

WAPA forecasts stable SH apple production, lower pear crop in 2018

The World Apple and Pear Association (WAPA) has forecast Southern Hemisphere apple production and exports to remain stable this year alongside a drop in pear volumes.

The forecasts collected from industry associations in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand and South Africa showed the apple crop is expected to be 5.3 million metric tons (MT) while the pear crop is set to fall 15% to 1.1 million MT.

The apple export forecast is set to rise by 1% to 1.65 million MT while pear exports are anticipated to be 570,000MT, dropping by the same percentage as the crop estimate.

“Overall the Southern Hemisphere season is due to start with 1 to 2 weeks of delay compared to the average,” WAPA said in a statement following its annual meeting at Fruit Logistica in Berlin.

Additionally, figures for the 2017 European forecast were confirmed with 9.2 million MT for apples and 2.21 million MT for pears. The U.S. crop forecast was fixed at 4.5 million MT and 600,000MT respectively, while China’s total crop estimate was 44.8 million MT.

“Overall, WAPA is cautiously optimistic about the current campaign, due to the low holdings and relatively good quality of the apples, which lead to good prices,” it said.

“The meeting was concluded with a presentation and discussion about sustainable apple and pear production practices, the latest research and innovation activities, and promotion best practices of the members.

“The Association looks forward to continuing the cooperation in the future, and will convene again at the Prognosfruit Conference, which will be held in Warsaw from 8-10 August 2018.”

See the tables below for apple and pear production forecasts from the individual Southern Hemisphere countries:

Apples

x 1000 tons

Country	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	(1)	(2)
Argentina	933	800	1.048	853	930	890	834	711	794	635	-20	-19
Australia	263	255	260	293	289	275	309	301	306	301	-2	-1
Brazil	1.053	1.226	1.250	1.184	1.063	1.165	1.145	826	1.100	1.185	8	16
Chile	1.811	1.755	1.784	1.806	1.746	1.670	1.708	1.635	1.675	1.758	5	5
New Zealand	466	448	513	476	550	478	554	539	506	564	11	6
South Africa	747	775	768	813	907	794	924	902	940	871	-7	-6
Total	5.272	5.260	5.623	5.425	5.485	5.272	5.474	4.914	5.321	5.314	0	1

(1) Percentage difference between F2017 and 2016

(2) Percentage difference between F2017 and the average of 2014- 2015 - 2016

Pears

x 1000 tons

Country	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	(1)	(2)
Argentina	895	770	843	801	863	794	810	630	611	428	-30	-37
Australia	127	107	130	124	129	107	104	100	102	116	14	14
Chile	176	170	194	189	200	170	188	177	149	141	-5	-17
New Zealand	12	11	11	9	12	10	12	12	11	12	7	5
South Africa	366	356	360	361	379	399	415	432	436	420	-4	-2
Total	1.577	1.414	1.539	1.485	1.583	1.480	1.528	1.350	1.309	1.117	-15	-20

(1) Percentage difference between F2018 and 2017

(2) Percentage difference between F2018 and the average of 2015 - 2016 - 2017

Lien article : <https://www.freshfruitportal.com/news/2018/02/09/wapa-forecasts-stable-sh-apple-production-lower-pear-crop-2018/>