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# Australia

## **WTO appeal needed, as New Zealand contends 'told you so'**

*Shepparton News*, [www.sheppnews.com.au](http://www.sheppnews.com.au), NC Victoria, 11 August 2010, p5

Federal Agriculture Minister Tony Burke and Foreign Affairs and Trade Minister Stephen Smith said that they are disappointed that the WTO found that Australia's quarantine requirements for NZ apples are not sufficiently supported by scientific evidence and that the requirements are unduly trade restrictive. They said in a joint statement that the Government considers there are adequate grounds to appeal the panel's decision.

The 597 page WTO report found Australia's safety checks to be unscientific and disrupted trade more than necessary. New Zealand's rights under global trade law have been damaged as a result. Pipfruit NZ c/e Peter Beaven said that the worst case scenario would have apples in Australia by 2012. NZ Trade Minister Tim Groser said that the ruling reached the same conclusion that they had come to some years ago, that Australia's objections are simply not backed by adequate scientific evidence.

## **WTO decision a dramatic development**

*Shepparton News*, [www.sheppnews.com.au](http://www.sheppnews.com.au), NC Victoria, 11 August 2010, p5

APAL Fire Blight Task Force chairman John Corboy said yesterday that the decision by the WTO to reject Australia's appeal is a threat to Australia's border security. Fire blight entering this country is one of our worst nightmares, he said. He said the rejection of the science by the WTO is a dramatic development. It has wide ranging implications for Australia's agriculture, he said.

Mr Corboy said that if the new appeal is unsuccessful, you would have to question Australia's involvement in the WTO, because Australia could not legitimately control its own borders because free trade would outweigh the need for biosecurity. APAL chairman Darral Ashton commented that we need to protect our disease free status and this is not something that we can walk away from.

## **WTO appeal is on**

*Weekly Times, Vic Regional*, 11 August 2010, p3

Trade Minister Stephen Smith and Agriculture Minister Tony Burke said that there are adequate grounds for an appeal against the WTO ruling in favour of quarantine measures being watered down for New Zealand apples entering Australia. They said that quarantine measures would be kept in place until the appeal decision was heard, with an outcome likely by the end of the year.

Apple industry quarantine spokesman John Corboy commended the Government for their quick decision to appeal. He said that the WTO shouldn't be judging the science; they are only supposed to be looking at the process. He questioned how lawyers in Geneva can decide what is right or wrong with science.

## **Not a good week for great rural fighter**

*The Australian, National*, 11 August 2010, p44

Shepparton based fruit farmer John Corboy has had a tough week. While the WTO has rejected Australia's ban on New Zealand apples, his business has been placed in receivership at Westpac's direction. Corboy is one of the great rural fighters. He helped to save SPC before it was sold to Coca Cola Amatil and then the drought has cost his business \$3m in water costs alone. And he has led the campaign to keep New Zealand apples out of the Australian market. (cont) [Return to front page](#)

APAL boss Darral Ashton said that keeping other's apples out of Australia is all about maintaining a clean, green industry and has nothing to do with protection. His comrades across the ditch disagree and figure Australia represents a \$100m opportunity. The WTO has come down in New Zealand's favour. The WTO thinks that more competition will mean cheaper and better apples for Australian consumers, while the Australian industry continues to contract, with 400 farmers having left in the decade to 2007, leaving 1,100 and with production down from 350,000t to 270,000t.

### **Kiwi's here for a year or two before a retreat**

*Sydney Morning Herald, NSW Metropolitan, 11 August 2010, p27*

John Corboy said that his business has endured a very tough decade that has resulted in the business going into receivership. He said that the business had been forced to buy water because of drought and had endured two one in a hundred year frosts. He pointed to last month's inflation figures showing that fruit prices fell 4.8 per cent in the three months to the end of June. He and his wife Kerry will stay on for three months to manage the company's 300ha of GV orchards. He said that employees would be paid their entitlements and he would sell other assets to pay creditors.

As chairman of APAL's fire blight task force he has led the fight against apple imports. While Kiwi growers expect the market to be worth tens of millions of dollars, Mr Corboy does not believe that foreign fruit will slash prices further. He expects the Kiwis to be here for a 'year or two,' before they go home again.

### **Tasmania rues WTO decision, but local produce to help apple sales**

*The Mercury, Tas Metropolitan, 11 August 2010, p11*

Federal Agriculture Minister Tony Burke has announced plans to fight the WTO decision that will allow New Zealand apples into Australia. Fruit Growers Tasmania president Jos Driessen isn't optimistic about a decision going Australia's way, noting that the WTO seems to favour the New Zealand case. He reiterated the industry concerns about fire blight, which is without the registered sprays to fight it in Australia.

Eumarrah Wholefoods produce manager, Tracey Windmill, said that an interest in local produce will help the Tasmanian apple industry to compete. She said that people place greater value on a good product than on price.

### **Appointment of receivers indicative of the problems facing the industry**

*Shepparton News, [www.sheppnews.com.au](http://www.sheppnews.com.au), 10 August 2010, p3*

The Merrigum business of high volume grower and industry luminary John Corboy operates 300ha of apple, pear and stone fruit orchards, producing more than 24,000 bins of fruit annually. Ferrier Hodgson partners James Stewart and Peter McCluskey were appointed as joint receivers and managers of Corboy Fresh Fruit P/L last Friday on behalf of secured creditor Westpac Bank.

Mr Corboy described the decision by the bank to call in their funds as their right to do so, 'its their money.' The receivers will seek a buyer for the property. Mr Corboy said it is a high quality asset that he hopes will maximize the return to creditors. Mr Stewart said that the property included a state of the art packing shed with cool room storage for about 13,000 bins.

Fruit Growers Victoria g/m John Wilson said that Mr Corboy's industry record speaks for itself, but that the appointment of receivers is indicative of the problems facing the industry. He said that it is unfortunate that financiers are choosing to devalue assets and then apply hard rules almost retrospectively. He said that it is not the way the industry should be.

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## **When A & P industry changes are relentless and all consuming**

*APAL, Opinion editorial, 5 August 2010*

APAL chairman Darral Ashton discusses an apple and pear industry that has dealt with change, but nothing like the change it is about to meet head on with apples potentially being imported from China, New Zealand and the United States. Part of that change has seen a halving of chemical use in the last 15 years.

To protect our environment and to protect farmers we need to keep devastating pests and diseases at bay with strict quarantine measures. That means if we don't understand the science of a pest or disease, the work needs to be done to complete that understanding, even if that means holding up the risk assessment process. Imported products must comply with Australia's Maximum Residue Limits. Country of Origin must clearly identify produce.

Government has imposed the changes regarding importing apples, so government should support a transition scheme for growers whose viability is impacted upon, so that they can either adjust or leave the industry with dignity. It is a small price for the community to pay for the disruption that is about to be unleashed on apple and pear growers. We ask for those standing for parliament to support these modest requests, he concluded.

## **Apple issues for the political parties to ponder**

*Bendigo Advertiser, Vic Regional, 7 August 2010, p26*

APAL chairman Darral Ashton said that there are many issues of concern to the industry, which need to be addressed by the political parties. Apple imports need strict measures to keep out pests and diseases. For example we would like to know if Australian inspectors will be conducting on-site inspections in China for apples being exported here.

Rumours suggest that there will be no restrictions on apple imports from New Zealand. What is the reaction of the Government to the WTO decision? We are also seeking assurances that consumers will be protected and have full knowledge of their imports. That means testing of shipments for chemical residues and labelling of imported fruit with their country of origin, he said.

## **APAL canvasses opinion of political aspirants**

*APAL, 5 August 2010*

Candidates in the upcoming election have been contacted to get their response to a series of questions that are of importance to the apple and pear industry. Growers and state organisations have assisted APAL in this task.

The underlying aim of the campaign is to get candidates to agree that if apple imports adversely impact the viability of Australian apple and pear growers, they would support some transitional assistance to either help growers adjust to the new environment or to exit the industry with some dignity. The responses we have so far, have all stated that they would support such a measure.

APAL does not expect the campaign to have a major influence on who wins in the relevant seats. It is trying to influence the actions of the incoming government, no matter who wins on 21 August.

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## **Rural Press poll identifies farmer priorities for vote on 21 August**

*Farm Weekly, 8 August 2010*

The special farm-only poll revealed 68 per cent of the 700 people surveyed consider health in the top three most important issues to them in the context of the coming election. Half of those farmers surveyed put rural infrastructure into their top three issues for the election, while 40pc of farmers had economic management in their top three list. Water is still also a big deal for farmers at this election, as it was in 2007, with 36pc of farmers listing it as one of the three most important issues to them when deciding their vote.

One quarter of Australian farmers have flagged the issue of asylum seekers in the top three most important issues. Drought is in the top three list for 13 per cent of farmers. Quarantine issues, the mining tax, crime and law and order are in the top three list for 9 per cent of farmers for the 21 August Federal election.

## **Labor to buy back water under Basin Plan**

*Weekly Times, Vic Regional, 11 August 2010, p9*

PM Julia Gillard has guaranteed that a re-elected Labor Government will buy, not cut, irrigator's entitlements to revive the Murray Darling Basin's environmental flows. The announcement has delivered certainty to irrigators, who feared a cut to allocations in order to achieve sustainable diversion limits in each of the basin's catchments.

Labor will need to boost its existing \$3.1bn buyback scheme to achieve this outcome, rather than redirecting funds from the \$5.8bn earmarked for national irrigation infrastructure works. Ms Gillard said that the Government would continue to roll out the infrastructure program until the basin plan comes into effect in late 2011.

## **Federal Water Minister defends water progress**

*Sunraysia Daily, Mildura, NW Victoria, 6 August 2010, p9*

Federal Water Minister Penny Wong is prepared to debate Senator Barnaby Joyce, but as he has rejected a debate in South Australia, Senator Wong said that she will consider another location. Senator Wong said that the Government has done what they said they would do. They have purchased over 800GL of water for the Murray Darling Basin and committed \$4.4bn to infrastructure in the MDB to make it more efficient. In addition the Government has set up an independent authority so that the MDB can be run free of political interference.

## **Biosecurity flying squad goes under the radar**

*Bendigo Advertiser, Vic Regional, 6 August 2010, p19*

A coalition government will form a 'Biosecurity Flying Squad' to cost \$15m to send all over the world to investigate disease risks to Australian imports and exports, said opposition agriculture spokesman John Cobb. The Weekly Times (11 August 2010), referred to the Biosecurity Flying Squad as providing resources where there is a biosecurity risk. The Advertiser article also announced the additional \$150m funding towards R & D outlined in the article above.

NFF chief Ben Fargher welcomed the R & D investment and hoped to see similar practical measures released by Labor. He said that we want to get everyone in food and fibre working in the same direction.

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## **Coalition ups R & D funding in Federal election offer**

*Central Western Daily, NSW Regional, 6 August 2010, p7*

Opposition agriculture spokesman John Cobb said that under a Coalition Government agriculture would be spared any cuts and there would be increased funding of \$270m. He said that we currently have a Government with very little interest in regional Australia. The centrepiece of the package is a \$150m increase in R & D funding over three years. From 1 July, if elected, they will contribute \$1.25 for each dollar by industry towards R & D projects, up from dollar for dollar matching.

He said that they are opposed to an emissions trading scheme and to putting a price on carbon. He said that programs such as allowing farmers to plant saltbush and Mallee crops as carbon sinks would be more effective in encouraging emissions reduction. The Coalition Government would spend \$8m mapping agriculture's carbon footprint to show the rest of the world that we produce clean, green food, he said.

Mr Cobb added that he has obtained a commitment from Woolworths and IGA supermarkets that they would not import Chinese apples. He hopes that Coles will follow suit. He will also review the decision to allow apple imports from China, but could not say if the decision can be over turned.

## **Food security debate welcomed**

*Citrus World News, source: Growcom media release, 5 August 2010*

Horticulture lobby group Growcom has welcomed the launch of the Federal Opposition's agricultural policy in the lead up to the election. CEO Alex Livingstone said that it was pleasing to see that the debate had turned in recent days to serious consideration of the issue of domestic food security, with both major parties releasing statements this week and the Greens Senator Christine Milne also being supportive of the idea. Without long term planning we may lose the advantage of growing food for our own population on our own land, he said.

## **Farmers warn of labour shortages**

*Citrus World News, source: [www.farmonline.com.au](http://www.farmonline.com.au), 4 August 2010*

Farmers have warned that Coalition plans to reduce the migrant intake could leave them short-staffed just as demand for labour in agriculture rises, as production improves following drought. The strongest concerns have been voiced by those sectors, such as horticulture, that rely heavily on foreign students, backpackers and other migrants to boost their labour force around harvest time, The Australian Financial Review reports.

National Farmers Federation spokes woman Denita Wawn, said that the Coalition's approach to capping the migrant intake was of concern, as it could mean there was not enough flexibility to respond to demand. Opposition Leader Tony Abbott has vowed to cut net overseas migration from its level of 298,000 last year to about 170,000 in the first term of a Coalition Government.

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## **Locust sprays to beware of bees, who topple over from just reading the label**

*Sunraysia Daily, Mildura, NW Victoria, 3 August 2010, p9*

Sunraysia Apiarist Association president Jonathan Williams said that the imminent spraying of locust hoppers could have a devastating impact on the bee population. He said that bees only have to read the label of the chemical and they will topple over. He said that farmers need to be careful when spraying locusts this spring. Premier John Brumby said that experts predict a 30 per cent loss to horticulture.

The Premier has committed \$43.5m to locust control, including chemical costs, fixed wing planes and helicopters to conduct aerial sprays to treat about 600,000ha of public land. Mr Williams urged farmers to opt for the least harmful chemicals available and to give adequate notice to neighbouring bee keepers about planned chemical spraying.

## **WA apple growers feel the pinch with dry winter**

*Countryman, WA, 5 August 2010*

WA apple growers are dealing with the fallout from one of the driest winters on record. Many parts in the South-West have received less than half their average rainfall for this time of year, with orchardists worried they will run out of water. Donnybrook's Steve Dillely said he had received less than half his rainfall average. While we have had over 300mm, the average is well over 600mm, he said.

Department of Agriculture and Food research officer Ian Foster said this year had been in the lowest 10 per cent of dry years over the past 100 years. The lack of water for on-farm water supplies is of concern, he said. The Vass Research Station has had 400mm, when the average is 540mm. Manjimup and Donnybrook are both 300mm behind where they should be and Myalup and Pemberton are both 200mm down.

## **APAL grower meetings at regional centres during August and September**

*Apple & Pear Australia Ltd, 5 August 2010*

APAL chairman Darral Ashton and g/m Tony Russell will be conducting meetings with growers in each of the major apple and pear growing regions over the next month. Specific times and venues are still to be confirmed.

As well as hearing from growers on what their issues are, Darral and Tony will talk about the apple import situation, the apple and pear marketing campaigns and a little about Future Orchards and the PIPS programs. Andrew Dick and Max Scales from AFFCO will also present at most of the meetings.

| DATE                | PLACE                | TIME                                |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday 16 August    | Hobart Tas           | 4.30 pm FGT office                  |
| Tuesday 17 August   | Stanthorpe Qld       | 6.30 pm Wine College, Stanthorpe    |
| Wednesday 18 August | Orange NSW           | 7.00 pm Parkview Hotel              |
| Thursday 19 August  | Batlow NSW           | 12.30 pm Batlow RSL                 |
| Tuesday 24 August   | Donnybrook WA        | 4.00 pm Resource Centre and Library |
| Wednesday 25 August | Lenswood, SA         | 12.30 Lenswood Research Station     |
| Monday 6 September  | Goulburn Valley, Vic | TBA                                 |
| Tuesday 7 September | Southern Vic         | TBA                                 |

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## **Pears to accompany many a dish**

*Weekly Times, Vic Regional, 11 August 2010, p81*

Food writer Jeremy Vincent provides a recipe for Port Wine Poached Pears to accompany the half page photo of the pear dish (see [www.weeklytimesnow.com.au](http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au)). The caption notes that port wine (or a full bodied red wine) adds the X factor to the poached pear recipe, which can be served hot, warm or cold. Pears are great to munch on when you are peckish, they are great partners with cheeses such as stilton, gorgonzola, brie, parmesan or goat cheese on a platter of nibbles.

Prevent premature browning of cut pear slices by dipping them in water mixed with a little lemon juice or vinegar. Try using firm pear slices on a sandwich with left over roast chicken. Sliced thin wedges served with chunks of cheese, smoked chicken and seedless grapes on a skewer make a delicious appetiser or side dish. Toss chopped pears into salads of all kinds. When roasting vegetables add pear slices to the vegetable mix.

## **Applying irrigation water to match tree and crop needs**

*Country News, [www.countrynews.com.au](http://www.countrynews.com.au) , Water Talk, 10 August 2010*

Research scientist Dr Ian Goodwin, DPI Tatura, told orchardists at a recent field day that they may waste as much as one third of their water by applying the same amount to each tree in the orchard. Row based irrigation scheduling is an option, but guidelines have been developed to help growers make decisions on upgrading or modifying existing irrigation systems and utilising irrigation scheduling techniques. Dividing a block into smaller irrigation management units provides a closer match between crop water needs and crop water supply, he said. Email contact: [ian.goodwin@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:ian.goodwin@dpi.vic.gov.au) .

## **Growth linked to agriculture...and water**

*Sunraysia Daily, Mildura, NW Victoria, 6 August 2010, p1*

A report by Judith Stubbs and Associates across eight selected MDB communities was undertaken to investigate the social and economic impacts of reduced irrigation. The analysis of the Mildura region found that at least one third of local employment was directly or indirectly linked to irrigated agriculture and that the city's population had doubled in the past 30 years largely on the back of farm growth.

Since 2006 more than 25 per cent of farm blocks have been dried off. The loss of 10 per cent of water entitlements will translate to the loss of 661 jobs. The loss of 50 per cent will mean the loss of 2,933 jobs. Grapevines use about 70 per cent of the Sunraysia district allocation and fruit, nut and berry trees use about 25 per cent. See the report at [www.cottoncrc.org.au](http://www.cottoncrc.org.au).

## **A boost to Mid-Murray storages to help summer irrigation**

*Sunraysia Daily, Mildura, NW Victoria, 5 August 2010, p11*

Victoria's mid-Murray water storages are receiving a welcome boost with water being held in several storages for the first time in recent years, until it is returned to the river when demand rises. Lake Boga and Lake Charm upstream from Swan Hill are two of several storages that are expected to receive up to 15GL of water from current high flows in the catchments.

The mid-Murray storages are designed to negate the impact of the upstream Barmah Choke that restricts water from the upper catchment storages to reach the mid-Murray, including Swan Hill and Mildura, during high irrigation demand in summer.

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# New Zealand

## Orchardists deny HortNZ levy increase

*Business Day, [www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz), 9 August 2010*

In a vote at Horticulture New Zealand's (HortNZ) annual meeting in Auckland orchardists have refused to approve an increase of about 1c on a \$25 carton of apples and 0.25c on a tray of kiwifruit. They rejected, by 175,675 votes to 51,670, a move to raise their levy from 0.11 percent to 0.15 percent of value, or \$15 levy for every \$10,000 in sales.

Vegetable growers and other members of HortNZ already pay 0.15 percent, and the vote is expected to raise the question of whether these other levy-payers should also have their contributions cut to ensure fairness. Without the levy increase HortNZ's income of \$2.5 million will drop by \$400,000.

HortNZ president Andrew Fenton said that we have to take this as a signal that these are not positive financial times for some fruit growers, and like them, we are expected to find further efficiencies in the way we operate.

## HortNZ to review budget

*[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com), source: [radionz.co.nz](http://radionz.co.nz), 10 August 2010*

Horticulture New Zealand will meet to reassess its budget this week after fruit growers rejected a levy increase. The president, Andrew Fenton, said that the Board will now consider what changes will need to be made to its funding and the way it operates.

Rick Curtis, chair of the Citrus Growers sector group, said that the growers' decision to turn down the levy increase appears to be due to their financial situation and some dissatisfaction with aspects of Horticulture New Zealand. He said that his sector group has had a positive working relationship with the organisation, which he hopes will be able to continue its work without the increase in funding.

## Apple Futures three years of success

*[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com), source: *Pipfruit NZ Inc*, 9 August 2010*

Apple Futures is a \$2.67 Million dollar project focused on building New Zealand's capability to consolidate the country's leadership position in the production of high quality fruit with ultra low residues. The three year project has just completed its third and final season, and has exceeded all of the performance milestones it was challenged to achieve.

As a spin off from the Apple Futures project, the pipfruit industry has launched a collaborative marketing program aimed at telling the New Zealand Apple Story in offshore markets. A new website [www.producenewzealand.org](http://www.producenewzealand.org) has been developed as the platform for the program, and the industry has also developed a country of origin mark '100% Pure Apples from New Zealand' to build on the image New Zealand is developing in offshore markets.

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## **Residues below 10 per cent of MRL's**

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com) , source: [radionz.co.nz](http://radionz.co.nz), 9 August 2010

Apple and pear growers say a three year project to reduce chemical residues in their fruit has been an outstanding success. More than two-thirds of pipfruit growers joined the scheme, committing themselves to reducing the use of chemicals.

Project chairman Julian Raine told a Pipfruit New Zealand conference in Nelson, that growers are producing good quality export-grade fruit with residue levels at less than 10% of the maximum levels allowed in Britain and Europe. He said that it is impossible to achieve a zero chemical residue, but New Zealand's standards will help its fruit maintain a premium position in overseas markets.

## **Cautiously pleased about initial WTO win**

*Business Day*, [www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz) , 10 August 2010

Industry leaders in New Zealand, and Trade Minister Tim Groser, were cautious about the WTO trade win today, but expect NZ apples could be on sale in Australia as soon as 2012. Pipfruit New Zealand c/e Peter Beaven said that the advice he received was that an appeal would cause some delays, and other than that, a process was needed to write the standard operating procedure or technical work plan under which exporters gained access.

Initial estimates were that about 1 million cases of apples could go into Australia each year, yielding about \$30 million, but it could also be significantly higher than that, Mr Beaven said. Ministries are now believed to be preparing arguments in the expectation Australia will appeal. No WTO dispute decision has ever been overturned on appeal, but it would delay New Zealand entry to the Australian market by as much as a year.

## **Land purchases by overseas investors under review**

*Business Day*, [www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz) , 4 August 2010

An average of 82 hectares of agricultural land per day has been approved for sale to offshore investors, pushing the Government close to deciding on rules to tighten farm sales to foreigners. Prime Minister John Key said that the figures prove that 'significant foreign purchases' have taken place. Mr Key yesterday held talks with Finance Minister Bill English on possible changes to the Overseas Investment Act to protect farms.

Figures released by the Overseas Investment Office (OIO) show that there have been 235 consents for foreign investment in agricultural land approved between 1 July 2005 and 1 July 2010. Of the 235 bids approved, only nine came from Asian countries. There were 60 from the United States, 36 from the United Kingdom and 24 from Australia. There were also 61 bids from a mixture of countries also approved.

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## UK / Europe

### **WAPA releases European apple and pear crop forecasts**

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com) , source: [wapa-association.org](http://wapa-association.org), 10 August 2010

The WAPA (World Apple and Pear Association) has released the 2010 European apple and pear crop estimates. Forecast apple production of 9,796,000 tonnes is 11 per cent down on last year's crop, resulting from lower volumes across all Europe. Pear production of 2,155,000 tonnes is set to fall even sharper with the 2010 crop forecast to be down by 19 per cent. The main reason for the production fall is related to bad weather conditions during and just after blossoming, and a dry summer.

Other Northern Hemisphere apple crops are also expected to decrease compared to last year, namely in China (-9%) and most probably also in the USA (-2%). In other countries production decreases are forecast in Russia (-17%), Switzerland (-25%), Turkey (-5%); whereas Ukrainian apple production is up five per cent at 896.000 tonnes.

Other Northern Hemisphere pear crops have also decreased compared to last year, namely in Turkey (-5%) and Ukraine (-35%), as well as the USA (-11%). Nevertheless, production is forecasted to slightly increase in China to a level of 14.5 million tonnes.

Alessandro Dalpiaz, President of WAPA, identified a good starting position for apples and pears during the 2010-2011 season, as there are little stocks left from the previous season and Southern Hemisphere exports have been in line with the market demand.

## North America

### **New York apple growers expects crop down by 6m bushels**

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com) , source: [bizjournals.com](http://bizjournals.com), 9 August 2010

The apple harvest this year will be early and the crop will most likely be smaller, according to the New York Apple Association. Apple growers expect a crop of 27 million bushels this year, down from 33 million bushels last year, ranking New York second to Washington State. The decline in this year's crop is attributed to frost damage, when some trees bloomed early and were then damaged by a deep freeze in early May.

The association, based in Fishers, New York, said that the consensus of New York's apple growers is that this year's crop got off to the fastest start in recent history, because of record temperatures in April. Apple picking will begin 10 days to two weeks earlier than last year, said Jim Allen, president of the New York Apple Association. New York grows apples on 50,370 acres.

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## South America

### ASOEX-Chile: Asia could become our largest export market

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com) , source: *SimFRUIT*, 10 August 2010

Ronald Bown, President of Asoex comments about the strategic importance of Expo Shanghai 2010 for the Chilean fruit industry. He said that the event is an important showcase for the industry in China and Asia, a region that represents a growing market for the fresh fruit sector in Chile. He believes that in the medium term Asia could become their largest export market, therefore the greatest challenge in the region is to expand the market and 'we have been working on it,' he said.

## North Asia

### Asia Fruit Logistica now less than four weeks away

[www.freshplaza.com](http://www.freshplaza.com) , source: *asiafruitlogistica.com*, 11 August 2010

Asia's leading fresh produce trade show takes place in Hong Kong on 8-10 September 2010. There will be 25 per cent more exhibitors this year. There will be more than 280 exhibitors from 28 different countries. Exhibitors will include leading fresh produce companies and organisations from Asia and from the rest of the world.

Asiafruit Congress is where to find out about all the major business trends, with a comprehensive program of top business speakers and expert panelists. For more information go to [www.asiafruitlogistica.com](http://www.asiafruitlogistica.com) or contact Ms. Claudia Bach at [Claudia@gp-events.com](mailto:Claudia@gp-events.com) or +49 30 3038 2373.

## Los Angeles Market Report

LA wholesale on 10 August 2010 provided by: Fruit and Vegetable Market News, USDA.

| Source      | Variety       | Pack       | US \$<br>Min | US\$<br>Max | AU \$ Min | AU \$<br>Max |
|-------------|---------------|------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| Washington  | Red Del       | 18 kg      | 15.00        | 26.00       | 16.51     | 28.62        |
| Washington  | Golden Del    | 18 kg      | 18.00        | 28.50       | 19.81     | 31.37        |
| Washington  | Fuji          | 18 kg      | 18.00        | 34.00       | 19.81     | 37.42        |
| Washington  | G Smith       | 18 kg      | 15.00        | 26.00       | 16.51     | 28.62        |
| Washington  | Gala          | 18 kg      | 18.00        | 34.00       | 19.81     | 37.42        |
| Oregon      | Anjou         | 20 kg      | 27.00        | 29.00       | 29.72     | 31.92        |
| New Zealand | Taylor's Gold | 1 lyr tray | 18.00        | 19.00       | 19.81     | 20.91        |
| California  | Nectarines    | 2 lyr tray | 10.00        | 22.00       | 11.01     | 24.22        |
| California  | Peaches       | 2 lyr tray | 10.00        | 18.00       | 11.01     | 19.81        |
| California  | Plums         | 2 lyr tray | 22.00        | 24.00       | 24.22     | 28.62        |

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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.

The Bulletin is compiled and edited by Apple & Pear Australia Ltd (APAL) from information researched by APAL staff and consultants, in particular Ross Wall. APAL also gratefully acknowledges assistance provided by the Agribusiness Initiative of the Victorian Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

Every effort is taken to interpret and report accurately on information and events but no responsibility is taken for the source or accuracy of either the information or the interpretation placed upon it in this publication. Similarly the authors do not accept any responsibility for any action that may be taken by an individual following their interpretation of statements made in this report. 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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