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2017 Virginia Fruit Production Increases

Richmond, Virginia – In 2017, total **peach production** was 7,000 tons, up 3,100 tons from 2016. Utilized production totaled 6,300 tons, an increase of 2,400 tons from 2016. Value of utilized production totaled \$9.24 million, an increase of 77 percent from 2016. The average price received per ton was estimated at \$1,470, up \$130.00 from 2016. Bearing acres were estimated at 1,200 acres, unchanged from 2016, with an average yield of 5.83 tons per acre, up 2.58 tons from 2016. Based on utilized production, Virginia ranks 11th in the nation for peach production.

Total **apple production** for 2017 was estimated at 225.0 million pounds, up 25 percent from 2016. Utilized production totaled 224.0 million pounds, up 46 million pounds from 2016. Apples for fresh market totaled 91.0 million pounds, up 25 percent from 2016. Apples for processing accounted for 133.0 million pounds of the 2017 crop, up 27 percent from 2016.

The average price received for 2017 apples was 21.7 cents per pound, up 1.6 cents from the 2016 price. Total value of utilized production was \$48.6 million for the crop, up \$12.7 million from the 2016 value of \$35.9 million. Fresh market apples brought 32.7 cents per pound in 2017, up 4.8 cents from 2016. Processed apples sold for \$283.00 per ton, down \$12.00 per ton from 2016. The number of bearing acres of apples totaled 10,000 acres in 2017, down 300 acres from 2016. The yield per acre was 22,500 pounds, 5,000 pounds more than in 2016. Based on utilized production, Virginia ranks 5th in the nation for apple production.

Total **grape production** for 2017 was estimated at 8,810 tons, up 310 tons from 2016. Utilized production totaled 8,800 tons, up 300 tons from 2016. Bearing acres were estimated at 3,300, down 100 acres from 2016, with an average yield of 2.67 tons per acre, up 0.17 tons from 2016. The average price received per ton was estimated at \$2,170, an increase of \$190 per ton from 2016. Based on utilized production, Virginia ranks 8th in the nation for grape production. The value of utilized production totaled \$19.1 million, up 13 percent from 2016.

United States – The U.S. total **peach production** in 2017 was estimated at 696,650 tons, down 12 percent from the 2016 estimate of 795,630 tons. Of this production, 690,100 tons were utilized, down 11 percent from 2016. Value of utilized production totaled \$599.3 billion, down 5 percent from the 2016 total. The average price received for peaches was \$868 per ton, up \$61.00 per ton from the 2016 price. Bearing acreage of peaches totaled 92,750 acres, down 1,320 acres from 2016.

Total **apple production** for 2017 was estimated at 11.4 billion pounds, up slightly from the 2016 total. Utilized apple production totaled 11.1 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2016. Value of utilized production totaled \$3.55 billion, up 3 percent from the 2016 total. Price per pound averaged 32.1 cents, up 0.4 cents per pound from the 2016 price of 31.7 cents. A total of 7.71 billion pounds were sold for fresh market, up slightly from 2016. There were 3.35 billion pounds for processing, up 3 percent from the 2016 total. Bearing acreage of apples totaled 323,000 acres in 2017, down 1,100 acres from 2016.

Grape production in 2017 was estimated at 7.36 million tons, down 4 percent from the 2016 estimate of 7.70 million tons. Of this production, 7.36 million tons were utilized, also down 4 percent from 2016. The national average price received per ton was estimated at \$877, an increase of \$59.00 per ton from 2016. Value of utilized production totaled \$6.46 billion, up 3 percent from the 2016 total. Bearing acreage of grapes totaled 1.00 million acres in 2017, down 1 percent from 2016.