

NASS Survey Training

Cherry Production Inquiry – June 2022 (CHERRIES AP)



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service**

NOD-Training Group
April 2022



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, 2022, 12PM EST



“Hand Picked” Cherry Info

- Sweet Cherries:
 - 325,100 tons from 85,000 bearing acres
 - 3.82 tons per acre
 - Washington has 40,000 acres
 - 80% of crop for fresh market
- Tart Cherries:
 - 262 million pounds from 31,600 bearing acres
 - 2.21 tons per acre
 - Michigan has 23,500 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

Questionnaire Versions

- 3 Versions:
 - V1: Sweet Cherries only.
 - California and Oregon
 - V2: Tart Cherries only
 - Michigan, New York, Utah, Wisconsin
 - V3: Sweet and Tart Cherries
 - Washington

Screening for Cherry Tree Acres

- Any cherry tree acres in **2022**?
 - 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 **2022** *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 cherry tree acres during 2022?
- Total acres of [sweet or tart] cherries
 - Of these, how many were **bearing age** this year
- Expected **total** production for 2022
 - Quantity, unit, pounds per unit
- Same questions for either type of cherries
- Comments about 2022 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

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

- Referring to **2022** 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!