



TASMANIA 2008

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 2008, it was Australia's fifth largest producer of apples - growing 11 per cent of the nation's crop.

An estimated 90 growers responded to the 2008 apple survey and 29 growers responded to the pear survey.

Apple production was around 30,222 tonnes in 2008 [up from 28,523 tonnes in 2007] and pear production was around 960 tonnes [up from 768 tonnes in 2008].

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 2008 were Gala [30%] and Fuji [17%].

In order of production volumes, the main varieties were Gala [22%], Fuji [17%], Delicious Golden [12%] and Delicious Block Red [10%].

The main varieties making up new tree plantings in Tasmania during 2008 were Gala [48%] and Cripps Pink [18%] - from which fruit may be sold using the trade mark name PINK LADY™.