



# Apple & Pear World News

Week Ending: 5/6/09

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## Australia

### Ways around the Victorian 4 cent cap on water trade

*The Weekly Times, 3 June 2009, pp1, 4*

It is expected that the Victorian and Federal Government will issue a joint press release later in the week to allow water for the environment to bypass Victoria's four per cent cap on entitlement trade. The State is likely to agree to water purchases from unviable irrigation channels and from on-farm savings. Targeted buy outs could recover 250,000ML and another 100,000 ML through on-farm works.

Victorian irrigators claim that they are doing their fair share of delivering water for the environment. VFF water council chairman Richard Anderson said that the Federal Government is welcome to buy the 650,000ML of high security water in Victoria that is held by private diverters and is outside the four per cent cap.

While NSW and South Australian interests challenge Victoria's four per cent cap, SA independent Senator Nick Xenophon has called for a national takeover of the Basin's water. Federal Water Minister Penny Wong ruled this out and said that a national takeover would mean lengthy legal disputes with the states.

### Great Southern creditors and investors expect the worst

*The Weekly Times, 3 June 2009, p11*

At a meeting in Melbourne last week, 400 angry creditors and investors in failed managed investment scheme (MIS) group Great Southern expressed alarm that the lion's share of any assets will go to secured creditors, including a group of banks, who appointed the administrators. Amid applause from investors, former WA premier Brain Burke called for a senate inquiry into managed investment schemes, questioned Great Southern's recent internal restructuring and accused the administrators of a conflict of interest in representing both the banks and the investors. The company owes money to more than 43,000 investors in 45 managed investment schemes across Australia including timber, cattle, horticulture and poultry.

### Householders urged to assist with fruit fly control measures

*Shepparton News, 2 June 2009, p4*

DPI plant standards program manager Bill Ashcroft said that while fruit fly surveys will be discontinued in the cooler winter months now is the time for Shepparton city residents to prepare their gardens for the control of Queensland fruit fly next spring. He asks householders to prune fruit trees to a manageable height so that all fruit can be reached and picked, remove excess fruit and/or hard to access fruit when it is small to reduce the chance of infestation and to remove all unwanted fruit trees. DPI will resume their QFF eradication program in September. See [www.dpi.vic.gov.au/psb](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/psb).

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## **Getting around the 4 per cent trading cap in Victoria an issue for regional communities**

*Shepparton News, 2 June 2009, p11*

State Opposition National party water spokesman Peter Walsh said that Victorian Premier John Brumby should come clean on any secret dealing with the Federal Government to raise Victoria's four per cent trading cap. He said that the cap safeguards Victoria's food producing communities against government and big business buying up all of the water. Foodbowl Unlimited co-convenor John Corboy said that any extra purchase of water should be carried out to minimise interference with irrigation modernisation works.

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## **Northern Victoria Renewal Project looks at channel closure**

*Country News, NE Victoria, [www.countrynews.com.au](http://www.countrynews.com.au), 2 June 2009, p2*

A 16km length of channel in the Kerang region of the Goulburn Valley may be decommissioned, with most of the 18 landholders having sold their water. Northern Victoria Irrigation Renewal Project ceo Murray Smith said that a pilot study will canvass the views of landholders to assess their future requirements. The 18 properties range in size from one ha to 500ha and are used for mixed farming, grazing and horticulture. He said that it may be that some areas are no longer sustainable for irrigation as we know it.

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## **Victorian Premier visit to fast flow irrigation field day**

*Country News, NE Victoria, [www.countrynews.com.au](http://www.countrynews.com.au), 2 June 2009, p10*

Katunga, Goulburn Valley farmer Bill Gread hosted a field day attended by 100 farmers to view fast flow irrigation on his 160ha dairy farm. The 2.8ha bay was irrigated in the time it took the group to have a BBQ lunch with delivery flow through a 45cm pipe. Bill Gread has installed a kilometre of new channels on the farm to test the fast flow principles.

Murray Valley modernisation co-ordinator Colin James said that about 25 per cent of the area's channels and regulators would be retired. Projects so far had saved about 3.2GL of water, with 34km of channel rationalised. Premier John Brumby attended the field day to talk to the farmers and in a short address said that \$300m released in the Federal budget would be available for on-farm upgrades.

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## **PMA to have affiliate Australia/New Zealand presence**

*[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com), source: [pma.com](http://pma.com), 2 June 2009*

Produce Marketing Association's (PMA) first-ever affiliate is now being formed for members in Australia and New Zealand, and will officially begin operating later this year, according to association leaders.

PMA President and CEO Bryan Silbermann said at the recent Fresh Connections Conference in Sydney that our "council members told us that it was time for a stronger and more structured PMA presence in the region, so it is with great pleasure that I stand before you today to announce the creation of PMA Australia/New Zealand, the first PMA affiliated organization."

Michael Simonetta, chair of PMA's Australia/New Zealand Country Council and CEO of Perfection Fresh Australia Pty. Ltd., noted that the council has already identified priorities for PMA Australia/New Zealand that build and expand on the work started by the council. PMA Australia/New Zealand will be officially unveiled in conjunction with PMA's Fresh Summit International Convention and Exposition this October in Anaheim, California.

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## **Orderly process needed if cap is raised**

*Shepparton News, 1 June 2009, p3*

Foodbowl Unlimited co-convenor John Corboy said that the greatest fear amongst irrigators is that those suffering through prolonged drought will seize the opportunity to sell their water entitlement and walk off the land, if the four per cent cap is not in place. He said that the Federal Government has unlimited funds, any water purchases need to be undertaken in a way that causes minimum disruption and equally fits the irrigation modernisation process. He said that transfers need a locally based overseeing body to ensure an orderly process. Also it must not compromise the on-farm program announced recently in the Federal budget.

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## **Cold comfort to rural communities as Federal Government buys water**

*Sun-Herald, Sydney, 31 May 2009, p17*

The purchase of the Argentinian owned Twynam Agricultural Group water rights has put Twynam out of the business of irrigated crops and impacted the communities that rely on them, according to the Kerry-Anne Walsh article. Lucy Knight, experienced Rural Press reporter, questions the Commonwealth's understanding of agriculture and food production and said that dozens of local businesses dependent on Twynam's business will fold. Water Minister Penny Wong said at a Senate estimates meeting on Thursday night that regional communities were not consulted about the buyback.

According to PM Kevin Rudd and Penny Wong the purchased water will restore the rivers and wetlands of the MDB to health. However, based on this year's allocation, less than 20 per cent of the 240GL of allocation will make it back into the river system.

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## **FoodWise aims for a better informed consumer**

*Sunday Mail Adelaide, 31 May 2009, p29*

We generate three million tonnes of food waste annually or for every five bags of groceries consumer's buy, one ends up in the bin. Conscientious shopping, cooking and food storage can save families \$6bn pa. In 2005, the Australian Institute recorded that we threw out \$2.9bn of fresh fruit and vegetables, followed by \$876m in leftovers and \$630m of uneaten takeaway food.

Planet Ark founder Jon Dee, is behind the Do Something group that aims to educate consumers. Their FoodWise campaign is sponsored by Tupperware, a vested interest, but storage can be a key to avoiding waste. See the FoodWise website for what to do with food that you might normally throw out.

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## **Deal to get around cap, while cap to remain until 2011**

*Weekend Australian, 30 May 2009, p1*

The newspaper understands that an agreement has been brokered between Victoria and the Commonwealth to resolve the dispute over the four per cent cap on water trade in Victoria. Water would be available from areas designated as not suitable for irrigation farming in the long term or from savings achieved through federally funded on-farm improvements to irrigation infrastructure. The Commonwealth is providing \$300m for on-farm works in southern basin irrigation areas. Under the terms of the agreement, Victoria will retain the water trading cap until 2011.

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## **Dairy industry studies the future after drought and industry crisis**

*Shepparton News, 29 May 2009, p27*

Declining milk production, the global economic crisis, falling milk prices and the drought have prompted Dairy Australia to conduct a \$500,000 study in the Lower Murray Darling Basin to investigate future factors that will shape dairy production in the region in the future. Dairy Australia chairman Max Roberts said that the region has the biggest milk production in Australia. The study will be completed later this year.

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## **Major water purchase puts Federal Government at odds with NSW**

*The Australian, 29 May 2009, p1*

The Federal Government has spent \$303m buying the irrigation rights of the NSW based Twyman Agricultural Group which farms 285,000ha in properties on tributary rivers to the Murray and Darling in central and northern NSW. The funds will be used to move out of irrigated cropping into dryland crops such as grains. The purchase involves 240GL of irrigation water, although in 2008/09 their allocation was less than 20 per cent.

The NSW Government reacted strongly by placing an embargo on further buybacks, calling on Victorian irrigators to sell their share of water. The Rudd Government is committed to spending \$3.1bn to buy irrigation licences. The Federal Opposition has accused the Government of spending hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayers money and hoping that it rains.

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## **Twynam neighbour asks who is going to grow the food**

*The Australian, 29 May 2009, p1*

Murrumbidgee farmer Hayden Cudmore received a 21 per cent irrigation allocation last season and has had severe restrictions for the last three years. He said that neighbour Twynam Agricultural Group has every right to sell their water, but the water, wherever it goes, is not going to be in food production. He expects increasing global demand for food over the next decade and feels that the government is unsympathetic to farming. He won't be selling his water entitlements, but is interested in the Federal Government's \$5.9bn to be invested in more efficient on-farm irrigation with the saved water going to the environment.

NSW Irrigator's Council c/e Andrew Gregson said that 97 per cent of the purchases of water for the environment have come from NSW, without a cent of money promised for infrastructure has been spent.

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## **NSW water trade embargo and Twynam water yields well down in season 2008/09**

*The Australian, 29 May 2009, p4*

NSW Water Minister Phil Costa said that NSW is doing all of the heavy lifting, with 97 per cent of Federal Government water buybacks in NSW. He has called upon the other states to contribute their share. By also placing an embargo on environmental water trading from NSW he has placed an imminent \$50m and 40GL deal with Murray Irrigation Ltd, in southern NSW, under threat. The Federal Government buyback has purchased 297GL to date.

Peter Cosier, director of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, is heartened by the Twynam purchase. But he said it represents less than 10 per cent of what is needed to recover the health of the river systems. Meanwhile this irrigation season, the Twynam water purchased from properties on the Macquarie, Lachlan and Murrumbidgee Rivers yielded 10 per cent, 14 per cent and 21 per cent of water from irrigation licences respectively.

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## **FarmReady grants out and more opportunities ahead**

*Rural Weekly Insert, Toowoomba, QLD, 29 May 2009, p7*

Forty six FarmReady Industry Grants valued at a total of \$6.3m have been provided by the Federal Government to help primary producers adapt to climate change. Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Tony Burke said that the grants would ensure that research makes it from the lab to the farm. Apple and Pear Australia Ltd and Cherry Growers Association were successful applicants. Reimbursement grants of up to \$1,500.00 per year will also be offered to eligible primary producers and indigenous land managers to participate in approved training courses under the FarmReady program. Submissions for a second round of industry grants will be called for later this year. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **Water deal leaves SA short changed**

*Adelaide Advertiser, 29 May 2009, p15*

The purchase of the 240GI water entitlement from the Twynam Agricultural Group will provide water for environmental purposes in key wetlands along the Gwydir, Lachlan, Macquarie and Murrumbidgee rivers in new South Wales. The average annual yield of the purchase will be closer to 107GI, senator Penny Wong said that the purchase will reduce the amount of irrigation water taken from the river, which is good for the environment. Secondly 'as it rains, the rivers get a greater share'. Liberal MP Jamie Briggs, whose seat of Mayo incorporates the Lower Lakes in South Australia, said that the deal will not result in one extra drop of water flowing into the ailing River Murray in South Australia. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **New role for John Webster**

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com), source: [foodweek.com.au](http://foodweek.com.au), 29 May 2009

Foodbank Australia CEO Bronwyn Boekenstein has resigned after six and a half years in the job. Boekenstein will be replaced from 1 June by John Webster, who has been the MD of Horticulture Australia for the past eight years.

Foodbank chairman, Enzo Allara, said Boekenstein had presided over a fourfold growth in the supply of food, allowing the agency to significantly increase its food supply to welfare agencies. "Her passion and dedication...has delivered many achievements," he added.

"We believe there are significant challenges facing Foodbank over the next few years, especially as the recession bites, and we are delighted to have a person of John's skills and capabilities to tackle them."

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## **Enchanted apple worth the wait**

*Farm Weekly, Western Australia, 28 May 2009*

Manjimup orchardist Harvey Giblett of Newton Brothers Orchard has been an orchardist for 44 years in a business started by his wife's family. He said that he married into the business, has been here ever since and still loves it! He also has a liking for the new apple variety Enchanted, which is now available in limited quantities. He has about 200 trees planted and other growers have small plots.

The apple is grown under license, marketed through Perfection Fresh and is aimed at the premium end of the market. Current wholesale price is \$7 to \$8 per kg. Harry said that as the volume grows the price won't stay that high, but hopefully it will stay at a premium. Enchanted has a marketing window of 8 to 12 weeks 'as it doesn't store very well'. But it is a delicious apple that does not brown when cut, making it ideal for salads. It is derived from the same genetics as Pink Lady and Sundowner. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **Horticulture expected to hold out in any carbon or emission trading scheme**

*Gympie Times, QLD, 28 May 2009, p17*

Catherine Tulloh said at ABARE's conference in Kingaroy that a carbon or emission trading scheme will produce winners and losers in agriculture. Audience comments hoped that a trading scheme would not be taken over by dealers making large amounts of money at the expense of rural producers. Ms Tulloh said that most agricultural producers will fall below the carbon dioxide production threshold and will not be included in any scheme.

Peter Deuter of DPI & F at Gatton Research Station said that horticulture is well down the track in lowering greenhouse gas emissions. Nitrous oxide (a serious greenhouse gas) is an issue as its production is a function of applying nitrogenous fertilisers. He said that fertiliser costs are expected to rise with emission trading, so that more efficient use will be essential to also save dollars. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **Moving water at a cost**

*The Land, NSW, 28 May 2009, p17*

Dr Kelvin Montague, knowledge manager for the Co-operative Research Centre for Irrigation Futures, said that shifting water across the Australian landscape is costly and can be counter productive, especially if a fickle climate doesn't produce sufficient water to utilise gold plated infrastructure.

He said that it requires substantial amounts of energy to get water in motion. A thousand litres weighs one tonne. There are friction losses, when there are pipes or canals over hundreds of kilometres. And no irrigation industry can prosper on a collapsing riverine environment, because a healthy environment delivers 'ecological services' like water purification and salinity control. If you take water out of a pristine river, any water, you lose something. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **Low chill early stone fruit brings a price premium if frost doesn't get it first**

*The Land, NSW, 28 May 2009, p11*

Stone fruit growers attended a field day at Bangalow in north east NSW to showcase methods of frost control to reduce the risk of crop losses in the coming season. Phillip Wilk, NSW DPI district horticulturalist said that up to 60 per cent of early peach and nectarine crops have been damaged over the last two seasons. Only limited success has been achieved with anti transpirant sprays, overhead sprinklers, burning smudge pots or driving up and down rows using tractor mounted air blast spray units.

They are currently trialling a portable wind machine that draws warmer air from above and directs the air down into the orchard. The machine will treat an area of about 3ha. He said that growers who target the earlier season low chill stone fruit market harvest fruit two months ahead of the traditional stone fruit areas in southern NSW and Victoria. There is a significant market premium, but these growers are at greatest risk of frost damage. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **MDB irrigation down as Federal budget hits research funding**

*Shepparton News, 27 May 2009, p4*

Figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for 2007/08 show that the Murray Darling Basin made up half (3,142GL) of Australia's total irrigation. Two years earlier it made up more than two thirds of all irrigation. Largest use of water by farmers in the MDB was for irrigation for cereals (805GL), pastures and crops for grazing (657GL) and grapevines (434GL).

Federal budget cuts to environmental and irrigation research is a concern according to Ian Atkinson, chief executive of Irrigation Futures CRC. He said that farmers depend on new technology, better management and science based information in changing times. Peter Hayes, chair of Irrigation Futures said that the closure of Land & Water Australia was regrettable but presented an opportunity to start debating a new R&D model now.

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## **New Zealand**

### **Doha round of WTO talks need completion more than ever**

*New Zealand Herald, 1 June 2009, p16*

The Doha round of WTO talks aimed at liberalising international trade started in 2001. It stalled in July last year and the G20 nations agreed last November to get the talks back on track. We learnt from the Great Depression in the 1930's that protectionism devastated international trade and economies. We are better educated, informed and wiser than our ancestors. Or are we?

The current recession has led to protectionist policies in Russia, India, the European Union and then the US, the latter two introducing dairy export subsidies with the US following the European Union lead. If Doha round talks had been successfully completed, the dairy export subsidies could have become illegal. Protectionist policies aim to save jobs, but inevitably they prevent industries becoming internationally competitive and drive down prices. Both the EU and the US remain committed to completing Doha. When would be a legitimate ask.

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### **Apple production and exports to increase**

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com), source: [fruitnet.com](http://fruitnet.com), 28 May 2009

A new report from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has revealed that this year's New Zealand apple crop has increased 3.2 per cent in volume terms, up to 454,150 tonnes. Crop quality is high this season, meaning that more fruit will go for export instead of processing. The volume of fruit to be processed is expected to fall 16 per cent to 105,000 tonnes.

Exports are forecast to jump 13 per cent on last year and hit 294,250 tonnes, with fruit shipped by the end of March 2009 running 11,000 tonnes ahead of the corresponding period in 2008. Last year, about nine per cent of the country's apple production area was certified as organic, with two per cent extra in the conversion process, up from eight per cent in 2007.

In key markets, the UK remains the top destination for New Zealand's apples, accounting for 17 per cent of exports, but it is falling in importance having imported 22 per cent in 2006. Asian markets account for a total of 23 per cent of exports and North America 15.4 per cent of apple exports. Pear production is forecast to hit 14,950 tonnes this season, a 5.5 per cent increase on last year, with exports expected to rise 19 per cent to 5,700 tonnes.

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## **Organic orchards as a carbon sink that could trade carbon credits**

*Bay of Plenty Times, 26 May 2009, p15*

Massey University researcher Girija Page recently completed a PhD analysing energy efficiency and environmental impacts on five organic kiwifruit and five organic apple growing operations in the bay of Plenty and Hawkes Bay. She found that the organic orchard systems were sustainable in terms of energy use and most of the environmental impacts they had on soil, water and the atmosphere. Ms Page said that in fact they were a carbon sink, so that potentially they could trade carbon credits under the Kyoto Protocol. She is interested in continuing work in New Zealand in sustainable agriculture. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **North America**

### **US farm banks grow loans by 8.2 per cent in 2008**

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com), source: *Delta Farm Press Daily, 2 June 2009*

John Blanchfield, director of the Center for Agricultural & Rural Banking said that farm bank deposits increased 6.9 percent from \$197 billion in 2007 to \$211 billion in 2008. The number of full-time employees at farm banks increased 2.3 percent from 71,303 in 2007 to 72,942 in 2008.

A farm bank is defined by ABA as a FDIC-insured bank with assets less than \$1 billion whose ratio of domestic farm loans to total domestic loans is greater than or equal to 14.20 percent in 2008.

The study analyzed the performance of 2,247 farm banks in the United States and found that total loans at farm banks grew 8.2 percent to \$170 billion from \$151.7 billion in 2007 and that the 2,247 farm banks held approximately \$258.6 billion in assets in 2008, up 7.9 percent from 2007. [Return to Front Page](#)

### **Worker issues never far from the mind**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, p4*

A few facts in the Leading Off article in the magazine, from another 'legendary' International Fruit Tree Association (IFTA) bus tour at the IFTA 52<sup>nd</sup> annual conference held in early February in the Berlin suburb of Potsdam. There is a lot of scab and mildew because most of the 24 to 30 inch rainfall is in July and August. Most plantings aren't irrigated. No soil fumigants are registered in Germany for replanting, nor are there any pre emergent weedicides.

The Berlin wall went up 40 years ago (and came down 20 years ago in November). The communists (in East Germany) argued that bigger was better and 2,000 family farms became 45 collectives. The lost connection of ownership is still a problem today, claimed one grower, who said that he works not so much on horticulture, but on people issues. And from a North American visitor, "we know that problem". [Return to Front Page](#)

## **Consumer preferences change and club varieties accessible to small growers**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, p8*

At the IFTA conference in Germany a speaker noted that Poland is the fourth largest apple producer in the world behind China, the USA and Turkey. Production has tripled in the last 15 years. But cool storage capacity is a constraint and about three quarters of the crop must be sold by Christmas. A Hamburg wholesaler said that consumers now prefer bicoloured apples, with Jonagold, Elstar and Braeburn the favourites.

Terence Robinsom of Cornell University said that club varieties of apples can 'lock out' smaller growers. Rubens variety marketer Alessio Martinelli of Italy said that it's not a matter of size, its about linking to an organisation. Known for Honeycrisp and now new apple Sweet Tango marketer Dennis Courtier of Pepin Heights Orchards in Minnesota said that they have small growers in the club. What hits small growers is low price. "We need to do something about low prices".

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## **Fifth generation farmer new president of IFTA**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, p9*

Fifth generation fruit farmer from Nova Scotia, Larry Lutz, was elected as the new president of the IFTA at the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual conference. He has 50 acres of high density apples and peaches, mostly on M26 and M4 rootstock. He grows 3,000 to 5,000 nursery trees p.a. He has been employed for the past 16 years by the Scotian Gold Co-operative Ltd as v/p agricultural services. In this role he provides technical advice to more than 50 growers, as well as holding many leadership roles in the industry in the past.

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## **South Tyrol sets the benchmark in the region**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, p9*

Kurt Werth of Italy's SK Sudtirol (South Tyrol produces half of Italy's apples and one tenth of Europe's total) said that they are learning that is it absolutely critical for growers to work together. There may be more money in better organising than doing better in the orchard he noted. Peter Zadavec of Slovenia's Chamber of Agriculture in Slovenia Fruit is just happy that the Balkans region has kept the peace in recent times and hopes that it will stay without war. Then the country's smaller growers can organise as they have in South Tyrol, he said.

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## **Short term cash cushions and long term planning key to success in difficult times**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, p9*

Bank of New Zealand chief economist Tony Alexander said at IFTA that countries should not restrict trade to protect their economic interests in these difficult times as they are exposing potential long term disruptions. He said that pipfruit growers are used to planning long term which is to their advantage as they are better equipped to ride short term shocks. But having a cash cushion in these uncertain times is still important. If a deal with a retailer can be locked in for down the road, even if not at the price you might like, be advised to take it. 'In this environment, there's a premium for cash in hand' he said. 'Just be clear to the retailer that it's a one time deal'.

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## **US MAP funding at risk**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, pp34/36*

The Market Access Program (MAP) has been targeted for a 20 per cent cut in President Obama's budget which starts next fiscal year, from 1 October 2009. This would reduce MAP funding by US\$40m to \$160m. Congress now takes up the issue as it works its way through the annual budget process. Chris Schlect, president of the North West Horticultural Council, notes that MAP is a time tested public private partnership that works.

In the Pacific Northwest MAP is mainly used by the Washington Apple Commission, Pear Bureau Northwest and Northwest Cherry Growers. Cost sharing arrangements between the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and commodity groups has ensured export promotion campaigns, on-site marketing experts based at overseas locations and overseas marketing visits. MAP has helped offset direct marketing support offered to European and other fruit producers. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **Apple scab at the top of the hit list**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, p44*

Northeast US apple growers potentially list apple scab at the top of their disease list. Dr David Rosenberger at Cornell University's Hudson Valley Laboratory said that severity is impacted by existing inoculum within the orchard, the weather during snow melt and the amount of spring rain. Fungicides are still the best way to control apple scab, but multiple strategies are necessary to stay ahead of scab resistance.

Dr Rosenberger said to plant scab resistant cultivars wherever possible. Disease resistant cultivars are being developed in breeding programs. Many of the major apple cultivars remain susceptible to the disease. A urea spray on the orchard floor, at 40lbs of urea per acre, will reduce the number of ascospores that emerge from the leaves, thus reducing the amount of inoculum. [Return to Front Page](#)

## **IPM replacing azinphos-methyl in highly successful program**

*American Fruit Grower, April 2009, p55*

The Washington State Horticultural Association received a US\$550,000 grant in 2007 to target those fruit producers who have not fully embraced new Integrated Pest Management practices. The program has a three pronged approach: 1) Education and communication, 2) Implementation and 3) Assessment and documentation.

James McFerson, manager, Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission, Wenatchee Washington, describes the associated Pest Management Transition Program (PMTP) initiated by the Washington apple industry as positive, simple and successful. The PMTP is a response to the EPA's regulatory action to phase out the organo-phosphate pesticide azinphos-methyl, after 2012. Pheromone based mating disruption and integration of key technologies including web based decision assist systems and effective spray technologies provide growers with a range of alternatives for codling moth control. The industry is committed to beating the EPA deadline of 2012. See <http://pmtip.wsu.edu/background.html> and Jim McFerson email is [mcferson@treefruitresearch.com](mailto:mcferson@treefruitresearch.com) . [Return to Front Page](#)

## Netherlands Market Report

Average free on truck (FOT) prices at the Dutch fresh produce market, both exports and domestic, being an average on the price lists of importers/exporters and an indication of European prices:-

Source	Variety	Pack	count/ size	Euros lowest	AU \$	Count /size	Euros Highe st	AU \$
China	Fuji	10.0kg			0.00	28,32,36	9.80	17.35
Not shown	G. Smith	18.0kg	135	12.15	21.52	80	14.40	25.50
Chile	Red Del'ous	18.0kg	135	11.43	20.24	64	14.50	25.68
Chile	Royal Gala	18.0kg	135	12.08	21.39	70	15.50	27.45
Sth Africa	Forelle	12.5kg	120	16.25	28.78	48	22.50	39.84
Argentina	Packham	12.5kg	112	8.70	15.41	38 -60	10.80	19.13

Information sourced from [www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com), week 23, w/e 5 June 2009

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## Los Angeles Market Report

LA wholesale on 2 June 2009 provided by: Fruit and Vegetable Market News, USDA.

Source	Variety	Pack	US \$ Min	US\$ Max	AU \$ Min	AU \$ Max
Washington	Red Del	18 kg	12.00	25.00	15.00	31.26
Washington	Golden Del	18 kg	10.00	23.00	12.50	28.76
Washington	Fuji	18 kg	12.00	27.00	15.00	33.76
Washington	G Smith	18 kg	10.00	24.00	12.50	30.01
Washington	Gala	18 kg	14.00	30.00	17.50	37.51
Oregon	Anjou	20 kg	20.00	27.00	25.01	33.76
Washington	Anjou	20 kg	22.00	27.00	27.51	33.76
Chile	Bosc	18 kg	22.00	26.50	27.51	33.13
Oregon	Red Anjou	10 kg	16.00	22.00	20.01	27.51
New Zealand	Taylor's Gold	1 lyr tray	19.00	19.00	23.76	23.76
California	Apricots	2 lyr tray	16.00	32.00	20.01	40.01
California	Cherries	6.8 kg	18.00	60.00	22.51	75.02
California	Nectarines	2 lyr tray	20.00	28.00	25.01	35.01
California	Peaches	2 lyr tray	12.00	28.00	15.00	35.01
California	Plums	2 lyr tray	15.00	26.00	18.75	32.51

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## Information About APWN and Disclaimer

This bulletin is prepared weekly to bring you up to date with the latest information about apples and pears with some reference to other commodities. Information is sourced from weekly and monthly publications and the electronic media and is used in the next issue of the bulletin after it is received. All sources are referenced.

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Currency conversions are for guidance only and were obtained from the Bloomberg Currency Calculator which can be found at <http://www.bloomberg.com/markets/currencies/fxc.html>

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