

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

Voluntary Public

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Greece

Post: Rome

Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual 2017

Report Categories:

Fresh Deciduous Fruit

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Report Highlights:

Greece's MY 2017/18 apple production is forecast to decrease from the previous year, down 5.2 percent, at 282,000 MT. In MY 2017/18 pear production is forecast to increase from the previous year, up 13.8 percent, at 78,000 MT. Greece is the second largest producer of table grapes in the EU-28, behind Italy. According to industry estimates, table grape production in MY2017/18 is forecast at 320,000 MT, up 14.3 percent compared to the previous campaign.

General Information:

GREECE

I. APPLES

Table 1: Area (Hectares), Supply and Distribution (Metric Tons)

Apples	2015	2016	2017
	Estimates 2015/2016	Estimates 2016/2017	Forecast 2017/2018
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	13,000	13,000	13,000
Area Harvested	10,623	11,780	10,500
Commercial Production	278,438	297,594	282,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	8,671	11,922	11,000
Extra EU-28 Imports	15,114	4,627	9,500
Total Imports	23,785	16,549	20,500
Total Supply	302,223	314,143	302,500
Fresh Domestic Consumption	205,550	224,515	212,500
Intra EU-28 Exports	11,162	14,507	12,000
Extra EU-28 Exports	85,511	75,121	78,000
Total Exports	96,673	89,628	90,000
Total Distribution	302,223	314,143	302,500

Sources: Greek Industry; GTA (Global Trade Atlas)

PRODUCTION

Greece's MY 2017/18 (July/June) apple production is forecast to decrease from the previous year, down 5.2 percent, at 282,000 MT, due to the hail that occurred in the apple growing areas of North Greece. In Greece, there are approximately 13,000 hectares currently cultivated for apples. The main producing areas include the prefectures of Kastoria, Kozani, Pella, and Imathia in Macedonia; and Magnesia and Larissa in Thessaly. Almost 53 percent of Greek apple orchards consist of red varieties, predominately *Red Delicious*. The green varieties (mostly *Granny Smith*) follow with 15 percent, while *Fuji* and *Golden Delicious* represent 9 percent, respectively. The remaining 14 percent of cultivated orchards are planted with *Gala*, *Jonagold*, *Jonagored* and new apple varieties (*Ariane*, *Belgica*, *Cameo*, *Diwa*, *Honey Crunch*, *Jazz*, *Junami*, *Rubens*, *Tentation*, *Wellant*, etc.).

TRADE

In MY 2016/17, Greece exported 89,628 MT of apples, mainly to Egypt (41,969 MT). New exports to Jordan (8,773 MT), Iraq (3,099 MT) and Saudi Arabia (1,863 MT) were registered. In MY 2016/17,

Greece imported 16,549 MT of apples, mainly from Italy (5,730 MT), Poland (4,161 MT), and Albania (3,548 MT).

Table 2: Greece's top 10 apple exports

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Share			% Change 2017/2016
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
World	T	74,296	96,673	89,628	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 7.29
EU 28	T	11,578	11,162	14,507	15.58	11.55	16.19	29.97
Egypt	T	38,119	62,088	41,969	51.31	64.22	46.83	- 32.40
Bulgaria	T	8,448	6,959	9,874	11.37	7.20	11.02	41.88
Jordan	T	2,224	6,142	8,773	2.99	6.35	9.79	42.83
Turkey	T	13,420	6,599	7,027	18.06	6.83	7.84	6.49
Albania	T	4,781	3,718	5,333	6.44	3.85	5.95	43.43
Iraq	T	422	881	3,099	0.57	0.91	3.46	251.93
Cyprus	T	2,005	1,981	2,599	2.70	2.05	2.90	31.15
Serbia	T	152	609	2,413	0.20	0.63	2.69	296.00
Saudi Arabia	T	73	1,565	1,863	0.10	1.62	2.08	19.04
United Arab Emirates	T	0	375	1,566	0.00	0.39	1.75	317.44

Source: GTA

Table 3: Greece's top 10 apple imports

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Share			% Change 2017/2016
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
World	T	13,686	23,785	16,549	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 30.42
EU 28	T	12,622	8,671	11,922	92.22	36.45	72.04	37.50
Italy	T	8,323	3,900	5,730	60.81	16.40	34.62	46.93
Poland	T	1,841	2,941	4,161	13.45	12.37	25.14	41.47
Albania	T	163	5,010	3,548	1.19	21.06	21.44	- 29.19
Germany	T	1,334	1,062	943	9.75	4.46	5.70	- 11.17
Macedonia	T	185	9,479	631	1.35	39.85	3.81	- 93.34
Netherlands	T	313	300	415	2.29	1.26	2.51	38.31
Spain	T	283	132	388	2.07	0.56	2.34	193.19
Serbia	T	233	326	261	1.70	1.37	1.58	- 19.84
United Kingdom	T	41	162	155	0.30	0.68	0.94	- 4.15
Bulgaria	T	250	46	72	1.82	0.19	0.44	57.88

Source: GTA

II. PEARS

Table 4: Area (Hectares), Supply and Distribution (Metric Tons)

Pears	2015	2016	2017
	Estimates 2015/2016	Estimates 2016/2017	Forecast 2017/2018
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	5,100	5,100	5,100
Area Harvested	4,350	4,445	4,500
Commercial Production	72,417	68,529	78,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	2,773	4,323	2,800
Extra EU-28 Imports	2,990	2,660	2,800
Total Imports	5,763	6,983	5,600
Total Supply	78,180	75,512	83,600
Fresh Domestic Consumption	72,697	70,284	78,100
Intra EU-28 Exports	2,400	3,182	3,000
Extra EU-28 Exports	3,083	2,046	2,500
Total Exports	5,483	5,228	5,500
Total Distribution	78,180	75,512	83,600

Sources: Greek Industry; GTA

PRODUCTION

Greece's MY 2017/18 (July/June) pear production is forecast to increase from the previous year, up 13.8 percent, at 78,000 MT. There are approximately 5,100 hectares currently cultivated for pears. The main producing areas include the townships of Larissa in Thessaly; Pella and Imathia in Macedonia; and Corinth in Peloponnese. *Krystalli* (synonymous to the Spanish *Blanquilla*) is the leading pear variety in Greece. *Williams*, *Kondoules*, *Santa Maria*, *Passacrassana*, *Abate Fetel*, and *Coscia-Ercollini* are also grown in Greece. Fruit quality is expected to be high, with satisfactory calibers and sugar content.

TRADE

Greece's MY 2016/17 pear imports reached 6,983 MT, mainly from Spain (1,934 MT), Italy (1,253 MT), and Argentina (1,016 MT). In MY 2016/17, Greece exported 5,228 MT of pears, mostly to Bulgaria (1,829 MT), Albania (1,091 MT), and Romania (659 MT).

Table 5: Greece's top 10 pear exports

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Share			% Change 2017/2016
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
World	T	4,895	5,483	5,228	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 4.65
EU 28	T	2,510	2,400	3,182	51.27	43.77	60.86	32.60
Bulgaria	T	1,826	1,546	1,829	37.30	28.20	34.99	18.32

Albania	T	1,564	1,240	1,091	31.95	22.62	20.87	- 12.02
Romania	T	362	387	659	7.39	7.05	12.61	70.43
Jordan	T	109	913	458	2.23	16.65	8.77	- 49.79
Cyprus	T	253	339	369	5.16	6.18	7.05	8.84
Macedonia	T	291	134	135	5.94	2.44	2.58	1.05
Italy	T	0	24	94	0.00	0.44	1.80	289.68
Saudi Arabia	T	24	113	92	0.48	2.05	1.77	- 17.99
Kosovo	T	0	14	82	0.00	0.25	1.56	493.01
Israel	T	61	271	72	1.24	4.94	1.38	- 73.42

Source: GTA

Table 6: Greece's top 10 pear imports

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Share			% Change 2017/2016
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
World	T	7,433	5,763	6,983	100.00	100.00	100.00	21.17
EU 28	T	5,222	2,773	4,323	70.25	48.12	61.90	55.88
Spain	T	2,385	734	1,934	32.08	12.74	27.70	163.51
Italy	T	1,740	1,285	1,253	23.41	22.30	17.94	- 2.51
Argentina	T	837	1,119	1,016	11.26	19.42	14.55	- 9.21
South Africa	T	882	1,331	969	11.87	23.10	13.87	- 27.24
Netherlands	T	485	227	417	6.52	3.95	5.97	83.12
Germany	T	500	316	325	6.73	5.49	4.65	2.64
Turkey	T	100	195	316	1.34	3.38	4.52	62.12
Chile	T	392	345	289	5.28	5.98	4.14	- 16.10
Poland	T	50	73	223	0.68	1.27	3.19	204.69
United Kingdom	T	29	54	110	0.39	0.94	1.58	104.01

Source: GTA

III. TABLE GRAPES

Table 7: Production, Supply, and Demand (MT)

Table grapes	2015	2016	2017
	Estimates 2015/2016	Estimates 2016/2017	Forecast 2017/2018
	Post Data	Post Data	Post Data
Area Planted	17,000	17,000	17,000
Area Harvested	16,500	16,102	16,500
Production	311,048	279,731	320,000
Intra EU-28 Imports	948	683	600
Extra EU-28 Imports	262	296	300
Total Imports	1,210	979	900
Total Supply	312,258	280,710	320,900
Fresh Domestic Consumption	230,045	202,043	230,900
Intra EU-28 Exports	79,753	76,236	86,000
Extra EU-28 Exports	2,460	2,431	4,000
Total Exports	82,213	78,667	90,000
Total Distribution	312,258	280,710	320,900

Sources: Greek Industry; GTA

PRODUCTION

Greece is the second largest producer of table grapes in the EU-28, behind Italy. According to industry estimates, table grape production in MY2017/18 is forecast at 320,000 MT. Fruit quality is expected to be good. There are approximately 17,000 hectares currently cultivated with table grapes. The main producing areas include the townships of Corinth in Peloponnese; Kavala in Macedonia; and Heraklion on the island of Crete. The rain in June and the summer drought in some areas of Crete affected the quality; in Corinth and Kavala the production increase compared to last year is estimated at approximately 20 percent higher with good fruit quality. *Sultana (Thompson Seedless)* and *Victoria* are the leading table grape varieties grown in Greece. *Crimson Seedless* is showing an increased interest for new plantations, currently planted in 1,000 ha; *Crimson* grapes are forecast down 20 percent for the current year. Moreover, a greater focus is now being placed on diversifying Greece's grape offer to extend the marketing season into October and November. Other varieties cultivated include the table grapes *Prime*, *Superior*, *Flame*, and *Cardinal*.

TRADE

In MY 2016/17, Greece exported 78,667 MT of table grapes, mainly to Germany (22,738 MT), the United Kingdom (13,808 MT), Romania (7,680 MT), and the Netherlands (7,352 MT). Greek table grapes (both seedless and seeded) are mainly marketed within Europe from late July to the end of September. Growers of *Thompson Seedless* from Corinth and Crete received lower prices than in 2016 due to competition from Spain and Italy in the first half of September. On the other hand, growers of *Victoria*, and *Crimson* received higher prices compared to the same period last year. In MY 2016/17,

Greece imported 979 MT of table grapes, mainly from Chile (286 MT), and the Netherlands (273 MT).

Table 8: Greece's top 10 table grape exports

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Share			% Change 2017/2016
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
World	T	91,344	82,213	78,667	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 4.31
EU 28	T	87,010	79,753	76,236	95.26	97.01	96.91	- 4.41
Germany	T	33,869	26,505	22,738	37.08	32.24	28.90	- 14.21
United Kingdom	T	18,278	15,051	13,808	20.01	18.31	17.55	- 8.25
Romania	T	2,469	5,147	7,680	2.70	6.26	9.76	49.21
Netherlands	T	8,752	9,060	7,352	9.58	11.02	9.35	- 18.85
Bulgaria	T	3,470	2,905	5,422	3.80	3.53	6.89	86.65
Poland	T	4,868	4,959	4,183	5.33	6.03	5.32	- 15.65
Italy	T	260	2,815	2,450	0.28	3.42	3.11	- 12.98
Czech Republic	T	2,222	2,199	1,996	2.43	2.67	2.54	- 9.23
Austria	T	1,312	1,020	1,738	1.44	1.24	2.21	70.46
Sweden	T	2,606	2,156	1,699	2.85	2.62	2.16	- 21.23

Source: GTA

Table 9: Greece's top 10 table grape imports

Partner Country	Unit	Quantity			% Share			% Change 2017/2016
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
World	T	1,045	1,210	979	100.00	100.00	100.00	- 19.13
EU 28	T	955	948	683	91.47	78.35	69.78	- 27.98
Chile	T	70	216	286	6.67	17.89	29.18	31.94
Netherlands	T	244	269	273	23.39	22.20	27.86	1.49
Italy	T	421	345	207	40.31	28.49	21.11	- 40.07
Germany	T	116	38	106	11.12	3.12	10.79	179.39
United Kingdom	T	3	72	33	0.25	5.92	3.34	- 54.44
Spain	T	102	58	23	9.79	4.76	2.32	- 60.58
Romania	T	3	108	20	0.28	8.89	2.04	- 81.41
Bulgaria	T	52	38	16	5.02	3.11	1.63	- 57.60
Egypt	T	4	8	6	0.39	0.65	0.56	- 30.24
Israel	T	0	5	5	0.00	0.44	0.47	- 12.82

Source: GTA

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

MY Marketing Year

Apples: July/June
Pears: July/June
Table Grapes: June/May

HS Codes:

Apples: 080810
Pears: 080830
Table grapes: 080610