NASS Survey Training

Cherry Production Inquiry – June 2021
(CHEDRIES AP)

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
May 2021
General Survey Information

• “Essentially” an Ag Yield survey for sweet and tart cherries
• Project Code: 134 - Noncitrus Fruit Survey
• Questionnaires:
  – Mailed out around May 21st
  – Web reporting option available
• Release:
  – Crop Production
  – June 10, 2021, 12PM EST
“Hand Picked” 2019 Cherry Info

• Sweet Cherries:
  – 354,300 tons from 87,000 bearing acres
    • 4.07 tons per acre (about 8140 pounds per acre)
  – Washington has 40,000 acres
  – 80% of crop for fresh market

• Tart Cherries:
  – 262 million pounds from 34,100 bearing acres
    • 3.84 tons per acre (about 7680 pounds per acre)
  – Michigan has 25,600 acres
  – 90% of crop for processing
Tart vs. Sweet Cherries

- Almost all tart cherries grown in the U.S. are the Montmorency variety.
- Montmorency tart cherries, also known as sour cherries, are bright red when harvested, and they retain that bold color when dried, frozen or juiced.
- Tart cherries are typically used for processing.
- Sweet cherries are usually consumed fresh.
- Some sweet cherry varieties include Bing, Lambert, Rainier, Burlat, and Royal Ann
Screening for Cherry Tree Acres

• Any cherry tree acres in 2021?
  – If “NO”, go to conclusion

• No additional screening questions at this point, so good notes about the operation’s status are vital
  – Leave good notes if the operation is completely out of business (no agricultural activity)
  – What happened? New operator? Any other info?
Survey Information

• Looking for 2021 *expected* production of Sweet and/or Tart cherries (depending on state)

• Like with most fruits and vegetables:
  – A wide variety of units may be reported
  – Sometimes with varying weights
Survey Questions

• Any sweet cherry tree acres during 2021?
• Total acres of sweet cherries
  – Of these, how many were bearing age this year
• Expected total production for 2021
  – Quantity, unit, pounds per unit
• Same questions for tart cherries
• Comments about 2021 crop for their locality
Things to Watch Out For

• Current total and/or bearing acres differs from previous
• Bearing acres cannot be greater than total acres
• Low bearing to total acres ratio
  – We are asking about bearing age….and not what will actually bear a crop this year
    • This can cause some confusion if there is a late frost, disease/insect issues, etc. that impact production
• Bearing acres reported but no production reported
  – Can be possible: crop was lost to a late freeze, etc.
• Yield seems high or low
Conclusion

• Referring to **2021** crop year *expected* production
• Watch the decimal points:
  – Acres, pounds per unit
• Encounter anything odd or unexpected? Leave a note.
• Practice on your iPad
• Contact your supervisor or RFO with any questions
• Have a Great Survey!