

2014 U.S. APPLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION FACTS & FIGURES

It's no surprise that apples are the most popular fruit grown in the United States. Tasty, versatile, portable, affordable and nutritious, apples are one of nature's perfect foods.

More than 7,500 growers manage 325,000 acres of apple orchards, trailing only oranges and grapes in the amount of U.S. acreage committed to fruit production. In 2014, more than 33 billion apples are expected to be harvested in the United States. Apples are grown in every state in the continental U.S. and are available year-round. Top-producing states include Washington, New York, Michigan and Pennsylvania, in that order.

Demand for apples among U.S. consumers is strong and growing. In 2012, Americans consumed an average of 44 pounds of apples per person. And, the per-person consumption of apple juice and cider increased to 22.3 pounds, up from 20.9 pounds in 2011.

Although more than 2,500 varieties are grown in the U.S., 80 percent of all production is from 10 top varieties. Gala is the most popular fresh apple in the nation, while the fastest growing is Honeycrisp, which has tripled in production the last five years.

USApple forecasts that one-third of the apple harvest in 2014 will be processed for products like apple juice, applesauce and frozen products, and another 18 percent will be exported.

The top-10 most-purchased fresh apple varieties are:



1. Gala



2. Red Delicious



3. Fuji



4. Granny Smith



5. Honeycrisp



6. Golden Delicious



7. McIntosh



8. Pink Lady



9. Braeburn



10. Jazz

U.S. Apple Association. Web. <http://www.usapple.org>, accessed August 7, 2014.

USDA Agricultural Marketing Resource Center. Commodity Apple Profile, revised December 2013. Web. http://www.agmrc.org/commodities_products/fruits/apples/commodity-apple-profile/ Accessed August 7, 2014.