

# Survey Information Sheet for NASDA Field Staff

## Fruit Production Inquiry– August 1, 2024

<b>Instructions for All Enumerators to Review before Contacting</b>
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### **PURPOSE OF SURVEY:**

The purpose of these surveys is to obtain data on acreage and projected production for apples and peaches in Michigan. Estimates of total production for the season will be published in the August 12 *Crop Production* report.

### **SURVEY COORDINATION:**

Matches with the Fruit Production Inquiry were identified with other grower surveys scheduled to be administered in late July and early August. Potential Matches with the August 1 Ag Yield survey will be identified **after July 19<sup>th</sup>** once that sample becomes available. Efforts should be made to complete all matched surveys during the same contact if not already enumerated.

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING SURVEY:**

Growers will be asked to provide the following data for apples and peaches:

- Total acreage and bearing acreage
- Expected total production as a quantity
- Comments about the 2024 fruit crops. This can include comments about any of the fruit.

At the start of the interview, please make clear to farmers that we are asking about acreage and production for apples and peaches separately, and that we are focusing on production for all purposes (fresh market, processing, home use, etc.). Also, when asking about acres, be sure to ask about acres that are of “bearing age” and not those just “bearing fruit”. It is possible for bearing age acres to not be bearing fruit. If this is the case, please take good notes.

### **Total acres and bearing age acres:**

- Acres are to be rounded to the nearest tenth of an acre.
- Area less than one tenth of an acre should be recorded as 0.1 acre, but a note should be included which states how much area is actually there.
- Do NOT include acreage for non-commercial use. Apple growers who have less than 100 apple trees are not considered commercial apple producers and are considered “out-of-scope” for this survey. Although there is no comparable low-end cutoff for peaches, if the respondent indicates that all of the fruit grown on the operation is for home use only, or if they only have a small number of trees, please take good notes.
- Do NOT include nursery acreage. We’re not interested in people selling fruit trees.
- Bearing age acres can never be more than total acres. Bearing age acreage can be zero if the trees are not mature; however, a low bearing-to-total ratio (below 75%) should be confirmed and explained.
- Bearing age acreage cannot be zero if there is any quantity harvested.

### **Total Production, Yield:**

- Record the total quantity expected to be harvested.
- Be sure to record the proper unit used for production, be it pounds, tons, boxes, hundredweight, bushels, crates, tons, bins, quarts, or pints. If an unusual unit is reported, please try to approximate the weight for the unit. In the end, we will need to convert total production to pounds. Any notes to help with this conversion would be most helpful.
- “Don’t Know” is an acceptable answer for production, but please try and probe for as much information as possible.

### **Weight per Unit:**

- The goal is to convert total production to pounds (for tree fruit).

**VERIFY STILL OPERATING:**

If the operation does not have any fruit trees in 2024, please determine future intentions. If the respondent indicates that they will never have one kind of a fruit tree again and that the land where the trees have either been converted to something else or have been rented out, please let us know. If the respondent indicates that they plan to have fruit again in the future, please let us know. If the respondent indicates that the operation is out of business, please screen thoroughly for the presence of other agriculture.

**SURVEY CONTACTS:**

For questions or concerns, please contact Erica Carpenter at 380-202-4521.