

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Greece

Post: Rome

Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual 2013

Report Categories:

Fresh Deciduous Fruit

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Report Highlights:

Greece's MY 2013/14 (July/June) apple and pear productions are forecast to decrease by 10.3 and 26 percent respectively, due to unfavorable weather and hail storms that affected many areas of the country. However, quality is excellent. Greece is the third largest producer of table grapes in the EU-28, behind Italy and Spain. According to industry estimates, MY 2013/14 table grape production is forecast to be satisfactory thanks to favorable weather conditions during flowering and fruit set.

I. APPLES

Table 1: Production, Supply, and Demand (MT)

Apples	2011	2012	2013
	Estimates 2011/2012	Estimates 2012/2013	Forecast 2013/2014
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	14,500	14,000	13,500
Area Harvested	14,210	13,720	13,230
Commercial Production	305,000	242,000	217,000
Production	305,000	242,000	217,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	15,053	8,548	8,730
Extra EU-28 Imports	3,052	2,255	2,270
Total Imports	18,105	10,803	11,000
Total Supply	323,105	252,803	228,000
Fresh Domestic Consumption	290,630	206,147	181,300
Intra EU-28 Exports	6,704	11,436	11,470
Extra EU-28 Exports	25,771	35,220	35,230
Total Exports	32,475	46,656	46,700
Total Distribution	323,105	252,803	228,000

Sources: Greek industry; WAPA; GTA

PRODUCTION

Greece's MY 2013/14 (July/June) apple production is forecast to decrease by 10.3 percent, because of unfavorable spring conditions and successive wave of hailstorm affecting several areas, especially Pelion and Tripoli in Central Greece. However, quality is excellent. There are approximately 12,470 hectares currently cultivated for apples. The main producing areas include the prefectures of Kastoria, Pella, and Imathia in Macedonia; Volos, Larissa, Pelion, and Kissavos in Thessaly; Arcadia in Peloponnese. Almost 56 percent of Greek apple orchards consist of red varieties, predominately *Red Delicious* group. The green varieties (mostly *Granny Smith*) follow with 16 percent, and the yellow varieties (particularly *Golden Delicious*) with 9 percent. The remaining 19 percent of cultivated orchards are planted with *Fuji*, *Gala*, *Jonagold*, and new apple varieties (*Ariane*, *Belgica*, *Cameo*, *Diwa*, *Honey Crunch*, *Jazz*, *Junami*, *Rubens*, *Tentation*, *Wellant*, etc.). Due to its excellent quality and shapely form, the *Zagora* apple (a local *Red Delicious* variety) has been awarded by the European Commission as a PDO (Protected Designation of Origin), also known as Geographic Indication of Origin.

Table 2: Greek apple production by variety

Apple Production by Variety	Estimates 2011/2012	Estimates 2012/2013	Forecast 2013/2014
Fuji	15,000	17,000	16,000
Gala	6,000	5,000	5,000
Golden Delicious	26,000	22,000	20,000
Granny Smith	54,000	37,000	34,000
Jonagold	10,000	6,000	6,000
Red Delicious	167,000	139,000	122,000
Other	27,000	15,000	15,000
Total	305,000	242,000	217,000

Source: WAPA

CONSUMPTION

MY 2013/14 Greek apple consumption is forecast to decrease by 12 percent driven by the decreased production. Most apples are consumed fresh.

TRADE

In MY 2012/13, Greece exported 46,656 MT of apples, mainly to Egypt (19,495 MT), Bulgaria (7,956 MT), Albania (4,934 MT), Turkey (3,378 MT), and Russia (3,017 MT). In MY 2012/13, Greece imported 10,803 MT of apples, mainly from Italy (3,202 MT), Germany (1,807 MT), Chile (1,803 MT) and Poland (1,780 MT).

II. PEARS

Table 3: Production, Supply, and Demand (MT)

Pears	2011	2012	2013
	Estimates 2011/2012	Estimates 2012/2013	Forecast 2013/2014
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	4,000	4,500	4,700
Area Harvested	3,760	4,230	4,418
Commercial Production	36,000	42,000	31,000
Production	36,000	42,000	31,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	7,002	4,583	4,766
Extra EU-28 Imports	3,107	3,729	3,734
Total Imports	10,109	8,312	8,500
Total Supply	46,109	50,312	39,500
Fresh Domestic Consumption	44,336	45,704	35,500
Intra EU-28 Exports	1,090	2,160	1,900
Extra EU-28 Exports	683	2,448	2,100
Total Exports	1,773	4,608	4,000
Total Distribution	46,109	50,312	39,500

Sources: Greek industry; WAPA; GTA

PRODUCTION

Greece's MY 2013/14 (July/June) pear production is forecast to decrease by 26 percent due to unfavorable weather and hail storms that affected many areas of the country. Fruit size is forecast to be normal to large due to lower fruit set, but the quality is excellent. According to industry estimates, there are approximately 4,700 hectares currently cultivated for pears. The main producing areas include the prefectures of Tirnavos and Larissa in Thessaly, Laconia, and Korinth in Peloponnese. *William Christ/Bartlett*, *Passacrassana*, *Abate Fetel*, and *Coscia-Ercollini* are the leading pear varieties grown in Greece.

Table 4: Greek pear production by variety

Pear Production by Variety	Estimates 2011/2012	Estimates 2012/2013	Forecast 2013/2014
Abate Fetel	2,000	2,000	2,000
Coscia-Ercollini	1,000	1,000	1,000
Passacrassana	3,000	4,000	3,000
William BC	9,000	12,000	9,000
Other	21,000	22,000	17,000
Total	36,000	42,000	31,000

Source: WAPA

CONSUMPTION

MY 2013/14 Greek pear consumption is forecast to decrease by 22 percent driven by the decreased production. Most pears are consumed fresh.

TRADE

Greece's MY 2012/13 pear imports reached 8,312 MT, mainly from Spain (2,460 MT), Argentina (2,280 MT), Italy (1,247 MT), and South Africa (1,003 MT). In MY 2012/13, Greece exported 4,608 MT of pears, mostly to Albania (1,414 MT), Bulgaria (1,303 MT), Romania (549 MT), and Macedonia (546 MT).

III. TABLE GRAPES

Table 5: Production, Supply, and Demand (MT)

Table grapes	2011	2012	2013
	Estimates 2011/2012	Estimates 2012/2013	Forecast 2013/2014
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	17,000	17,960	17,960
Area Harvested	16,500	17,820	17,880
Commercial Production	291,300	292,700	300,000
Production	291,300	292,700	300,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	860	924	919
Extra EU-28 Imports	579	214	215
Total Imports	1,439	1,138	1,134
Total Supply	292,739	293,838	301,134
Fresh Domestic Consumption	217,881	230,833	226,134
Intra EU-28 Exports	68,649	57,552	68,700
Extra EU-28 Exports	6,209	5,453	6,300
Total Exports	74,858	63,005	75,000
Total Distribution	292,739	293,838	301,134

Sources: Greek industry; GTA

PRODUCTION

Greece is the third largest producer of table grapes in the EU-28, behind Italy and Spain. According to industry estimates, MY 2013/14 table grape production is forecast to be satisfactory thanks to favorable weather conditions during flowering and fruit set. In Greece, there are approximately 17,960 hectares currently cultivated with table grapes. The main producing areas include the prefectures of Corinth in Peloponnese; Kavala in Macedonia; and Heraklion in the island of Crete. *Sultana (Thompson Seedless)* and *Victoria* are the major table grape varieties grown in Greece.

TRADE

Greek table grapes (both seedless and seeded) are mainly marketed within Europe from late July to the end of September. Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands represent the main destinations for Greek table grapes (especially *Victoria* and *Sultana* varieties). In MY 2012/13, Greece exported 63,005 MT of table grapes, mainly to Germany (22,000 MT), the United Kingdom (10,301 MT), the Netherlands (8,512 MT), and Poland (4,825 MT). In MY 2012/13, Greece imported 1,138 MT of table

grapes, mainly from Italy (480 MT), the Netherlands (168 MT), and Chile (163 MT).

Abbreviations and definitions used in this report:

EU European Union

MS EU-28 Member State

Ha hectare; 1 ha = 2.471 acres

MT Metric ton = 1000 kg

MMT Million metric tons

MY Marketing year

Apples: July/June

Pears: July/June

Table Grapes: June/May

HS Codes:

Apples: 080810

Pears: 080830

Table grapes: 08061010