 2014.

The average price received for 2015 apples was 17.7 cents per pound, up 0.4 cents from the 2014 price. Total value of utilized production was \$34.5 million for the crop, down \$935,000 from the 2014 value of \$35.4 million. Fresh market apples brought 23.6 cents per pound in 2015, down 4.3 cents from 2014. Processed apples sold for \$294.00 per ton, up \$71.00 per ton from 2014. The number of bearing acres of apples totaled 10,200 acres in 2015, down 200 acres from 2014. The yield per acre was 19,100 pounds, 600 pounds less than in 2014. Based on utilized production, Virginia ranks 5th in the nation for apple production.

Total **grape production** for 2015 was estimated at 9,200 tons (18.4 million pounds), up 400 tons (800,000 pounds) from 2014. Utilized production also totaled 9,200 tons (18.4 million pounds), up 1,000 tons (2.0 million pounds) from 2014. Bearing acres were estimated at 3,300, unchanged from 2014, with an average yield of 2.79 tons (5,580 pounds) per acre, up 0.12 tons (240 pounds) from 2014. The average price received per ton was estimated at \$1,950. This was an increase of \$100.00 per ton from 2014. Based on utilized production, Virginia ranks 7th in the nation for grape production. Value of utilized production totaled \$17.9 million, up 18 percent from 2014.

**United States** – The U.S. **peach production** in 2015 was estimated at 847,210 tons, down less than 1 percent from the 2014 estimate of 852,939 tons. Of this production, 825,415 tons were utilized, down 2 percent from 2014. Value of utilized production totaled \$605.8 billion, down 4 percent from the 2014 total. The average price received for peaches was \$734.00 per ton, down \$17.00 per ton from the 2014 price. Bearing acreage of peaches totaled 99,790 acres, down 2,750 acres from 2014.

Total **apple production** for 2015 is estimated at 10.0 billion pounds, down 15 percent from the 2014 total. Utilized apple production totaled 9.9 billion pounds, down 11 percent from 2014. Value of utilized production totaled \$3.39 billion, up 18 percent from the 2014 total. Price per pound averaged 34.2 cents, up 8.5 cents per pound from the 2014 price of 25.7 cents. A total of 6.9 billion pounds were sold for fresh market, down 13 percent from 2014. There were 3.1 billion pounds for processing, down 7 percent from the 2014 total. Bearing acreage of apples totaled 315,880 acres in 2015, down 2,300 acres from 2014.

**Grape production** in 2015 was estimated at 7.68 million tons, down 3 percent from the 2014 estimate of 7.88 million tons. Of this production, 7.68 million tons were utilized, down 2 percent from 2014. The national average price received per ton was estimated at \$724, a decrease of \$16.00 per ton from 2014. Value of utilized production totaled \$5.56 billion, down 4 percent from the 2014 total. Bearing acreage of grapes totaled 1.02 million acres in 2015, down 1 percent from 2014.