Survey Training

Fruit Production Inquiry - August 2022
(APPLE PEACH PEAR AP)

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
July 2022
General Survey Information

• “Essentially” an Ag Yield survey for apples, peaches, and pears
• Project Code: 134 - Non-citrus Fruit Survey
• Questionnaires:
  – Mail date: July 22\textsuperscript{nd}
  – Web reporting option available
• Release:
  – Crop Production
  – August 12, 12PM (eastern)
States and Crops

• Apples only
  – NY VA
• Peaches only
  – CO GA NJ SC
• Apples and Peaches
  – MI PA
• Apples, Freestone Peaches, Clingstone Peaches, Pears
  – CA
• Apples, Pears
  – OR
• Apples, Peaches, Pears
  – WA
Fresh Picked 2021 Data

• **Apples**
  - 290,200 total bearing acres
    - WA #1 with 172,000; NY MI PA CA round out the top 5 states
  - Average yield per acre: 33,900 pounds
    - WA had the highest yield per acre: 39,300 pounds

• **Peaches**
  - 74,400 total bearing acres
    - CA #1 with 36,800; SC GA NJ PA round out the top 5 states
    - Average yield per acre: 9.26 tons
      - Yields ranged from 3.5 to 15.30

• **Pears**
  - 41,700 bearing acres
    - WA has 18,300; OR and CA round out the top 3
  - Average yield per acre: 16.8 tons
Survey Information

• Looking for 2022 *expected* production of Apples, Peaches, and/or Pears
  – Depending on state
    • Some states also break out peaches and pears into different types
• At this point, we’re not asking about end use
  – Just expected production...regardless of if the fruit will be used for fresh market, processing, etc
• Like with most fruits and vegetables:
  – A wide variety of units may be reported
  – Often with varying weights
Extra Peach Information

• Clingstone Peaches: Flesh that clings to the stone
  – When cut in half, very difficult to separate the two halves because the flesh is stuck to the pit
    • Used for commercial canning and are mechanically separated
    • Often measured in TONS and producers more likely to provide a yield estimate

• Freestone Peaches: Flesh separates easily from the stone.
  – When the fruit is cut in half, there is easy separation at the pit and the pit can be removed by hand
    • May be preferred for eating, easier to utilize in home canning
    • If sold for FRESH use, producers more likely to report in terms of boxes and will need to supply their WEIGHT per BOX.
Screening

• Any [specific fruit] tree acres?
  – If “NO”, any [specific fruit] tree acres in the future?
  – If “NO” to all varieties, has this operation been sold, rented...?
    • If “NO”, will the land be used for any agricultural purposes....
    • Enter notes explaining what will become of the operation
    • Comments about the 2022 fruit tree crop in their locality
Survey Questions

• If “YES” to screening questions for:
  – Any [specific fruit] tree acres in 2022?

• Total acres of [fruit] this year
  – Of these, how many are bearing age this year
    • Even if no production this year (due to freeze, disease, etc), still record the bearing age acres

• Expected total production OR expected yield for 2022
  – Quantity, unit, pounds per unit (Box, Bin, Bushel, etc.)
Things to Watch Out For

- Current total and/or bearing acres differs from previous
- Bearing acres greater than total acres
- Low bearing to total acres ratio
- Bearing acres reported but no expected production reported
- Yield seems high or low
  - Total production / bearing acres (in pounds)
Things to remember

• Referring to 2022 crop year expected production
• Watch the decimal points: acres, pounds per unit
• Get all details surrounding unit
  – Yield/acre can be lbs, boxes, or bins per acre
  – ‘Bin’ and even ‘Bushel’ can have different lbs
• Remember, *bearing age*
  – Even in cases of limited or no production this year
Notes are Important

• Be sure to leave comments explaining unusual situations
  – Statisticians *depend* on your notes
    • Weather, diseases, insects, markets, labor, etc
  – As they review the data, set their estimates and communicate with HQ
Special Request for OoB Records

• 2022 Census of Agriculture
  – Mails out this December
  – We need to contact every operation that was in business for any part of 2022
  – If an operation is **Out of Business**
    • Please ask if they were in business at any time during 2022 and leave a note
    • We can update the record to still be mailed the Census form
Conclusion

• Contact your supervisor or RFO if you have questions