

Thank you, Senator Stabenow and members of the Committee for the invitation to testify today and for your concern about this very important issue.

I am Jeff Send and I have been a cherry farmer my entire life. I grew up working on my grandfather's forty acres. Now my wife, Nita and I manage 800 acres of sweet and tart cherries. Protecting a portion of our land through the Federal Farm & Ranchland Protection Program helped us to expand our operation. The government received permanent agricultural security for a fraction of the cost and we received capital to reinvest on the farm. This program is a win-win in government programming. Our youngest daughter and her husband work with us and they hope to take over the farm one day. I also operate a receiving station that we have managed for 35 years. I have a working relationship with 35 growers who bring their cherries to my station. The cherries are weighed, inspected and loaded onto trucks to be delivered to ten processors in Michigan, Wisconsin and New York that we work with. I am currently serving as Vice Chairman of the Cherry Marketing Institute (CMI) Board of Directors. CMI is the national organization for tart cherry farmers. I am also Vice Chairman of the National Cherry Growers and Industries Foundation (NCGIF) which is the national organization for sweet cherry farmers.

Year in and year out Michigan produces 75% of the United States supply of red tart cherries. Michigan also ranks fourth in sweet cherry production but first in processed sweet cherries. However, that was not the case in 2012! Last year was the most disastrous year that I and the cherry industry have ever experienced. Our winter was much warmer than normal with little snow and ice in the Great Lakes. Cold winters hold back early spring warm ups which is key for all fruit production regions. In March my area was hit with two to three feet of extremely wet and heavy snow and ice. There was extensive damage to tart trees breaking branches and even destroying some. Over ten thousand of my trees were damaged. It is likely that more will break down when we set a crop again. The weakened trees may not be able to carry the load. In mid-March there were seven days of 80 degree temperatures which is unheard of in Michigan. Cherry trees moved out of dormancy and began to grow. This left them completely vulnerable to 13 to 20 different freezes, depending on location, during March and April. This extreme weather devastated the fruit industry in Michigan, Wisconsin and New York. Sweet cherries endured the freezes slightly better than tart cherries but to top things off we were hit with the worst case of bacterial canker I have seen. There is no treatment for this disease which kills bud sets. Some trees will be without fruit for two years and some may actually die.

In Michigan we have the capacity to produce 275 million pounds of tart cherries. In 2012 our total was 11.6 million pounds. The entire national crop was only 85 million pounds. There were only 8.5 million pounds of sweet cherries harvested instead of 35

to 50 million pounds. If this had happened just one year ago the SURE program would have been in place and we would have had a safety net to stop our free fall. There is no tart cherry crop insurance available at all for our industry. So my fellow cherry growers and I have no risk management tool to get through this very difficult year. NAP, the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program is available. However, the policy starts at a 50% loss and then pays out only 50% of that number. Farmers are left with only about 25% coverage and there is a \$100,000 cap. This does not come close to just covering our expenses. My costs are $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 million dollars to operate my farm. Fruit trees must be maintained whether there is a crop on them or not. You carry on with the same practices in order to keep them healthy: trimming, mowing, applying fertilizer, and chemically treating for pests and disease. In fact, we had to spray orchards in 2012 more times than most years since spring started five weeks early. So the expenses remain the same, whether you harvest a crop or it is destroyed. Imagine working for a year and a half with no paycheck but still having to pay all the same bills.

There is a pilot crop insurance program for sweet cherries that is only available in two counties in Michigan. Fortunately I live in one of the pilot counties. For me it meant that I was covered for 50% of my loss because that was the policy I had chosen. Because of this year and my fear that it could happen again I increased our coverage level for 2013. However, the farmers I represent in neighboring counties did not have the option to purchase a sweet cherry crop insurance policy. They have to fit both of their tart and sweet cherry losses under a NAP policy that is capped at \$100,000, which in many cases is a fraction of their total cost of expenses. The sweet cherry pilot program was expanded last summer to cover most of the production regions in the state and will be a great help in the future. However, it will not make up for the losses that farmers experienced in 2012.

The Administrator of RMA visited Michigan last summer and we are working on a tart cherry crop insurance program. We hope to have a national policy in pilot for the 2014 crop year. This is a tight timeline, however we remain on track to date for this to happen.

I worry about our younger farmers who have not built up any equity on their farm. No income with all the same expenses is a formula for disaster. The margins are always tight in agriculture. There needs to be something to help farmers stay in business when natural disasters hit. A few days of weather that we have no control over should not force farmers out of business. It truly is an economic tsunami that challenges the future of our farmers and the cherry industry.

As I wrap up my comments today, I also want to address the importance of Ag research and extension program. While this may not seem like an appropriate topic for a disaster hearing, it's important to note that I did not have to face the challenges of last year alone. I personally have never been through a year like 2012. With an early season, lots of frost damage, and rampant bacterial canker, cherry growers were left questioning where we could cut expenses, and how to continue to protect our orchards so we could set a crop next year. These were big questions in a year where we knew we would have no tart cherry revenue. Michigan State University played a key role in getting information out to growers providing us the ability to make timely decisions. This partnership is very important to the cherry industry, especially in the state where 75% of the nation's tart cherries are grown. New Ag research and extension programs are very important for all specialty crop farmers who cannot rely on the private sector for support.

Thank you for the chance to testify today. I want to leave you with three things.

- 1) Disaster Relief is very important to the Tree Fruit Industry to protect farmers that don't have the option to purchase crop insurance.
- 2) Long term Crop Insurance needs to be available to **all farmers** who grow food in the United States.
- 3) Where crop insurance is not available we need to improve the NAP policies to provide farmers a better risk management tool to survive crop disasters like we just faced in 2012.

I am very worried about 2013 and what this year will bring. We must have a good crop to get growers and the industry back on their feet. Another year like this without some form of safety net will unfortunately put most of us out of business.

USDA Tart Cherry Production and Utilization
(Reported in Millions of Pounds)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
MICHIGAN											
NW	1.0 ¹	96.9 ¹	87.9 ¹	127.6 ¹	114.2 ¹	134.2 ¹	95.8 ¹	185.3 ¹	72.5 ¹	92.5 ¹	2.5
WC	6.0 ¹	36.0 ¹	36.5 ¹	64.2 ¹	49.2 ¹	52.4 ¹	49.9 ¹	62.9 ¹	53.0 ¹	47.7 ¹	7.8
SW	7.1 ¹	18.6 ¹	23.5 ¹	14.9 ¹	25.7 ¹	8.8 ¹	18.3 ¹	16.5 ¹	14.5 ¹	16.8 ¹	1.2
OTHER	0.9 ²	2.5 ²	1.1 ²	1.3 ²	0.9 ²	0.6 ²	1.0 ²	1.3 ²	-5.0 ²	0.5 ²	0.1
TOTAL	15.0 ³	154.0 ³	149.0 ³	208.0 ³	190.0 ³	196.0 ³	165.0 ³	266.0 ³	135.0 ³	157.5 ³	11.6
LAKE STATES											
MI	15.0	154.0	149.0	208.0	190.0	196.0	165.0	266.0	135.0	157.5	11.6
NY	12.7	7.2	10.7	7.5	8.6	11.3	9.6	11.2	7.8	5.9	2.7
PA/OHIO	3.8	3.9	3.0	2.6	5.2	3.5	3.9	3.9	2.3	3.2	3.3
WI	4.0	13.3	6.7	7.5	4.5	10.4	0.6	10.9	5.7	6.7	1.7
TOTAL	35.5	178.4	169.4	225.6	208.3	221.2	179.1	292.0	150.8	173.3	19.3
WESTERN STATES											
CO	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
OREGON	3.2	1.4	3.9	0.3	3.4	0.5	2.8	3.2	1.2	2.5	1.0
UTAH	3.0	26.0	22.0	28.0	28.0	20.0	20.0	47.0	23.0	35.0	40.0
WASHINGTON	20.5	20.1	17.5	16.5	22.3	11.5	12.5	16.7	15.4	20.9	24.8
TOTAL	27.0	48.1	43.6	45.0	53.7	32.0	35.3	66.9	39.6	58.4	65.8
TOTAL U.S.	62.5	226.5	213.0	270.6	262.0	253.2	214.4	358.9	190.4	231.7	85.1
FRESH UTILIZATION											
LAKE STATES	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.2
WESTERN STATES	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL U.S.	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.7	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.5	0.4
PRODUCTION ABANDONMENT											
LAKE STATES	0.0	0	0	0	9.8	3.4	0.2	19.1	6.2	0.1	0.1
WESTERN STATES	0.3	0	0	2	3.6	1.1	1.0	13.3	0.5	0.5	0.0
TOTAL U.S.	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.0	13.4	4.5	1.2	32.4	6.7	0.6	0.1
SUPPLY FOR PROCESSING											
LAKE STATES	35.1	177.7	168.8	225.1	198.0	217.1	178.4	266.2	143.9	172.2	19.2
WESTERN STATES	26.7	48.1	43.6	43	50.1	30.9	34.3	53.6	39.1	57.9	65.8
TOTAL U.S.	61.8	225.8	212.4	268.1	248.1	248.0	212.7	319.8	183.0	230.1	85.0
FARM VALUE OF PRODUCTION (MILLION DOLLARS)											
MICHIGAN	7.2	57.6	49.8	47.6	34.7	50.9	63.0	37.9	27.2	47.2	12.7
U.S.	27.8	79.5	69.9	64.0	53.4	67.9	80.3	61.6	40.7	68.5	50.5

Source 1 Michigan Regional Production Source - CIAB

Source 2 Difference between USDA Michigan Production and CIAB Michigan Production

Source 3 Total USDA Michigan Production

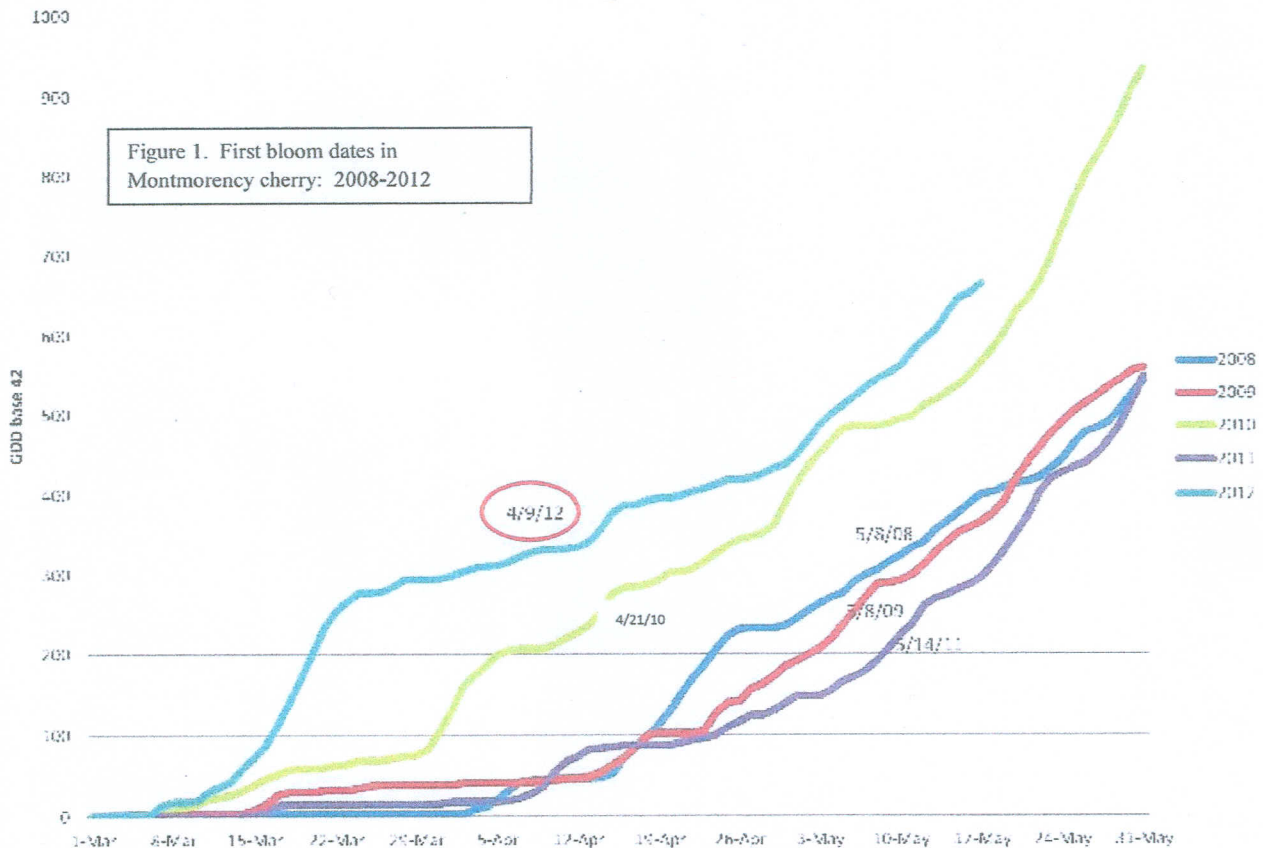
U.S. Tart Cherry Production

Year	Total Production Mil lbs.	Year	Total Production Mil lbs.
1938	130	1975	290
1939	194	1976	147
1940	209	1977	211
1941	163	1978	181
1942	211	1979	170
1943	82	1980	218
1944	225	1981	135
1945	92	1982	311
1946	232	1983	155
1947	182	1984	271
1948	264	1985	286
1949	217	1986	224
1950	310	1987	359
1951	314	1988	236
1952	234	1989	271
1953	263	1990	216
1954	213	1991	200
1955	298	1992	348
1956	198	1993	340
1957	293	1994	304
1958	207	1995	396
1959	276	1996	272
1960	232	1997	293
1961	329	1998	348
1962	353	1999	256
1963	162	2000	289
1964	547	2001	370
1965	354	2002	63
1966	180	2003	227
1967	178	2004	213
1968	275	2005	270
1969	317	2006	262
1970	251	2007	253
1971	280	2008	214
1972	312	2009	359
1973	175	2010	190
1974	265	2011	232
		2012	85

Source: USDA, *Non-Citrus Fruits and Nuts*, various issues.

Summary of 2012 Weather Events and Impact on Tree Fruit Crops, NW Michigan

The 2012 growing season has been both unusual and challenging for fruit farmers across the eastern U.S. The difficulty began in mid-March with a warm-up that lasted seven days, and during that time, tart and sweet cherry and apple trees moved out of dormancy and began to grow. Those temperatures accelerated the degree-day accumulations, and by the start of April, we were five weeks ahead of schedule. Even if the calendar said it was the beginning of April, we had accumulated enough heat units to move the trees along to begin tart cherry bloom on April 9th; tart cherry bloom typically begins around May 12th (Figure 1).



Year	# days in bloom	# of nights below freezing	total # of hours below freezing	extreme low temp (F)
2008	12	2	4	31
2009	11	2	10	25
2010	13	4	29	23
2011	10	0	0	
2012	19	13	85	*3 nights of extreme lows (22, 23, 24)

This situation has presented state and regional fruit farmers with some major challenges this spring. For example, if cherry trees move out of dormancy and buds begin to swell in early May, growers track those below-freezing night time temperatures that could damage those tender buds. In a 'normal' year, the riskwindow for

frost is approximately four weeks. In 2012, cherry bud swell started at the end of March, which extended that risk window by another four weeks—essentially cherry buds were in danger from frost for over eight weeks this year compared to the typical four. The number of freeze events and the duration of the cold temperatures are captured in Table 1.

The result of these weather conditions is a severely reduced tree fruit crop throughout northwest Michigan. Tart cherry crop load is estimated at 5% of a normal crop. Sweet cherries endured the freeze temperatures slightly better than tart cherries but have been greatly impacted by bacterial canker (*Pseudomonas syringae*), a disease that is exacerbated by cold and wet temperatures during bloom (Figures 2 and 3). The sweet cherry crop was estimated to be 40% of a normal crop, but with the severity of this disease, the crop estimate is well below 20%.



Figures 2 and 3. Sweet cherry spurs killed by *P. syringae* in Leelanau County, 2012.

Estimations for the apple crop in northwest Michigan is still underway, but as apples begin to size, we estimate that we have potentially 20% of a crop. However, this crop is highly dependent on variety and on orchard sites. Firm numbers for the apple crop are expected by next week. Damaged and healthy apple blossoms can be seen in Figures 4 and 5.



Figures 4 and 5. Damaged and healthy apple blossom in Grand Traverse County, 2012.

Tart Cherry Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Utilization, Price, and Value – States and United States: 2010-2012 (continued)

State and year	Price per pound			Value of production		
	Fresh (dollars)	Processed (dollars)	All (dollars)	Fresh (1,000 dollars)	Processed (1,000 dollars)	All (1,000 dollars)
Michigan						
2010	1.100	0.210	0.212	220	27,040	27,260
2011	1.250	0.300	0.301	250	46,960	47,210
2012	2.400	1.100	1.110	240	12,640	12,880
New York						
2010	(D)	(D)	0.174	(D)	(D)	1,360
2011	(D)	(D)	0.242	(D)	(D)	1,426
2012	(D)	(D)	1.050	(D)	(D)	2,844
Oregon						
2010	(D)	(D)	0.317	(D)	(D)	380
2011	(D)	(D)	0.340	(D)	(D)	850
2012	(D)	(D)	0.951	(D)	(D)	951
Pennsylvania						
2010	(D)	(D)	0.257	(D)	(D)	540
2011	(D)	(D)	0.371	(D)	(D)	1,150
2012	(D)	(D)	1.110	(D)	(D)	3,560
Utah						
2010	(X)	0.270	0.270	(X)	6,075	6,075
2011	(X)	0.290	0.290	(X)	10,005	10,005
2012	(X)	0.510	0.510	(X)	20,400	20,400
Washington						
2010	(D)	(D)	0.228	(D)	(D)	3,515
2011	(D)	(D)	0.312	(D)	(D)	6,521
2012	(D)	(D)	0.323	(D)	(D)	8,000
Wisconsin						
2010	0.634	0.280	0.293	127	1,484	1,611
2011	0.646	0.280	0.285	65	1,845	1,910
2012	1.250	1.100	1.110	125	1,760	1,885
Other States						
2010	1.760	0.195	(X)	703	5,092	(X)
2011	1.370	0.300	(X)	273	9,674	(X)
2012	1.970	0.475	(X)	394	14,961	(X)
United States						
2010	1.310	0.218	0.222	1,050	39,691	40,741
2011	1.180	0.298	0.300	588	68,484	69,072
2012	1.900	0.588	0.594	759	49,761	50,520

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Yield is based on total production.

Tart Cherry Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Utilization, Price, and Value – States and United States: 2010-2012

State and year	Bearing acreage	Yield per acre ¹	Production		Utilization	
			Total	Utilized	Fresh	Processed
	(acres)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)
Michigan						
2010	26,200	5,150	135.0	128.7	0.2	128.5
2011	26,700	5,900	157.5	156.7	0.2	156.5
2012	27,300	425	11.6	11.6	0.1	11.5
New York						
2010	1,500	5,200	7.8	7.8	(D)	(D)
2011	1,500	3,930	5.9	5.9	(D)	(D)
2012	1,500	1,800	2.7	2.7	(D)	(D)
Oregon						
2010	650	1,850	1.2	1.2	(D)	(D)
2011	650	3,850	2.5	2.5	(D)	(D)
2012	650	1,540	1.0	1.0	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania						
2010	600	3,830	2.3	2.1	(D)	(D)
2011	550	5,820	3.2	3.1	(D)	(D)
2012	550	6,000	3.3	3.2	(D)	(D)
Utah						
2010	3,300	6,970	23.0	22.5	-	22.5
2011	3,300	10,600	35.0	34.5	-	34.5
2012	3,300	12,100	40.0	40.0	-	40.0
Washington						
2010	1,600	9,630	15.4	15.4	(D)	(D)
2011	1,600	13,100	20.9	20.9	(D)	(D)
2012	1,600	15,500	24.8	24.8	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin						
2010	1,800	3,170	5.7	5.5	0.2	5.3
2011	1,700	3,940	6.7	6.7	0.1	6.6
2012	1,600	1,060	1.7	1.7	0.1	1.6
Other States						
2010	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	0.4	26.1
2011	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	0.2	32.2
2012	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	0.2	31.5
United States						
2010	35,650	5,340	190.4	183.2	0.8	182.4
2011	36,000	6,440	231.7	230.3	0.5	229.8
2012	36,500	2,330	85.1	85.0	0.4	84.6

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

Sweet Cherry Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Utilization, Price, and Value – States and United States: 2010-2012

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

State and year	Bearing acreage (acres)	Yield per acre ¹ (tons)	Production		Utilization	
			Total (tons)	Utilized (tons)	Fresh (tons)	Processed (tons)
California						
2010	29,000	3.34	97,000	94,000	83,000	11,000
2011	30,000	2.27	68,000	66,000	57,000	9,000
2012	31,000	2.98	92,300	89,300	78,000	11,300
Idaho						
2010	900	2.11	1,900	1,800	(D)	(D)
2011	900	3.11	2,800	2,800	(D)	(D)
2012	900	4.00	3,600	3,300	(D)	(D)
Michigan						
2010	6,700	2.25	15,100	14,400	1,100	13,300
2011	6,500	2.86	18,600	18,600	2,200	16,400
2012	6,500	0.65	4,250	4,250	120	4,130
Montana						
2010	730	3.38	2,470	2,050	(D)	(D)
2011	720	2.80	2,015	1,650	(D)	(D)
2012	690	3.26	2,250	1,395	(D)	(D)
New York						
2010	700	1.43	1,000	800	(D)	(D)
2011	700	1.00	700	670	(D)	(D)
2012	700	0.43	300	290	(D)	(D)
Oregon						
2010	12,500	3.09	38,650	37,500	25,500	12,000
2011	12,500	3.64	45,500	43,800	29,600	14,200
2012	12,500	4.48	56,000	54,600	39,500	15,100
Utah						
2010	500	2.20	1,100	1,080	650	430
2011	500	1.60	800	770	330	440
2012	500	2.60	1,300	1,280	700	580
Washington						
2010	34,000	4.59	156,000	156,000	130,000	26,000
2011	34,000	5.76	196,000	196,000	165,000	31,000
2012	34,000	7.76	264,000	264,000	210,000	54,000
Other States						
2010	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	4,090	560
2011	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	4,790	330
2012	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	4,235	750
United States						
2010	85,030	3.68	313,220	307,630	244,340	63,290
2011	85,820	3.90	334,415	330,290	258,920	71,370
2012	86,790	4.89	424,000	418,415	332,555	85,860

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

Sweet Cherry Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Utilization, Price, and Value – States and United States: 2010-2012 (continued)

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

State and year	Price per ton			Value of production		
	Fresh (dollars)	Processed (dollars)	All (dollars)	Fresh (1,000 dollars)	Processed (1,000 dollars)	All (1,000 dollars)
California						
2010	3,090.00	204.00	2,750.00	256,470	2,245	258,715
2011	3,430.00	193.00	2,990.00	195,510	1,740	197,250
2012	3,270.00	240.00	2,890.00	255,060	2,712	257,772
Idaho						
2010	(D)	(D)	2,230.00	(D)	(D)	4,011
2011	(D)	(D)	2,620.00	(D)	(D)	7,337
2012	(D)	(D)	2,640.00	(D)	(D)	8,706
Michigan						
2010	2,290.00	545.00	678.00	2,519	7,246	9,765
2011	2,410.00	777.00	970.00	5,302	12,740	18,042
2012	4,280.00	1,360.00	1,440.00	514	5,619	6,133
Montana						
2010	(D)	(D)	1,960.00	(D)	(D)	4,026
2011	(D)	(D)	2,470.00	(D)	(D)	4,068
2012	(D)	(D)	1,450.00	(D)	(D)	2,019
New York						
2010	(D)	(D)	2,820.00	(D)	(D)	2,255
2011	(D)	(D)	3,140.00	(D)	(D)	2,106
2012	(D)	(D)	3,700.00	(D)	(D)	1,073
Oregon						
2010	2,392.00	899.00	1,910.00	60,996	10,790	71,786
2011	2,240.00	800.00	1,770.00	66,304	11,360	77,664
2012	1,517.00	972.00	1,370.00	59,922	14,684	74,606
Utah						
2010	1,860.00	521.00	1,330.00	1,209	224	1,433
2011	2,760.00	502.00	1,470.00	911	221	1,132
2012	2,300.00	421.00	1,450.00	1,610	244	1,854
Washington						
2010	2,720.00	388.00	2,330.00	353,600	10,093	363,693
2011	3,120.00	393.00	2,690.00	514,800	12,186	526,986
2012	2,140.00	773.00	1,860.00	449,400	41,748	491,148
Other States						
2010	2,480.00	241.00	(X)	10,157	135	(X)
2011	2,790.00	412.00	(X)	13,375	136	(X)
2012	2,710.00	429.00	(X)	11,476	322	(X)
United States						
2010	2,800.00	486.00	2,330.00	684,951	30,733	715,684
2011	3,080.00	538.00	2,530.00	796,202	38,383	834,585
2012	2,340.00	761.00	2,020.00	777,982	65,329	843,311

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Yield is based on total production.

Sweet and Tart Cherry Processed Utilization and Price by Use – States and United States: 2010-2012

Crop, utilization, and State	Quantity			Price per unit		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)	(dollars per ton)	(dollars per ton)	(dollars per ton)
Sweet cherries						
Canned						
Michigan	450	1,800	(D)	660.00	1,000.00	(D)
Oregon	700	1,450	(D)	995.00	1,100.00	(D)
Washington	2,000	3,000	3,000	1,100.00	968.00	1,100.00
United States	3,150	6,250	5,900	1,014.00	1,010.00	1,150.00
Brined						
Michigan	8,500	9,150	1,350	490.00	600.00	1,050.00
Oregon	10,200	10,500	9,600	910.00	750.00	950.00
Utah	430	440	580	521.00	502.00	420.00
Washington	11,500	14,000	29,000	470.00	480.00	750.00
Other States ¹	7,604	5,535	6,535	245.00	241.00	244.00
United States	38,234	39,625	47,065	548.00	546.00	725.00
Other ²						
Michigan	4,350	5,450	2,780	640.00	1,000.00	1,510.00
Oregon	1,100	2,250	5,500	737.00	840.00	1,010.00
Washington	12,500	14,000	22,000	199.00	183.00	759.00
Other States ¹	3,955	3,795	2,615	132.00	138.00	264.00
United States	21,905	25,495	32,895	302.00	409.00	780.00
	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)
Tart cherries						
Canned						
Michigan	29.0	34.0	3.0	0.210	0.340	1.160
Other States ¹	6.3	4.4	3.5	0.153	0.308	1.080
United States	35.3	38.4	6.5	0.200	0.336	1.120
Frozen						
Michigan	87.0	101.0	8.0	0.215	0.295	1.080
Utah	22.5	34.5	40.0	0.270	0.290	0.510
Other States ¹	16.4	18.6	11.8	0.210	0.260	0.533
United States	125.9	154.1	59.8	0.224	0.290	0.591
Other ³						
Michigan	12.5	21.5	0.5	0.180	0.261	1.040
Other States ¹	8.7	15.8	17.8	0.248	0.337	0.373
United States	21.2	37.3	18.3	0.208	0.293	0.392

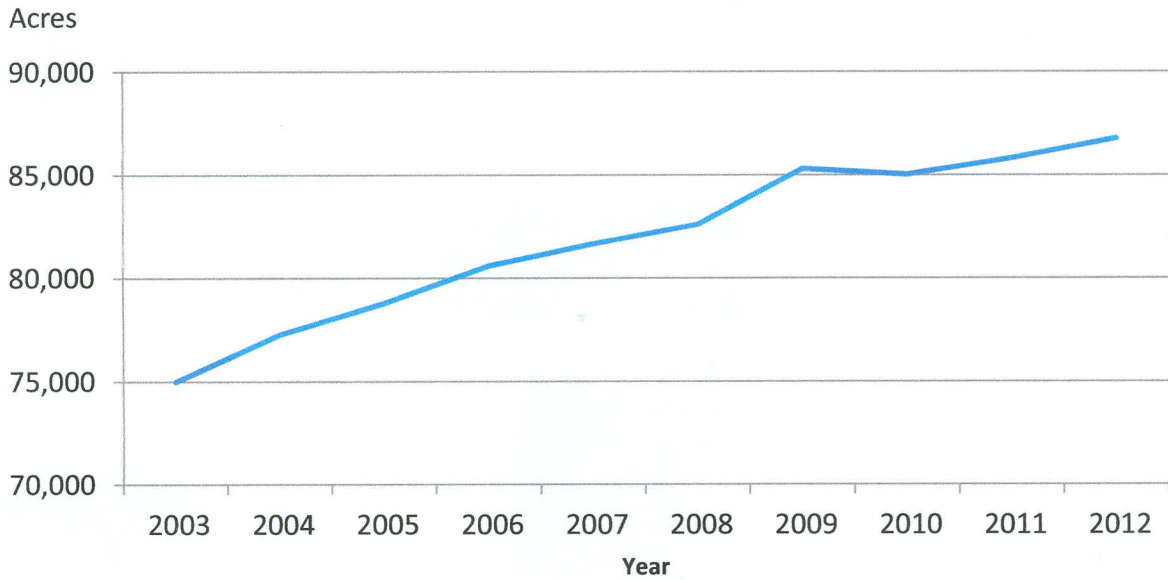
(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Includes data withheld above and/or data for States not listed in this table.

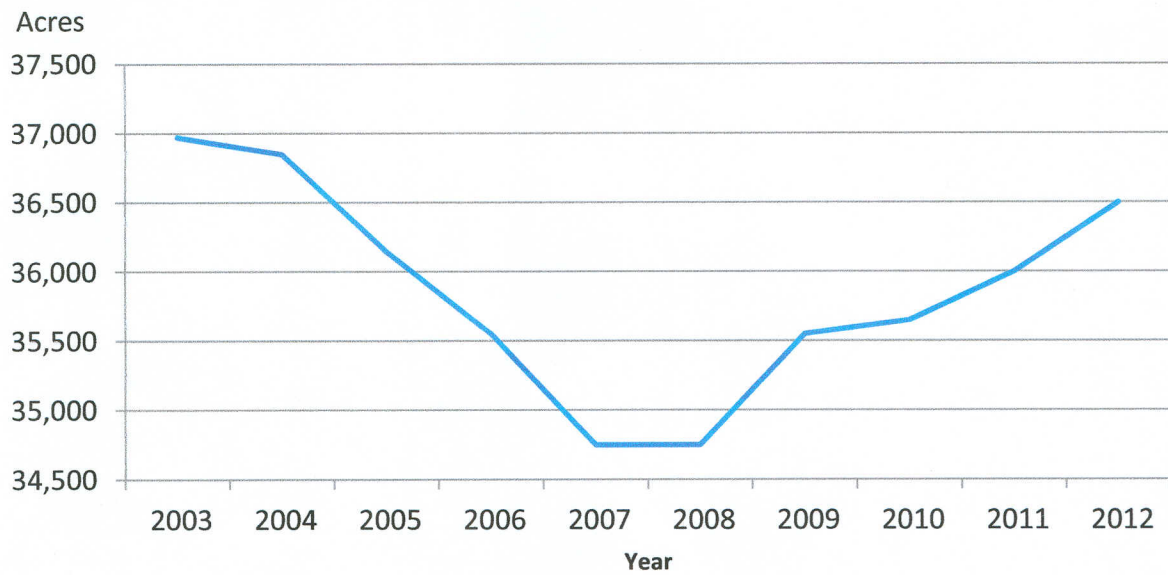
² Includes California canned utilization and other processed utilizations (frozen, juice, etc.) from all States.

³ Juice, wine, brined, and dried.

Sweet Cherry Bearing Acreage United States: 2003-2012



Tart Cherry Bearing Acreage United States: 2003-2012





News Release

Fruit Inventory Results for Sweet and Tart Cherries

Results from the 2011 Michigan Fruit Inventory have been compiled for sweet and tart cherries. This inventory of commercial fruit farms was conducted by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. There were 400 sweet cherry and 450 tart cherry farms at the end of the 2011 season.

Sweet cherry trees covered 7,200 acres at the conclusion of 2011, down 300 acres since 2006. There were 720 acres of sweet cherries planted from 2007 through 2011. Sixty-nine percent of the land in sweet cherries was in Leelanau and Grand Traverse Counties. Gold, Emperor Francis, and Ulster were the top three varieties. They accounted for 58 percent of the acres.

There were 32,000 acres of tart cherries at the end of 2011, unchanged from five years earlier. Acreage declines in the southwest and west central regions were offset by an increase in the northwest. There were 4,500 acres of new tart cherry plantings from 2007 through 2011.

All tables on cherries are available through the NASS home page at www.nass.usda.gov. Select Michigan under Statistics by State to access the Michigan internet page. In the list of Michigan Publications, choose Michigan Rotational Surveys to find the Fruit Inventory 2011-2012 information.

Cherries, sweet: Number of farms and acres by county and district

County and district	Farms		Acres	
	2006	2011	2006	2011
Antrim	30	27	730	630
Benzie, Charlevoix	21	21	300	260
Grand Traverse	83	67	1,500	1,500
Leelanau	118	107	3,500	3,450
Manistee	11	9	170	160
Northwest	263	231	6,200	6,000
Mason	15	10	410	360
Oceana	32	27	450	350
Other counties	35	34	140	190
West Central	82	71	1,000	900
Berrien	51	38	160	180
Van Buren	16	16	40	30
Other counties	12	10	20	25
Southwest	79	64	220	235
East	46	34	80	65
Michigan	470	400	7,500	7,200

Cherries, tart: Number of farms and acres by county and district

County and district	Farms		Acres	
	2006	2011	2006	2011
Antrim, Charlevoix	40	34	2,800	3,400
Benzie	21	22	1,400	1,500
Grand Traverse	81	76	4,200	4,400
Leelanau	124	107	8,150	7,800
Manistee	18	13	800	800
Northwest	284	252	17,350	17,900
Kent	10	8	320	230
Mason	17	10	1,770	1,850
Oceana	65	60	8,000	7,900
Other counties	14	10	260	220
West Central	106	88	10,350	10,200
Allegan	6		200	
Berrien	66	52	1,750	1,550
Van Buren	30	22	1,850	1,750
Other Counties	9	9	450	550
Southwest	111	83	4,250	3,850
East	39	27	50	50
Michigan	540	450	32,000	32,000