



TASMANIA 2007

Tasmania still likes to be known as 'The Apple Isle' but it's historic strength in the apple and pear industry has softened such that in 2007, it was Australia's fourth largest producer of apples - growing 11 per cent of the nation's crop.

An estimated 94 growers responded to the 2007 apple survey and 29 growers responded to the pear survey.

Apple production was around 28,523 tonnes in 2007 [down from 32,763 tonnes in 2006] and pear production was around 768 tonnes [up from 731 tonnes in 2006].

The main growing areas in Tasmania is the Huon Valley, the Tamar Valley and Spreyton.

The apple and pear industry has played an important role in the history of Tasmania. The first apple trees were planted in the 1820's and by the 1860's a thriving apple-growing industry had been established.

The main varieties of apples grown in Tasmania during 2007 were Gala [27%] and Fuji [18%].

In order of production volumes, the main varieties were Fuji [17%], Delicious Striped Red [14%], Gala [15%], Delicious Golden [13%] and Delicious Block Red [13%].

The main varieties making up new tree plantings in Tasmania during 2007 were Gala [48%] and Cripps Pink [18%] - from which fruit may be sold using the trade mark name PINK LADY™.