

NASS Survey Training

Cherry Production Inquiry – June 2021 (CHERRIES 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!

