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August 1 Apple, Grape and Peach Production Forecast

RICHMOND, VA – **Virginia's commercial apple production** is forecast at 185.0 million pounds this year, down 10.2 million pounds (5 percent) from 2015. As of August 1, 22 percent of the apple crop had been harvested 8 percent ahead of last year's progress. Crop condition was rated mostly good to fair.

United States apple production for the 2016 crop year is forecast at 10.4 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2015.

The **Virginia grape production** for the 2016 season is forecast at 9,000 tons, down 200 tons (2 percent) from last season's final production. Grape crop condition was rated mostly fair to poor. Above average temperatures in February and March caused early buds to emerge. But these temperatures were followed by freezes in April with some varieties experiencing more damage than others.

United States grape production for 2016 is forecast at 7.82 million tons, up 2 percent from last year.

Virginia's peach production is forecast at 3,800 tons, down 1,320 tons (26 percent) from last season's final production. Peach crop progress was 38 percent harvested, 4 percent behind this time last year. "Peach crop condition was rated mostly fair to very poor, said Herman Ellison." "This year's peach crop was hit with two hard freezes early this spring." Quite a few operations lost their entire crop.

United States peach production is forecast at 806,600 tons, down 5 percent from 2015.

"Thanks to all the farmers for taking time to complete the surveys," Ellison said.

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