



PRESS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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U.S. Sweet Cherry Production down 26 Percent

United States sweet cherry production is forecast at 319,900 tons, down 26 percent from 2017.

In Washington and Oregon, cool and wet weather and an extended bloom hampered pollination and led to a lighter fruit set of early varieties. Growers were concerned about the extent of fruit drop in early varieties through harvest.

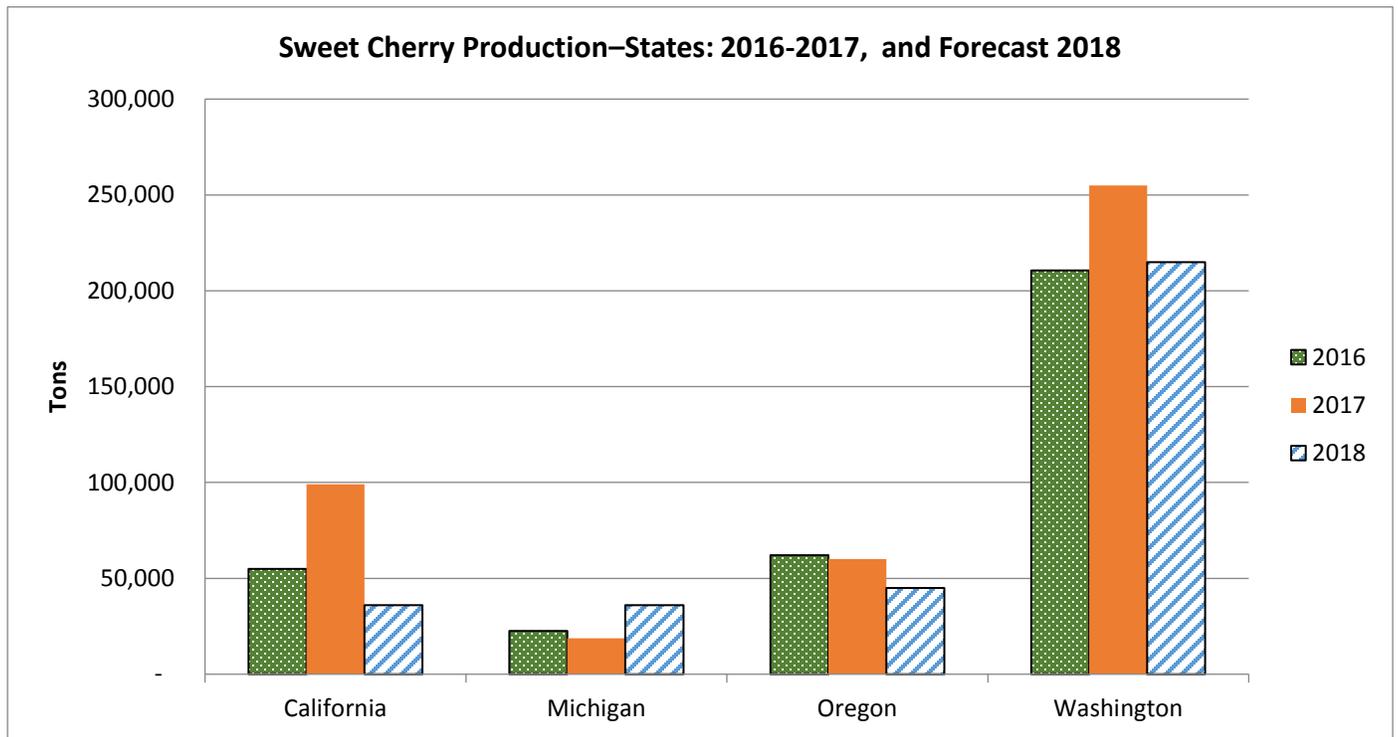
In California, growers reported a warm winter across the State and damaging frost over several days in late February, followed by heavy rains in March that impacted much of the crop.

In Michigan, growers were expecting an above average crop. Weather conditions were reported as favorable, as higher temperatures promoted a quick blooming period during late spring.

Sweet Cherry Production — States and United States: 2016, 2017, and Forecasted 2018

State	Total production		
	2016 (tons)	2017 ¹ (tons)	2018 (tons)
California	55,000	99,000	36,000
Michigan	22,610	18,760	23,900
Oregon	62,080	60,000	45,000
Washington	210,550	255,000	215,000
United States	350,240	432,760	319,900

¹ The 2017 production values were forecasted in June 2017. Final production will be published in the 2017 Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts Annual on June 26, 2018.



U.S. Tart Cherry Production up 48 Percent

United States tart cherry production is forecast at 353 million pounds, up 48 percent from the 2017 production.

In Michigan, the largest tart cherry producing State, growers were expecting an above average crop. Weather conditions were favorable for a quick bloom period with high temperatures in May.

Utah growers reported an above average crop this year. Warmer weather conditions were favorable for an early bloom.

In New York, weather conditions were also favorable and the crop was off to a good start. Growers reported a good crop with an average bloom.

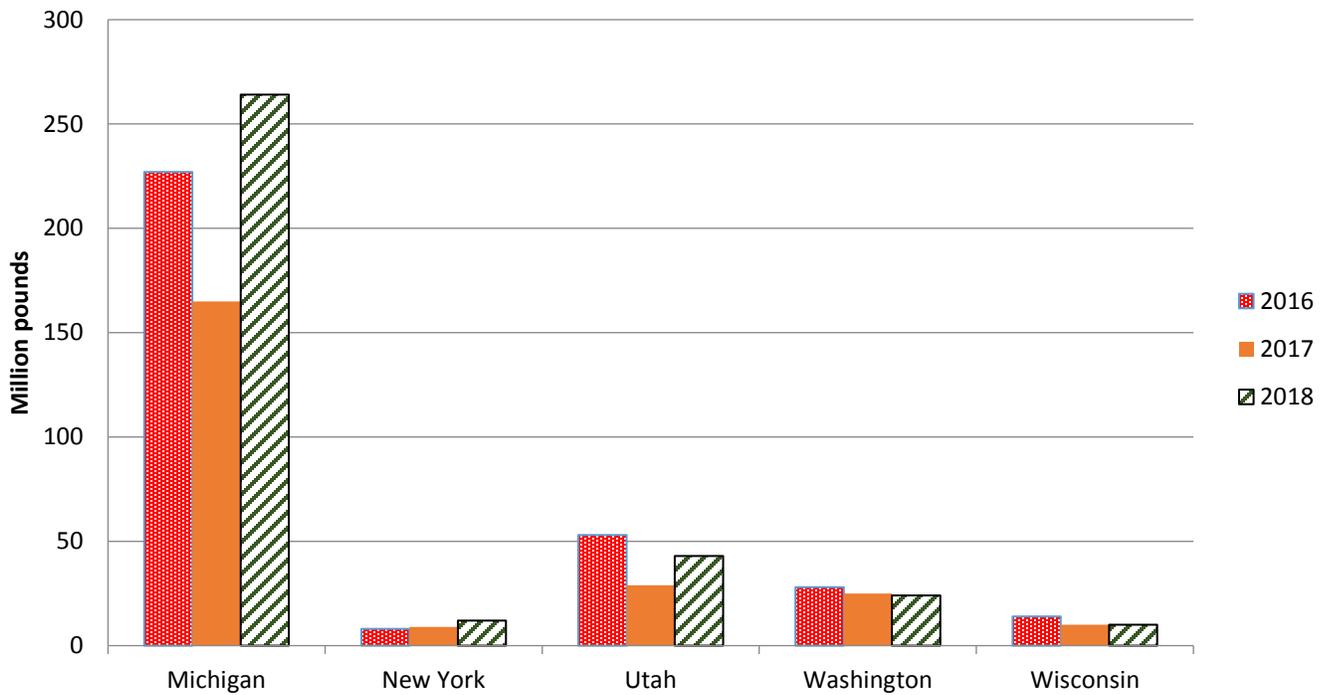
In Washington, growers reported moderate spring temperatures and moisture and expected harvest to begin later than normal. In Wisconsin, snow storms and cool temperatures lead to a delay in the crop this year. Growers reported that they expected a good crop, although there was some concern about potential damage from invasive flies.

Tart Cherry Production — States and United States: 2016, 2017, and Forecasted 2018

State	Total production		
	2016 (million pounds)	2017 ¹ (million pounds)	2018 (million pounds)
Michigan	227.0	164.5	264.0
New York	7.9	9.0	11.9
Utah	52.8	29.0	42.8
Washington	28.0	25.3	23.8
Wisconsin	13.6	10.4	10.2
United States	329.3	238.2	352.7

¹ The 2017 production values were forecasted in June 2017. Final production will be published in the 2017 Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts Annual on June 26, 2018.

Tart Cherry Production—States: 2016-2017, and Forecast 2018



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