

# Cherry Production



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## TART CHERRY PRODUCTION UP 58 PERCENT

U.S. Tart cherry production for 1987 is forecast at 354 million pounds (161 thousand metric tons) up 58 percent from last year and 24 percent more than 1985.

In Michigan, the largest producing State, the first forecast is 280 million pounds, up 65 percent from last year and 27 percent more than 1985. Above normal spring temperatures got the crop off to a fast start, maturing about two weeks ahead of normal. Fruit size is slightly smaller than average with excellent quality. Harvest is expected to begin in southwest Michigan about June 22.

Production in New York is forecast at 35.0 million pounds, more than double last year's crop. Tart cherries generally escaped the cold weather and pollination problems of sweet cherries because they bloomed somewhat later. Harvest is expected to begin about July 12.

Pennsylvania's tart cherry production is forecast at 4.00 million pounds, down two-thirds from 1986. The smaller crop is due primarily to winter freeze damage. Harvest should begin about July 1.

The Wisconsin forecast of 11.0 million pounds is almost three times last year's crop. The winter was unusually mild and the spring was ideal.

## TART CHERRIES

STATE	PRODUCTION		
	TOTAL	1/	IND
	1985	1986	1987
	MILLION POUNDS		
COLO 2/	1.7	.9	1.7
MICH	220.0	170.0	280.0
N Y	22.5	13.0	35.0
OREG 2/	6.5	6.0	5.5
PA	6.0	12.0	4.0
UTAH 2/	21.0	18.5	17.0
WIS	8.5	3.7	11.0
U S	286.2	224.1	354.2

1/ INCLUDES UNHARVESTED PRODUCTION AND HARVESTED NOT SOLD (MILLION POUNDS): 1985-6.0; 1986-5.7. 2/ ESTIMATES FOR CURRENT YEAR CARRIED FORWARD FROM EARLIER FORECAST.

SWEET CHERRY PRODUCTION UP 33 PERCENT

A sweet cherry crop of 183 thousand tons (166 thousand metric tons) is forecast for the U.S. in 1987. This is 33 percent above the 1986 crop and 38 percent more than the 1985 crop. The production forecast for the Great Lake States is 40 percent more than last year's crop. Production in the Western States is expected to be 31 percent above last year.

The first forecast of Michigan's crop, at 30.0 thousand tons, is 50 percent above last year's crop. The crop got off to an early start with spring temperatures well above normal. The crop is maturing about two weeks ahead of normal. Fruit size is normal with excellent quality. Picking began in southwest Michigan about June 10. Harvest is expected to begin in the Traverse City area about June 25.

The Pennsylvania forecast, at 500 tons, is 52 percent less than 1986. Late winter freeze damage reduced prospects. Harvest began about June 18.

New York expects a crop of 1400 tons, 18 percent less than a year ago. Bloom was early, but cool, windy weather limited bee activity causing poor pollination. Heavy frosts in early June in the Lake Ontario area are expected to cause rot and increased rejects. Harvest is expected to begin about June 30.

SWEET CHERRIES

STATE	PRODUCTION		
	TOTAL	1/	IND
	1985	1986	1987
	TONS		
CALIF 2/	23,500	8,400	39,000
IDAHO 2/	2,200	2,300	2,600
MICH	31,000	20,000	30,000
MONT 2/	4,600	1,600	3,000
N Y	1,600	1,700	1,400
OREG 2/	29,000	38,000	42,000
PA	500	1,050	500
UTAH 2/	2,200	2,160	2,100
WASH 2/	37,900	62,500	62,000
U S	132,500	137,710	182,600

1/ INCLUDES UNHARVESTED PRODUCTION AND HARVESTED NOT SOLD (TONS): U.S. SWEET CHERRIES 1985-6,000, 1986-950. 2/ ESTIMATES FOR CURRENT YEAR CARRIED FORWARD FROM EARLIER FORECAST.

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