



# Cherry Production

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## Tart Cherry Production Down 23 Percent

United States tart cherry production is forecast at 238 million pounds, down 23 percent from the 2016 production.

In Michigan, the largest producing State, growers are still assessing damage from an early May freeze event but expect an average crop.

Utah growers reported a less than average crop this year. Some growers reporting low production cited freeze and frost at bloom. In Wisconsin, the season has been wet and cool, which may have hurt pollination. There was a frost in early May but it appears to have only caused modest damage.

New York growers anticipate a less than average crop this year with widely varied yields.

In Washington, growers reported moderate spring temperatures and moisture and expect harvest to begin later than normal.

## Tart Cherry Production – States and United States: 2015, 2016, and Forecasted 2017

State	Total production		
	2015	2016	2017
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)
Michigan .....	158.0	222.7	164.5
New York .....	10.5	8.0	9.0
Oregon <sup>1</sup> .....	1.5	(NA)	(NA)
Pennsylvania <sup>1</sup> .....	7.5	(NA)	(NA)
Utah .....	40.7	43.0	29.0
Washington .....	25.0	24.4	25.3
Wisconsin .....	9.3	11.0	10.4
United States .....	252.5	309.1	238.2

(NA) Not available.  
<sup>1</sup> Estimates discontinued in 2016.

## Sweet Cherry Production Up 36 Percent

United States sweet cherry production is forecast at 432,760 tons, up 36 percent from 2016.

In California, growers expect the best crop in recent years following several seasons of droughts and low yields. Harvest began near the normal late-April timeframe after two years of early crops.

Growers in Oregon and Washington reported a good crop due to a moderate spring with warm temperatures.

In Michigan, growers are still assessing damage from an early May freeze event but expect an average crop.

### Sweet Cherry Production – States and United States: 2015, 2016, and Forecasted 2017

State	Total production		
	2015	2016	2017
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)
California .....	60,100	60,000	99,000
Idaho <sup>1</sup> .....	1,810	(NA)	(NA)
Michigan .....	13,430	21,000	18,760
Montana <sup>1</sup> .....	740	(NA)	(NA)
New York <sup>1</sup> .....	770	(NA)	(NA)
Oregon .....	38,700	42,000	60,000
Utah <sup>1</sup> .....	230	(NA)	(NA)
Washington .....	222,650	195,000	255,000
United States .....	338,430	318,000	432,760

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Estimates discontinued in 2016.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** Grower surveys were conducted in 7 cherry estimating States. Producers were contacted to obtain expected yield or production. Telephone follow-up of mail survey non-respondents was used to ensure adequate coverage.

**Estimating Procedures:** Information obtained from the cherry grower surveys were used to establish estimates of sweet and tart cherries. These estimates were reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates and industry check data.

**Revision Policy:** All sweet and tart cherry estimates are subject to revision the following year based on a thorough review of all available data.

**Reliability:** Survey results are subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors cannot be measured directly, but are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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