

Washington State Pear and Apple Harvest Bulletin**August 27, 2009**

This pear and apple harvest bulletin is **informational only** and **is not** intended for recruitment.

Bartlett pear harvest season is underway across Washington.

The picking of the early variety of apples has started in some parts of the state and will be followed closely by the Golden and Red Delicious harvest. Peak harvest is expected to occur from mid-September to late October. Some apple harvest activities will continue into early November.

The major pear and apple fruit producing areas are located in:

- North-Central Washington (Chelan, Okanogan, Grant and Douglas counties)
- South-Central Washington (Yakima, Kittitas, Klickitat and Skamania counties)
- Southeast Washington (Walla Walla, Benton and Franklin counties)

The U.S. Apple Association and Washington State tree-fruit industry estimate that the total Washington apple crop (fresh and processed) will total 132 million 42 pound equivalent units (2.77 million tons), which are approximately 5 percent below the five-year average. The “fresh apple” crop alone is estimated to total 107.6 million 42 pound equivalent boxes, which is the second largest on record.

Housing Information

The State Migrant Housing facility located in Monitor will be available again this year. Farm worker housing at the Vista del Rio, Sage Bluff and Columbia Pointe facilities located in and around the Wenatchee area will be available for the 2009 pear and apple harvest season. In addition the Oroville Housing Camp in the Okanogan area will be open for the 2009 pear and apple harvest season. Housing availability is improving, but still remains scarce in some areas.

Looking for Work?

Workers planning to work in Washington’s pear and apple harvest are encouraged to contact one of the WorkSource offices listed below or visit www.wa.gov/esd/farmworkers/farm_jobs.htm on the Internet before traveling to Washington.

Columbia Gorge	800-511-7388
Moses Lake	509-766-2559
Sunnyside	509-836-5405
Tri-Cities	509-734-5900
Wenatchee	800-858-2716
Yakima	509-574-0105
Walla Walla	509-527-4393
Okanogan	800-887-8057
Statewide Information	800-339-3981