

Cranberries

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2001 Cranberry Production Down 1 Percent

The forecast for the 2001 cranberry crop is 5.58 million barrels, down 1 percent from 2000 and 12 percent below 1999. Wisconsin is the only State forecasting an increase from a year ago.

The cranberry industry has a marketing order under which growers can only sell 65 percent of their sales history to the processors for the 2001 crop year. These restrictions apply to all five of the major cranberry producing States. Due to the marketing restrictions many growers cut back on inputs or acres to reduce production and cut costs. The reduced inputs include using less fertilizer, pesticides, reduce irrigation, and not leasing bees for pollination. Growers also flooded some of their bogs during late spring to prevent the cranberries from budding.

Production in Wisconsin is forecast at 2.95 million barrels, 11 percent above 2000 but 11 percent below 1999. Cranberry farmers in Wisconsin report having an average to very good growing season. Some loss in production was caused by hail, unfavorable winter conditions, fireworm, and deer.

The Massachusetts crop is forecast at 1.64 million barrels, down 16 percent from 2000 and 13 percent below 1999. The Massachusetts cranberry crop had a good pollination period with above average bloom, average set, and slightly above average fruit size. New Jersey expects a crop of 450,000 barrels, down 8 percent from 2000 and 35 percent below two years ago. Growers reported mostly average to heavy fruit set and average fruit size. No significant weather damage was reported.

In Oregon, the crop is forecast at 360,000 barrels, 1 percent below last year's crop but up 18 percent from 1999. Weather conditions have been favorable for cranberry production. The Washington crop is forecast at 176,000 barrels, 2 percent below last year but 20 percent above 1999. Washington had a mild winter with little frost damage. Spring weather was ideal with good bee activity, pollination, and berry set. Black vine weevil damage has been a problem for growers in the Grayland area.

**Cranberries: Production by State and United States,
1999-00 and Forecasted 2001 ¹**

State	Total Production		
	1999	2000	2001
	<i>Barrels</i>	<i>Barrels</i>	<i>Barrels</i>
MA	1,875,000	1,950,000	1,640,000
NJ	691,000	489,000	450,000
OR	305,000	365,000	360,000
WA	147,000	180,000	176,000
WI	3,301,000	2,658,000	2,950,000
US	6,319,000	5,642,000	5,576,000

¹ A barrel weighs 100 lbs.

The next "Cranberries" report will be released in August 2002.

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