

# CHERRIES • JUNE 15



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## TART CHERRY CROP DECLINES

Tart cherry production in the U.S. for 1979, is forecast at 167 million pounds (75.8 thousand metric tons), 8 percent below 1978 and 21 percent below the 1977 crop. As of June 15, the Great Lakes States expect to harvest 147 million pounds, down 11 percent from last year and 22 percent below the 1977 total.

In Michigan, which normally accounts for about three-fourths of the U.S. total, the first forecast for the 1979 crop is placed at 95.0 million pounds, only 57 percent of the U.S. total. This is 26 percent below 1978 production and 41 percent below the 1977 crop. Record low temperatures over the winter caused extensive tree damage. Some frost damage to buds coupled with cool weather during bloom resulted in a generally light set.

Production in New York is forecast at 30.0 million pounds, 59 percent above the 1978 crop and more than twice as large as the low 1977 crop. The crop is in good to excellent condition. The Pennsylvania crop is forecast at 9.00 million pounds, up 45 percent from last year and almost triple the 1977 production, despite variable pollination conditions and heavy rains coupled with scattered hail. Harvest is expected to begin in early July. Wisconsin's crop is forecast at 13.0 million pounds, up 13 percent and 7 percent from 1978 and 1977, respectively. Winter kill was limited and pollination conditions were good.

## TART CHERRIES

STATE	PRODUCTION			INDICATED 1979
	TOTAL		:	
	1977	1978		
MILLION POUNDS				
COLO <sup>1/</sup>	2.3	1.3	:	2.2
MICH	162.0	128.0	:	95.0
N Y	11.8	18.9	:	30.0
OHIO <sup>2/</sup>	.2	.2	:	
OREG <sup>1/</sup>	8.0	3.8	:	4.0
PA	3.2	6.2	:	9.0
UTAH <sup>1/</sup>	11.2	11.3	:	14.0
WIS	12.2	11.5	:	13.0
U S	210.9	181.2	:	167.2

<sup>1/</sup> ESTIMATES FOR CURRENT YEAR CARRIED FORWARD FROM EARLIER FORECAST.

<sup>2/</sup> ESTIMATES DISCONTINUED AFTER 1978 CROP.

SWEET CHERRY PROSPECTS RECORD HIGH

A record large sweet cherry crop is forecast for the U.S.--180 thousand tons (164 thousand metric tons), 16 percent above 1978, 22 percent above 1977, and 4 percent above the previous record set in 1976. The production forecast for the Great Lakes States is 14 percent below last year, while the Western States (generally accounting for nearly three-fourths of the U.S. total) expect a 27 percent increase in production, as reported in the June 11 Crop Production report.

The first forecast of Michigan's crop, at 29.0 thousand tons, is down 17 percent from 1978, but 26 percent above the 1977 crop. Record low temperatures caused extensive winter kill. Set is fair and fruit is sizing well. New York expects a crop 20 percent larger than last year, while the Pennsylvania forecast is unchanged from 1978. The crop is rated fair to good in both States.

SWEET CHERRIES

STATE	PRODUCTION <u>1/</u>		
	TOTAL		INDICATED
	1977	1978	1979
	TONS		
CALIF <u>2/</u>	27,000	14,000	42,000
COLO <u>3/</u>	550	140	
IDAHO <u>2/</u>	2,200	2,000	2,300
MICH	23,000	35,000	29,000
MONT <u>2/</u>	2,600	1,850	2,200
N Y	1,800	3,500	4,200
OREG <u>2/</u>	37,500	34,000	33,000
PA	350	750	750
UTAH <u>2/</u>	5,800	3,000	5,000
WASH <u>2/</u>	47,000	60,700	62,000
U S	147,800	154,940	180,450

1/ INCLUDES UNHARVESTED PRODUCTION AND EXCESS CULLAGE (TONS): 1977-1,300.

2/ ESTIMATES FOR CURRENT YEAR CARRIED FORWARD FROM EARLIER FORECAST.

3/ ESTIMATES DISCONTINUED AFTER 1978 CROP.