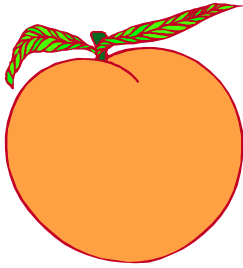


PEACHES



South Carolina had a total of 1,920,000 peach trees of all ages in 1996, 40 percent below the 1991 State total. All three peach growing regions showed large declines in tree numbers since 1991, with the Coastal Plains, the Ridge and the Upper State losing 48 percent, 42 percent, and 30 percent respectively. Edgefield County, located in the Ridge, remained the leading county in the State with 23 percent of the State's total trees. Spartanburg (Upper State) and Saluda (Ridge) had the second and third most trees at 22 percent and 19 percent respectively. Redglobe continued to be the leading variety, accounting for 10.5 percent of the total trees. Cresthaven, with 5.5 percent of total trees and Harvester, with 5.4 percent were the next most favored varieties. Trees between the ages of 4-13 years accounted for over 69 percent of all trees in the State.

Number of Commercial Peach Growers and Trees, by Counties and Regions, South Carolina, 1991 and 1996

Region and County	1991		1996	
	Number of Growers ^{1/}	Trees of All Ages	Number of Growers ^{1/}	Trees of All Ages
Upper State:				
Cherokee	6	121,341	4	40,700
Greenville	8	77,641	8	59,300
Spartanburg	87	609,774	55	434,100
York	10	42,435	10	41,400
Other ^{2/}	22	106,309	14	96,500
Region Total	133	957,500	91	672,000
Ridge:				
Aiken	3	243,689	3	94,800
Edgefield	27	995,902	13	450,000
Lexington	10	87,065	10	35,200
Saluda	16	323,863	13	370,000
Region Total	56	1,650,519	39	950,000
Coastal Plains:				
Allendale, Barnwell and Hampton	3	399,093	2	229,600
Orangeburg	12	99,407	9	49,400
Other ^{3/}	14	78,640	12	19,000
Region Total	29	577,140	23	298,000
STATE	218	3,185,159	153	1,920,000

^{1/} Growers with acreage in more than one county are counted only in the county of residence; trees are divided among counties. ^{2/} 1991 includes growers in Abbeville, Anderson, Lancaster, Laurens, Oconee, and Pickens counties; 1996 includes Abbeville, Anderson, Chester, Chesterfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Laurens, Oconee, and Pickens counties. ^{3/} 1991 includes growers in Bamberg, Calhoun, Charleston, Clarendon, Colleton, Florence, Horry, Marlboro, and Sumter counties; 1996 includes Bamberg, Calhoun, Clarendon, Colleton, Darlington, Florence, Horry, Marlboro and Richland counties.