



WAPA PRESS RELEASE

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WAPA RELEASES APPLE AND PEAR CROP FORECASTS

More than 200 representatives of the international apple and pear sector met in Maastricht (The Netherlands) from 6-8th August 2009 on the occasion of the 33rd Prognosfruit Conference. The conference was hosted by the Dutch Produce Association (DPA) and the Dutch Fruit Growers Organisation (NFO).

On this occasion, WAPA (World Apple and Pear Association) released the 2009 European apple and pear crop estimates. The apple production is 7% down on last year's crop resulting mainly from a much lower crop in Poland. The pear production for 2009 recovered from last year's historic low and is forecasted to be up by 16% in the EU.

More specifically for apples, the 2009 European crop forecast is announced at 10.753.000 MT, a decrease of 7% compared to the previous year and 4% above the average of the last three years. By geographic area, the production in Western Europe will decrease by 1% while the production in Eastern Europe will be down by 16%. In regard to varieties, Golden Delicious remains the largest variety, representing 22% of total production, however the 2009 Golden production will be down 4% at 2.407.000 MT. Gala, representing today nearly 10% of the apple output will have a stable production at 1.037.000 MT. Jonagold represents 6% of the current crop and is reported to have decreased production by 14% to 688.000 MT. Red Delicious also represents approximately 6% of the EU crop with 662.000 MT expected to be harvested. Elsewhere in the Northern Hemisphere crops are also expected to decrease compared to last year, namely in China (-10%) and most possibly also in the USA (-5%), subject to confirmation at the forthcoming Outlook conference on 21 August. In other countries production increased, as for example in Russia (7%), Ukraine (6%) and Switzerland (9%); whereas the Turkish apple production is stable.

Regarding pears, European growers are predicting an increase of 16% compared to 2008. Total estimated production would rise to 2.521.000 MT compared to the 2008 production of 2.178.000 MT. The 2009 forecasted crop is also up by 2% compared to the average crop of the last three years. In 2009, the Conference variety production is foreseen to increase by 36% to 856.000 MT. Conference remains the largest variety representing close to 34% of the pear production in Europe. William BC (almost 12% of the pear production) will be down by 3% to 296.000M T and Abate Fetel (11% of the production) is expected to increase by 12% to 277.000 MT. Elsewhere in the Northern Hemisphere crops have also increased compared to last year, namely in the USA (8%) and in Turkey (2%). Nevertheless, production are forecasted to decrease in China (-25%) and in the Ukraine (-5%).

WORLD APPLE AND PEAR ASSOCIATION

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On the occasion of Prognosfruit, WAPA also updated its Southern Hemisphere crop forecasts for apples and pears released in February 2009. The Southern Hemisphere crop is now confirmed for 2009 at 5.280.000 MT for apples, meaning 4% more than last year. Regarding pears the crop is confirmed at 1.551.000 MT, increasing by 11% compared to last year.

During Prognosfruit and with a view to the forthcoming season, Alessandro Dalpiaz, President of WAPA, identified a different outlook for the apple and pear market. *"The likely carry-over of last season's apple stocks in various countries might create difficult market conditions at the beginning of the season. Nevertheless the lower crop forecast, especially in Poland, may lead to a recovery of the market towards the end of the year. A prompt finalisation of the Southern Hemisphere season which so far shipped fewer apples to the EU will also be an important factor for the EU apple market stability. Given current strong prices and the absence of carry-over stocks, next pear season looks at a much better start despite the largest crop in years"*. Mr Dalpiaz added: *"For both apples and pears, developments in Russia, the EU's most important export market outlet, will be crucial for the success of the coming campaign"*.

At the end of the conference Hans Van Es, Director of DPA, revealed the result of a survey among participants with regard to important issues in short term: *"Developments regarding pesticide residues and customer requirements came out as the clear main concerns of European apple and pears growers"* stated Mr Van Es. He added *"Promotion efforts were identified as another key point in order to further promote apple and pear consumption. This gives clear indications of priorities for action within the sector"*.

N.B: Tables representing the EU Apple and Pear production by country and by variety are to be found enclosed as well as the consolidated figures regarding other countries and the Southern Hemisphere suppliers.

****ENDS****

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WAPA was founded in August 2001 with the objectives of providing a forum for discussion on matters of interest for the apple and pear business and initiating recommendations to strengthen the sector. The current President of the Association is Alessandro Dalpiaz of Assomela, Italy, while Kevin Moffitt of USA Pears, USA is Vice-President. WAPA membership includes the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, South Africa, the UK and the USA.

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EU 27

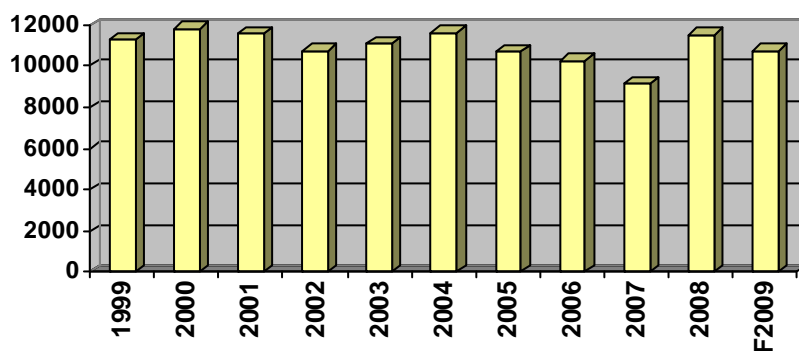
Apple Production by country

<i>Country</i>	<i>x 1000 tons</i>											
<i>Country</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>F2009</i>	<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>
Austria	163	156	161	153	164	176	162	193	169	185	9	6
Belgium	498	336	348	320	356	317	358	358	336	311	-7	-11
Bulgaria	92	78	73	58	58	71	65	60	56	56	0	-7
Czech Republic	196	140	163	154	164	138	160	113	157	141	-10	-2
Denmark	32	31	25	25	26	26	27	32	26	24	-8	-15
France	2.260	1.938	1.965	1.728	1.709	1.770	1.585	1.676	1.528	1.601	5	0
Germany	1.131	923	766	818	946	925	948	1.070	1.047	1.042	0	2
Greece	288	196	244	166	282	265	267	236	231	220	-5	-10
Hungary	695	605	527	500	679	467	480	203	583	514	-12	22
Italy	2.127	2.180	2.174	2.144	2.032	2.085	1.991	2.196	2.164	2.115	-2	0
Latvia	35	36	50	36	7	38	32	31	34	25	-26	-23
Lithuania	102	155	82	97	34	130	100	40	74	60	-19	-16
Netherlands	500	475	370	405	435	380	348	396	376	392	4	5
Poland	2.000	2.484	2.168	2.428	2.522	2.200	2.250	1.100	3.200	2.600	-19	19
Portugal	227	265	300	287	277	252	257	258	245	245	0	-3
Romania	490	507	492	811	1.098	439	417	287	459	435	-5	12
Slovakia	27	27	27	34	31	36	31	10	42	48	14	73
Slovenia	60	38	41	62	62	58	50	61	60	60	0	5
Spain	685	806	646	704	553	701	547	599	528	448	-15	-20
Sweden	24	22	20	19	20	21	20	16	18	18	0	0
United Kingdom	196	212	123	157	164	193	174	196	201	214	6	12
Total:	11.828	11.611	10.764	11.106	11.618	10.687	10.269	9.132	11.533	10.753	-7	4

(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007 - 2008

EU Apple Production



Apple Production by variety

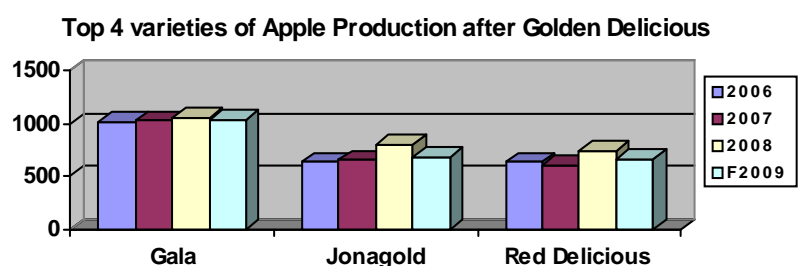
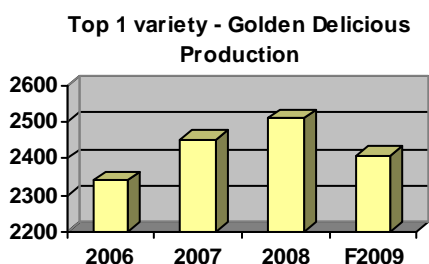
x 1000 tons

Variety	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	F2009	(1)	(2)
Annurca	87	83	75	57	55	68	56	51	45	45	0	-11
Boskoop	197	142	88	91	110	103	108	100	100	88	-12	-15
Braeburn	209	211	247	238	290	296	279	318	297	322	8	8
Bramley	95	99	60	64	90	83	83	85	95	88	-7	0
Cortland	150	180	150	200	180	100	155	75	136	80	-41	-34
Cox Orange	149	168	88	128	116	145	117	108	103	103	0	-5
Cripps Pink	26	45	55	50	54	65	66	129	128	140	10	30
Elstar	442	449	391	395	487	427	431	487	469	478	2	3
Fuji	70	71	82	78	94	130	133	188	206	225	9	28
Gala	660	779	813	765	945	1.052	1.015	1.024	1.049	1.037	-1	1
Gloster	177	221	101	167	138	100	126	91	162	113	-30	-11
Golden Delicious	2.857	2.786	2.739	2.537	2.529	2.561	2.339	2.450	2.508	2.407	-4	-1
Granny Smith	427	347	353	307	309	315	308	305	310	311	0	1
Idared	640	834	562	825	784	693	622	282	801	769	-4	35
Jonagold	1.008	805	779	742	782	650	632	652	803	688	-14	-1
Jonagored	169	150	135	156	177	190	210	234	203	190	-6	-12
Jonathan	433	408	280	42	43	31	35	51	257	213	-17	86
Lobo	130	200	220	220	200	150	210	100	203	100	-51	-42
Morgendurf/imperatore	160	137	128	67	126	123	119	88	91	92	1	-8
Pinova				6	10	15	17	20	30	34	13	53
Red Delicious	899	783	712	582	737	660	631	600	743	662	-11	0
Red Prince									21	20	-4	
Reinette Grise du Canada	101	93	97	78	83	92	78	103	86	90	4	1
Shampion	9	9	11	23	242	277	307	172	395	331	-16	13
Spartan	101	1	1					12	11	9	-14	
Stayman	34	34	30	17	21	23	21	19	18	17	-9	-14
Other new varieties (3)						16	15	17	82	107	31	183
Other	2.598	2.576	2.568	3.271	3.016	2.324	2.157	1.371	2.180	1.995	-8	5
Total:	11.828	11.611	10.764	11.106	11.618	10.687	10.269	9.132	11.533	10.753	-7	4

(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007 - 2008

(3) Other new varieties: Ariane, Belgica, Cameo, Diwa, Greenstar, Honey Crunch, Jazz, Junami, Kanzi, Mariac, Rubens, Tentation, Wellant,...



Extra EU

Apple Production by country

Country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	F2009	<i>x 1000 tons</i>	
											(1)	(2)
Albania	12	16	16	13	15	16	28	36				
Belarus	585	590	500	431	335	350	400	300	240	250	4	-20
Bosnia-Herzegovina	14	14	15	41	53	52	58	61				
Canada	543	465	382	379	370	409	340	405				
China	20.439	20.025	19.253	21.108	23.685	24.020	26.066	27.866	28.500	25.650	-10	-7
Croatia	30	9	22	27	38	41	48	40	50	45	-10	-2
Macedonia	84	38	63	62	82	86	96	152				
Moldova	162	187	224	494	310	278	203	218	300	400	33	66
Russia	1.832	1.640	1.950	1.690	2.030	1.773	2.000	2.000	1.870	2.000	7	2
Serbia	93	67	38	107	102	108	108	119	107	117	9	5
Switzerland	168	123	147	100	102	101	99	155	136	148	9	14
Turkey	2.400	2.451	2.356	2.577	2.100	2.550	2.600	2.400	2.457	2.457	0	-1
Ukraine	648	475	522	871	717	720	537	755	719	760	6	13
USA			3.866	3.989	4.736	4.392	4.505	4.211	4.157	3.941	-5	-8

(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007 - 2008

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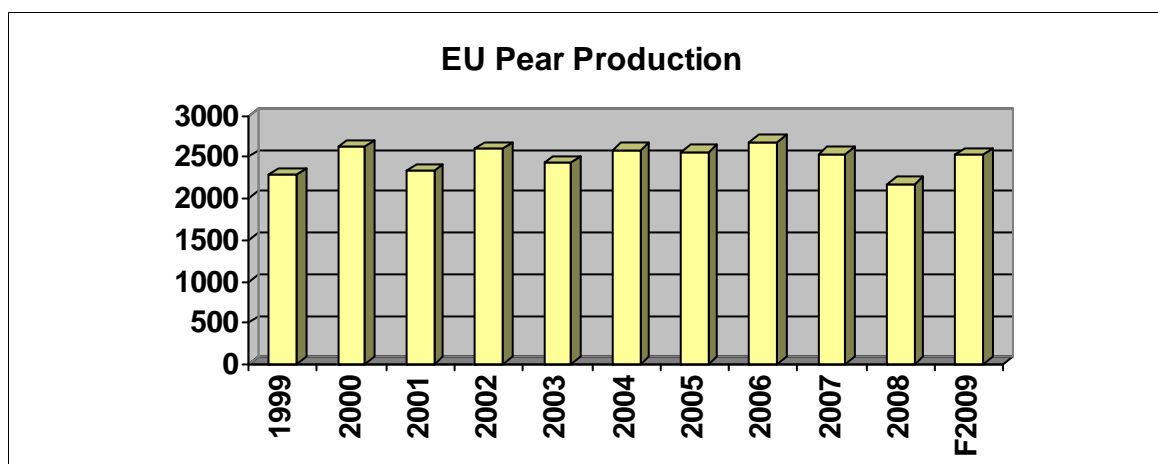
Pear Production by country

x 1000 tons

Country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	F2009	(1)	(2)
Belgium	174	87	167	172	231	229	268	287	170	281	65	16
Bulgaria	19	14	11	6	4	4	4	3	3	3	-6	-12
Czech Republic	2		1		2	2	2	3	3	5	81	87
Denmark	6	6	5	4	5	5	6	6	5	7	40	27
France	259	255	236	190	248	230	246	221	157	193	23	-7
Germany	65	47	56	49	61	53	57	56	38	42	11	-17
Greece	55	46	39	30	54	56	45	51	51	57	12	17
Hungary	40	27	27	33	31	40	39	12	40	40	1	33
Italy	877	794	947	819	838	882	966	922	759	817	8	-7
Latvia	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	20	-10
Netherlands	195	70	180	170	225	200	234	255	172	311	81	41
Poland	82	77	90	77	87	65	55	31	40	85	113	102
Portugal	142	142	125	90	188	130	175	142	188	184	-2	9
Romania	71	72	68	104	46	30	24	21	53	35	-33	9
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	30	10
Spain	597	661	602	641	521	608	535	494	475	427	-10	-15
Sweden	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	300	55
United Kingdom	34	34	35	35	34	27	27	29	23	31	35	17
Total:	2.621	2.334	2.593	2.423	2.578	2.565	2.687	2.537	2.178	2.521	16	2

(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007 - 2008



EU 27

Pear Production by variety

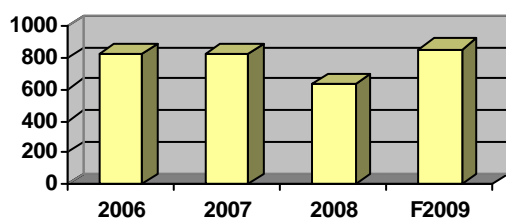
x 1000 tons

Variety	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	F2009	(1)	(2)
Abate F	242	225	281	251	261	283	328	324	248	277	12	-8
Blanquilla	221	240	196	200	157	171	139	132	88	98	11	-18
Conference	613	520	677	723	769	798	826	822	631	856	36	13
Coscia-Ercollini	111	100	103	96	95	111	103	110	107	104	-3	-3
Doyenne du Comice	131	68	162	97	129	105	135	126	82	114	39	0
Durondeau	11	3	11	6	10	7	9	7	6	7	20	-1
Guyot	106	119	117	99	106	115	109	105	98	103	5	-1
Kaiser	51	50	59	63	50	61	61	59	39	55	43	5
Passacrassana	28	26	43	33	37	35	29	25	21	21	2	-15
Rocha	136	136	120	86	180	125	168	136	184	180	-2	10
William BC	328	316	330	286	314	321	350	320	307	296	-3	-9
Other	643	531	494	483	471	433	430	371	367	410	12	5
Total:	2.621	2.334	2.593	2.423	2.578	2.565	2.687	2.537	2.178	2.521	16	2

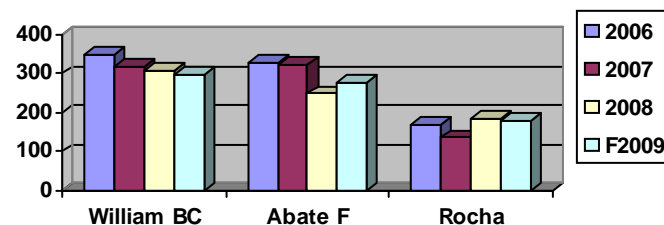
(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007 - 2008

Top 1 variety - Conference



Top 3 varieties of Pear Production after Conference



Extra EU

Pear Production by country

x 1000 tons

Country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	F2009	(1)	(2)
Albania	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5				
Belarus	58	59	90	43	33	32	61	44				
Bosnia-Herzegovina	9	8	8	16	20	23	23	21				
Canada	18	14	15	15	14	11	14	13				
China	8.526	8.897	9.432	9.921	10.767	11.437	12.113	13.045	13.305	10.000	-25	-22
Croatia	10	7	8	8	8	6	9	10				
Macedonia	9	7	8	6	7	9	9	8				
Moldova	9	7	11	6	4	6	3	4				
Russia	88	45	90	72	95	74	67	96				
Serbia	25	13	9	23	18	25	24	30	33	36	9	24
Switzerland					27	25	24	27	15	29	92	30
Turkey	379	360	358	379	373	377	379	380	361	368	2	-1
Ukraine	156	102	131	150	152	177	81	140	126	120	-5	-4
USA	466	449	436	436	419	404	397	450	419	453	8	7

(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007 - 2008

Southern Hemisphere Crop Forecast 2009

Apples								<i>x 1000 tons</i>	
Country	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	F2009	(1)	(2)
Argentina	1.056	1.010	1.121	1.051	1.047	980	1.032	5,23	0,55
Australia	326	255	327	276	270	265	271	2,08	0,08
Brazil	701	990	882	756	993	983	1.023	4,05	12,33
Chile			1.560	1.629	1.686	1.676	1.734	3,47	4,23
New Zealand		548	506	392	427	418	473	13,13	14,80
South Africa	717	819	703	637	689	749	747	-0,24	8,00
Total	2.801	3.621	5.099	4.740	5.112	5.072	5.280	4,10	6,13

(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007- 2008

Pears								<i>x 1000 tons</i>	
Country	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	F2009	(1)	(2)
Argentina	530	467	530	750	739	723	870	20,47	18,07
Australia	140	142	151	142	135	130	129	-1,14	-5,07
Chile	247	209	201	196	194	189	176	-7,03	-8,86
New Zealand	2	13	11	9	10	11	9	-21,39	-12,30
South Africa		329	316	324	359	342	366	7,08	7,26
Total	919	1.159	1.209	1.421	1.437	1.396	1.551	11,09	9,36

(1) Percentage difference between F2009 and 2008

(2) Percentage difference between F2009 and the average of 2006 - 2007- 2008