

TASMANIA 2004

Traditionally, Tasmania has been known as 'The Apple Isle'. It's no coincidence - the apple and pear industry is a crucial part of the State's economy

Tasmania was Australia's equal third largest producer of apples growing 15 per cent of the nation's crop in 2004

The total apple crop in Tasmania for 2004 was around 37,256 tonnes (down from 52,509 tonnes in 2003). The total pear crop for 2004 was 728 tonnes (down from 783 tonnes in 2003)

An estimated 123 growers responded to the 2004 apple survey and 36 growers responded to the pear survey

Tasmania is Australia's major apple exporter, shipping around 48 per cent of the nation's apple exports in 2004

The main growing area in Tasmania is the Huon Valley (90 per cent of the Tasmanian crop), with the balance grown in the northern regions of 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 this state during 2004 were Delicious - Striped + Block Red (26% of total tree numbers), Fuji (20%), and Galas (15%)

In order of production volumes the main varieties were Delicious - Striped + Block Red (34%), Fuji (14%) and Delicious Golden (12%)

The main varieties making up new tree plantings in Tasmania were Fuji (37% of all new plantings), Galas (25%), Delicious - Striped + Block Red (18%) and Cripps Pink (16%) - from which fruit may be sold using the trade mark name PINK LADY™