

## SOUR CHERRY REPORT

June 15, 1966

June 21, 1966

Sour cherry production in the 5 Great Lakes States--New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin--is forecast at 86,800 tons, not much more than half (52 percent) as large as last year's crop but 19 percent greater than the small crop of 1963. The crop was sharply curtailed by May freezes in all 5 States although the Wisconsin crop is expected to be better than last year. In the 6 Western States, sour cherry production was forecast at 10,990 tons as of June 1, up 11 percent from last year and about average.

The total forecast for the United States is 97,790 tons, down 45 percent from last year and 40 percent below average.

The Michigan crop is estimated at 55,000 tons, only 46 percent of the 1965 production and compares with the short crop of 37,000 tons in 1963. Freezes on May 2-4, 9-10, and 28-31 severely damaged the crop although the extent of damage varied with bud development, location, and tree vigor. The crop is generally about 10 days later than usual, with cherries still in the shuck on June 15 in the northern part of Leelanau County. Southwest Michigan and the central west area were hardest hit -- especially the southern part of the central west area. Prospects are better in northwest Michigan than in the rest of the State but are still variable. Prospects are good in east central and northern Leelanau County, the Old Mission Peninsula, and parts of the East Bay area. They are fair to good close to the lake in Manistee and Benzie counties, but are poor south of Traverse City, in southwest Leelanau County, and inland in Manistee and Benzie counties.

Sour cherry production in New York is forecast at 14,000 tons, down 44 percent from last year and the smallest crop since 1960. In the Lake Ontario region of New York, where over 90 percent of the trees are located, buds were severely damaged by late April and early May freezes. In the Chautauqua area freeze damage was limited but conditions were poor for pollination. In the Hudson Valley the crop is light. The New York trees bloomed a day or two later than last year.

The Pennsylvania crop forecast is 8,000 tons, down 36 percent from last year and is 29 percent below average. Cold weather delayed bloom which occurred about May 8 in the major south central area, compared with May 3 a year ago. A severe freeze on May 11 caught the crop while it was still in full bloom and caused a heavy loss. In addition, unfavorable pollinating weather caused a poor set. Erie County in northwestern Pennsylvania had a light set.

Wisconsin expects a crop of 9,000 tons, 12 percent larger than last year's short crop but only two-thirds as large as average. The season was late, thus the buds were not as severely damaged by the May freezes as they would have been if more advanced. The freeze was most severe on the bay side of Door county. Weather during pollination was good. The Ohio crop, estimated at 800 tons, is down 43 percent from last year and is 49 percent below average. Production is mostly near the Lake Erie area since the crop in other parts of the State was virtually frozen out. Most trees were in full bloom at the time of the freeze.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Statistical Reporting Service

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Crop Reporting Board

Washington, D. C.

SOUR CHERRIES

STATE	Production				Percent Processed		
	5-year average:	1964	1965	Ind. 1966	5-year average:	1964	1965
	1960-64:				1960-64:		
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
New York .....	22,840	32,000	25,100	14,000	91	87	93
Pennsylvania .....	11,220	17,500	12,500	8,000)	83	85	82
Ohio .....	1,570	2,500	1,400	800)			
Michigan .....	102,700	190,000	120,000	55,000	89	77	88
Wisconsin .....	13,460	21,400	8,000	9,000	88	80	81
5 States	151,790	263,400	167,000	86,800	89	79	88
6 Western States 1/	10,930	10,840	9,870	10,990	81	74	81
11 States	162,720	274,240	176,870	97,790	88	79	88

1/ Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, Washington, and Oregon.  
2/ June 1 forecast.

SOUR CHERRIES: Production and Utilization, 1964 and 1965 Crops

STATE	Production		Farm disposition		Utilization of sales			
	Total 1/	Having value 1/	Home use	Sold	fresh sales	Canned	Frozen	Brined
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1964 Crop								
New York .....	32,000	29,420	200	29,220	1,420	7,670	19,940	190
Pennsylvania & Ohio :	20,000	19,500	400	19,100	2,130	9,408	7,562	---
Michigan .....	190,000	148,900	400	148,500	2,000	69,100	76,750	650
Wisconsin .....	21,400	18,100	120	17,980	890	9,260	7,830	---
6 Western States 3/ :	10,840	9,772	528	9,244	1,239	4,203	3,802	---
11 States	274,240	225,692	1,648	224,044	7,679	99,641	115,884	840
1965 Crop								
New York .....	25,100	24,310	200	24,110	720	7,950	14,220	1,220
Pennsylvania & Ohio :	13,900	13,590	320	13,270	1,830	5,545	5,895	---
Michigan .....	120,000	107,000	200	106,800	1,300	47,500	57,500	500
Wisconsin .....	8,000	7,200	120	7,080	580	2,780	3,720	---
6 Western States 3/ :	9,870	9,187	423	8,764	765	4,388	3,611	---
11 States	176,870	161,287	1,263	160,024	5,195	68,163	84,946	1,720

1/ Differences between production and production having value are economic abandonment.

2/ Small quantities used for juice, jam, jelly, brining, etc. are included with canned to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, Washington, and Oregon.