

APPLES

GROWERS, ACREAGE AND TREE NUMBERS BY ROOTSTOCK

The total number of apple trees in South Carolina in 1996 was 660,000. Dwarf and semi-dwarf rootstocks continued to be the most popular, accounting for 94 percent of the total trees, up 5 percent from 1991.

Number of Commercial Apple Growers, Acreage and Number of Trees, by Rootstock, and County, South Carolina, 1996

Counties and Rootstock	Growers	Acres	Trees of all ages	Average trees per acre	Average trees per grower
-----Number-----					
OCONEE AND SPARTANBURG:					
Dwarf and semi-dwarf	37	1,780	345,700	194	9,343
Standard	17	300	30,300	101	1,782
Total	41 <u>1/</u>	2,080	376,000	181	9,171
OTHER 2/:					
Dwarf and semi-dwarf	14	820	275,300	336	19,664
Standard	4	100	8,700	87	2,175
Total	15 <u>1/</u>	920	284,000	309	18,933
STATE:					
Dwarf and semi-dwarf	51	2,600	621,000	239	12,176
Standard	21	400	39,000	98	1,857
STATE	56 <u>1/</u>	3,000	660,000	220	11,786

1/ Non-additive due to growers having both rootstocks.

2/ Includes Anderson, Cherokee, Colleton, Greenville, Kershaw, Laurens, Lexington, Pickens, Saluda, Sumter, and York Counties.

INTENTIONS TO SET AND REMOVE TREES

Following the relative poor 1996 season, many growers had some indecision as to future plans, however apple growers reported intentions to set 3,500 more trees than they planned to remove. Spartanburg and Oconee Counties are expected to lose 2,500 trees. However, increased plantings in other counties will provide a Statewide gain of less than 1 percent with 663,500 total trees anticipated in 1997.

Intentions to Set and Remove Apple Trees, Present and Net Trees, by County, South Carolina 1996

County	Grower's Intentions <u>1/</u>			Present	Present Plus Intentions
	To Be Set	To Be Removed	Net Change		
-----Number of Trees-----					
Oconee	8,000	9,500	(1,500)	217,000	215,500
Spartanburg	1,500	2,500	(1,000)	159,000	158,000
Other	6,500	500	+6,000	284,000	290,000
STATE	16,000	12,500	+3,500	660,000	663,500

1/ Intentions to set and remove trees after 1996 and in early 1997.