



NASS

22 Bridge St. Third Floor
PO Box 1444
Concord, NH 03302

New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Aubrey R. Davis, Director
www.usda.gov/nass

603-224-9639
Fax: 603-225-1434
nass-nh@nass.usda.gov



Cranberries August 2004

August 17, 2004

A special "THANK YOU" goes to Massachusetts Cranberry growers and handlers who have helped us by completing the cranberry survey during July and August.

Massachusetts Cranberry Production Forecast Up 28 Percent, United States Up Six Percent

The **United States** forecast for the 2004 cranberry crop was 6.58 million barrels, up six percent from 2003 and 16 percent above 2002. Production was forecasted up in Massachusetts and Oregon, unchanged in New Jersey, and down in Washington and Wisconsin. The cranberry industry has not had a restrictive marketing order in effect since the 2001 growing season. Under that order, growers could only sell 65 percent of their historic average sales to the processors. These restrictions applied to all five of the major cranberry producing States. The lack of marketing restrictions in 2002, 2003, and 2004 led some growers to increase acreage. This increased acreage combined with good growing conditions in most States resulted in the higher cranberry production forecast.

The **Massachusetts** cranberry crop was forecasted at 1.8 million barrels, up 28 percent from 2003, and 24 percent above 2002. Although the cold winter injured some vines, growers' response to the survey indicated an average-to-heavy bloom, above average set, and average size. Good to excellent weather conditions in the late spring and early summer aided pollination and growing conditions. By the first week of August, rainfall received was below normal which caused many growers to irrigate their bogs.

New Jersey expects a crop of 480,000 barrels, unchanged from 2003 but 12 percent above 2002. Growers reported an average to heavy bloom, with fruit set and fruit size about normal. Heavy rainfall on July 12 caused damage mainly to dams and gates.

Production in **Wisconsin** was forecasted at 3.56 million barrels, one percent below 2003 but 11 percent above 2002. Crop maturity was about one week behind normal due to a cool, wet spring. Good berry set and an adequate water supply created the potential for above average yields. There were few reports of any damage from hail or frost.

The **Oregon** crop was forecasted at 550,000 barrels, 10 percent above last year and 27 percent above 2002. The cranberry crop looks very good, with fruit sizing well and no wide-spread insect or disease problems reported. Irrigation water was running low in some areas, as no significant rainfall had been measured for the last two months in some coastal areas. Warm weather has contributed to rapid development of the crop and harvest should be earlier than normal.

The **Washington** crop was forecasted at 185,000 barrels, three percent below last year but 11 percent above 2002. Cranberries in Washington experienced warm spring conditions that have crop development about two weeks ahead of average. There was an early and extended bloom period that allowed for good fruit set on the vines. Pest problems may affect the overall potential of the crop.

MASSACHUSETTS CRANBERRY PRODUCTION -- 2003: Cranberry production in Massachusetts during 2003 was 1.41 million barrels, three percent below 2002's output. Harvested acreage decreased from 14,500 acres in 2002 to 14,400 acres in 2003. Massachusetts' cranberry yield per acre in 2003 averaged 97.6 barrels.

CRANBERRIES: Total Production, 2002- 2004

State	2002	2003	2004 ^{1/} Forecast
	1,000 Barrels ^{2/}		
Massachusetts	1,452	1,406	1,800
New Jersey	430	480	480
Oregon	432	500	550
Washington	167	190	185
Wisconsin	3,208	3,607	3,560
United States	5,689	6,183	6,575

^{1/} Current year production was forecasted as of mid-August assuming normal conditions for the remainder of the growing season.

^{2/} Standard weight used for one barrel of cranberries is 100 pounds.

SOURCE: **Cranberries**, 1:00 p.m., August 17, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

CRANBERRIES: Acres, Yield, Production, Utilization, Price and Value, by State, 2002 - 2003

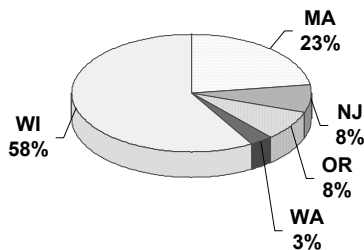
State	Acres Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production		Utilization		Price per Barrel ^{1/}			Value of Utilized Production
			Total	Utilized	Fresh	Processed	Fresh	Processed	All	
	Acres	Barrels	1,000 Barrels ^{2/}				Dollars			1,000 Dollars
2002										
Massachusetts	14,500	100.1	1,452	1,452	154	1,298	50.30	30.70	32.80	47,595
New Jersey	3,100	138.7	430	430	--	430	--	31.90	31.90	13,717
Oregon	2,800	154.3	432	432	9	423	48.30	32.30	32.60	14,098
Washington	1,700	98.2	167	160	30	130	53.70	31.90	36.00	5,758
Wisconsin	17,300	185.4	3,208	3,208	177	3,031	51.80	30.50	31.70	101,615
United States	39,400	144.4	5,689	5,682	370	5,312	51.20	30.80	32.20	182,783
2003										
Massachusetts	14,400	97.6	1,406	1,406	107	1,299	56.10	32.10	33.90	47,701
New Jersey	3,200	150.0	480	480	--	480	--	31.50	31.50	15,120
Oregon	2,900	172.4	500	500	9	491	55.50	33.80	34.20	17,096
Washington	1,700	111.8	190	190	30	160	52.50	32.20	35.40	6,727
Wisconsin	17,400	207.3	3,607	3,607	205	3,402	51.10	32.60	33.70	121,381
United States	39,600	156.1	6,183	6,183	351	5,832	52.90	32.50	33.60	208,025

^{1/} Weighted average of co-op and independent sales. Co-op prices represent pool proceeds less returns for processing non-cranberry products, capital dividends, capital stock retains, and other retains.

^{2/} Standard weight used for one barrel of cranberries was 100 pounds.

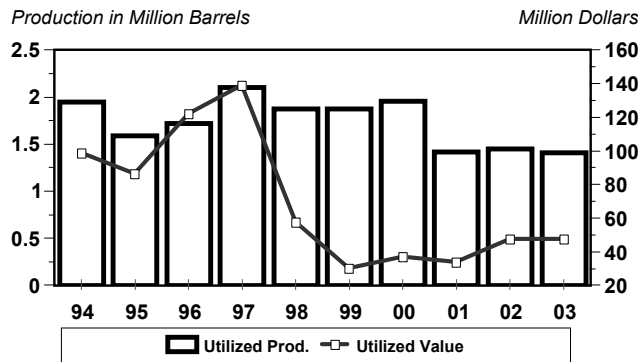
SOURCE: Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts - 2003 Summary, 3:00 p.m., July 7, 2004, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**United States Cranberry Utilized Production, 2003
Percent by State**



2003 United States Total Utilized Production equals 6,183,000 Barrels. Chart may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**Cranberry Utilized Production and Value
Massachusetts, 1994-2003**



MAINE CRANBERRIES: Acres, Yield, Production, Utilization, Price and Value, 2002-2003

State and Year	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production		Utilization		Price per Barrel	Value of Utilized Production
			Total	Utilized	For Fresh Market	For Processing		
	Acres	Barrels	1,000 Barrels				Dollars	1,000 Dollars
Maine								
2002	219.0	93.4	20.45	20.45	2.63	17.82	47.50	971
2003	226.0	86.6	19.60	19.40	2.54	16.86	60.10	1,166

SOURCE: January, 2004, Cranberry Associate, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, 207-581-2940

CRANBERRY COMMENTS JULY - AUGUST 2004, AS REPORTED ON THE GROWER SURVEY

This year we got hit by fire worm heavy and early. ✧ It has been too dry since the last week of July. ✧ Good summer growing conditions, however, some winter damage and areas of little to no crop. Other beds have good crops. ✧ Crop is variable because of winter kill. ✧ This will be a very poor year as crop had a lot of winter kill. ✧ Growing conditions seem just right...looks like a much better year than last year. ✧ ATV or motorcycle damage and lack of rain. ✧ Hurt by oxygen deficiency this year. ✧ Insect damage late last season affected about half the acreage adversely. The remaining acreage had late water this year. ✧ Looks to be a good year. Heard there is a lot of fruit worm. ✧ It has been a bad year for weeds, however, the crop is doing okay, so far. ✧ Some winter kill. The good news is few frosts this spring, light bug pressure, and very little cranberry fruit worm. ✧ Heavy winter damage will reduce 2004 crop. Insects have been a more serious problem than normal. ✧ Will have a smaller crop this year because we sanded. ✧ Severe winter kill damage. Will only harvest about one-third of my total acreage. ✧ Strange weather. April had a few days in the 90's! While it is now July 26th and the temperature is 62 degrees F. Sun was shining during bloom, and bees were hard at work! ✧ Good set of fruit. Light insect damage - still early. ✧ Had winter damage both last and this year. Did some sanding which will cut down on the total amount harvested. Had some fire worm damage. Rather discouraged. ✧ Had fire worm this year. ✧ Some winter kill. Large spots with no blossoms. ✧ A lot of winter kill. ✧ Have a lot of Dodder - parasite plant problem. ✧ Had fire worm -- first time in 50 years. Devastated crop in two days. ✧ Wild bean taking over the bogs. ✧ Crop looking pretty good. ✧ Looking Good. ✧ A little fertilizer burn on one bog. Need more water. ✧ Dry weather recently. ✧ A lot of winter damage and pest problems. ✧ Light bloom. ✧ He said the berries are small right now, but they are uniform in size. ✧ Looks like a pretty decent year. ✧ Didn't have very active bees during bloom - two hives dead and the others weren't too active, also contending with wild beans that continue to invade the bog. ✧ Hasn't harvested any berries for several years because the price just hasn't been high enough to bother. If he had known that the prices were going to rebound, he would have fertilized and prepared his fields. ✧ Things are going pretty well. ✧ Reported a lot of winter kill. ✧ Lost acreage due to winter kill. ✧ Bloom was delayed a week or so, then was slow to set up. Overall it's the best set I can remember ever. ✧ Crop appears to be well ahead of last year in size of fruit, set and barrels per acre. ✧ Early bug problem. Cool and cloudy during set slowed sizing of fruit and made spraying difficult. ✧ Crop is looking "spotty". ✧ Didn't get any bloom this year! ✧ Had bad winter kill last winter so won't be harvesting this year. ✧ So far so good.... ✧ Winter damage. ✧ A lot of winter kill. Bad infestation of fire worm. ✧ Excellent pollinating weather. Rainfall insufficient. Fruit worm could be a problem. ✧ Some winter damage. Some insect pressure. Vines look healthy. ✧ Weevils are still a problem. ✧ Some winter kill and not much effort or interest in the past few years. ✧ A lot of rain, crop looks good. ✧ So far the crop looks good, but fruit worm could be a problem.

If all goes well, should be a good year. ✧ A lot of fire worm this year. ✧ A lot of winter kill, up to 50 percent loss of vine tips. ✧ Things look good at this point. Weather conditions have been favorable. Insect pressure to this point of berry set has not been too bad. ✧ Even though the bloom was heavy and the set looks good there was a lot of winter damage. Insect pressures were also high. Both made my crop spotty. These conditions make it difficult to predict the crop. ✧ Deer have wiped out the bog along with the other problems. ✧ Extensive winter kill accounts for the light bloom. Cool weather probable reason for small berries at this time. ✧ Better than last year. ✧ Crop definitely medium to small. Hail July 1st. ✧ Injured by winter - not enough water. ✧ Had winter kill and is only going to be able to harvest two-thirds of total acreage. ✧ Insect problems were more than usual this year. ✧ Looks Good! Much needed rain today. ✧ Crop looks good this year. ✧ Some winter kill. ✧ A lot of winter kill. ✧ Potential for crop looks good. Fruit size between medium to large. Set good. Insect pressure is low-to-average. ✧ Cold Winter. Sanded the bog. ✧ Very poor year - hit by the heat blast - Early on it looked like this would be the best year yet - very disappointed. ✧ So far so good. ✧ Winter kill will lower yields. ✧ Last winter the temperature was so cold, the bog suffered some winter burn. ✧ Early Blacks look good this year. Thunder storms at set time added nitrogen. Most bogs look over-fertilized. It was easier to control bugs this year. ✧ Fruit worm a problem. ✧ Progress and conditions are good. Winter kill will affect size of the crop. ✧ Progress and conditions are just fine. ✧ Good rain when fruit was setting. Good progress and conditions all around. ✧ Looks good to this point. ✧ Looking good, hope it holds out. Looks to be much better than last year. ✧ Largest amount of caterpillars seen in 10 years this spring. Early Black crop is poor. Howes are non-existent. Even best Howe section has only a berry here and there. Appears to be a case of winter kill. Ice on the bog in winter was solid to the vine. ✧ A lot of winter kill and frosted. ✧ Very late setting of fruit. ✧ Looks better than last year. ✧ Looks good - Hope it continues. ✧ Heavy insect pressure. Spring was warm, even abandoned bogs with no frost protection had fruit set. Average water conditions. Severe winter caused some injury. ✧ Dry weather a concern, but pollination period and bee activity was excellent. ✧ 2003 was a very bad year, but looks like the 2004 crop will make up for that - things look hopeful. ✧ Much of the vine in the Early Black section was killed by the cold winter. The Lates suffered some damage, but not to the extent that the Earlies did. ✧ Crop looks good, despite lack of rain. ✧ His bloom time was longer than most other seasons have been. He said it has been an unusual season. ✧ Insect problems. ✧ Some weevil damage. Some acres are not producing well. Some winter damage. ✧ Starting to have a bug problem: cranberry weevil and fruit worm. ✧ Doesn't look especially good this year, but never like to make predictions, anyway. ✧ Weeds are bad this year. ✧ Did not have an insect problem this year, so things are looking good. ✧ Some rot and insect damage. ✧ Fire worm damage and winter kill. ✧ A lot of winter kill. ✧ Will be a small crop because bloom was late. ✧ Looks good. ✧

Decent crop - up from last year. Could use more rain. ✧ Insects are starting to be a major problem again this year. Briar is rampant, and there is no control for that. ✧ Some winter kill and some vines were cut to sell. ✧ Had an extra long blooming season this year. ✧ Think it's going to be light. ✧ Some winter damage will cause smaller crops than usual on a limited area. Bloom was average to heavy, but excellent weather for set which should make for above

average crop. Insect damage to date is minimal. ✧ Bugs have been bad - but crop is still good. ✧ Does not look good and thinks they will have less of a harvest than last year. ✧ Some winter kill on the bog. Long bloom period. Bog looks good so far. ✧ Had winter kill and will not harvest anything this year. ✧ Had a lot of winter damage this year. ✧ It's been a good yet cool season. Afraid that the cool weather might result in some rot. ✧

This report is taken from the national Cranberries report published by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service at 1:00 p.m. on August 17, 2004. The Cranberries report is issued annually on the third Tuesday in August. Acreage, yield, production, and value of the 2003 crop was published in the Non-Citrus Fruit and Nuts report published on July 7, 2004. Preliminary acreage, yield, production, and value for the 2004 crop will be available in the Non-Citrus Fruit and Nuts report published in mid-January, 2005.

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AUBREY R. DAVIS, Director

Judy Price, Editorial Assistant
STATISTICIAN: Dave Mikelson

JOE SAMSON, Deputy Director

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