



WAPA PRESS RELEASE

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WAPA RELEASES SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE APPLE AND PEAR CROP FORECASTS

Representatives of key apple and pear producing and exporting countries from around the world met on 11 February 2011 at the recent FruitLogistica fair in Berlin for the annual general meeting of the World Apple and Pear Association (WAPA). During its annual meeting WAPA elected Mr Kevin Moffitt (USA Pears – USA) as its new president replacing Mr Alessandro Dalpiaz (Assomela – Italy) who chaired the association for the last two years. At the same occasion, Mr Peter Beaven (Pipfruit New Zealand – New Zealand) was elected as the new vice-president of WAPA.

Celebrating its 10 years of activities, the meeting looked back at past WAPA significant achievements during this period while addressing new priorities. Kevin Moffitt, President of WAPA stated, *“Throughout these 10 years WAPA has rapidly positioned itself as a platform for the apple and pear sector around the world and reached progressively many achievements such as aggregating production and trade data to enhance transparency, cooperate on quality as well as on nutrition and health issues, and also exchange experiences and best practices on promotion.”* *“Over the years, WAPA has clearly become a point of reference for the industry”,* he added.

WAPA also released in Berlin its annual consolidated crop forecasts for the forthcoming southern hemisphere apple and pear seasons (see tables below). Collected from industry groups in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand and South Africa, the forecast showed that the 2011 apple and pear Southern Hemisphere crops are expected to reach 5.228.000 MT and 1.550.000 MT, respectively. For apples, this represents a small decrease of 1 % on the 2010 crop; while forecasted export figures might however increase by 5% to 1.762.705 MT. For pears, a significant increase of 10% on the 2010 crop is recorded and forecasted export figures are also expected to be 5% higher at 827.098 MT. Hand in hand with the release of these data, the Northern Hemisphere apple and pear stocks were presented. In January, US apples stocks are 4% down to 1.492.162 MT and 16,7% down to 152.629 MT for pears, while European apple and pear stocks are also lower this year, respectively at 3.315.881 MT and 562.586 MT, representing a decrease of 12% for apples and 14,5% for pears on stocks compared to the same time last year. Besides, and for the first time, a representative from China attended the WAPA meeting. This is a first step in developing closer ties with the world largest apples and pears producing country. WAPA is enhancing the Chinese apples and pears sector to get organised and join the international community represented in WAPA. *“The Association will further explore cooperation with its Chinese counterpart”,* Mr Moffitt added.

As Mr Moffitt takes over the presidency, WAPA will continue under his leadership to work on specific dossiers such as nutrition and health, as well as sharing best practice and member initiatives on promotion and image of apple and pears. The WAPA website is becoming a centralised and well recognised wealth of information in this respect. WAPA will also continue developing its website as a communication tool and also further develop its role to provide key industry data on production, trade but also on scientific research, and nutrition data. Mr Moffitt

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concluded, *“Much remains to be done and as WAPA is entering into its second decade of activities. I am looking forward to further enhance and consolidate globally the role of the association while fostering the cooperation of the members on so many matters of common concern.”*

****ENDS****

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WAPA was founded in August 2001 with the objectives of providing a forum for discussion on matters of interest to the apple and pear business and initiating recommendations to strengthen the sector. The current President of the Association is Kevin Moffit of USA Pears, while Peter Beaven of Pipfruit New Zealand is Vice-President. WAPA membership includes the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Scandinavia, South Africa, the UK, Ukraine and the USA.



SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE APPLE PRODUCTION

Apples								<i>x 1000 tons</i>	
Country	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	F2011	(1)	(2)
Argentina	1.121	1.051	1.047	980	933	800	928	16	3
Australia	327	276	271	265	267	257	266	3	1
Brazil	882	759	993	983	1.053	1.226	951	-22	-13
Chile	1.562	1.644	1.732	1.770	1.811	1.755	1.785	2	0
New Zealand	506	392	427	434	466	448	503	12	12
South Africa	703	637	689	749	747	775	795	3	5
Total	5.101	4.758	5.158	5.182	5.276	5.262	5.228	-1	0

(1) Percentage difference between F2011 and 2010

(2) Percentage difference between F2011 and the average of 2008 - 2009- 2010

								<i>x 1000 tons</i>	
Variety	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	F2011	(1)	(2)
Braeburn	294	248	272	220	239	211	231	9	3
Cripps pink	149	153	164	206	215	229	238	4	10
Fuji	593	535	636	629	643	729	590	-19	-12
Gala	1.186	1.260	1.496	1.574	1.654	1.768	1.730	-2	4
Golden Delicious	186	155	181	172	169	169	171	1	1
Granny Smith	919	807	843	856	837	786	839	7	2
Red Delicious	1.370	1.177	1.152	1.078	1.025	843	891	6	-9
Others	404	423	415	447	494	527	538	2	10
Total:	5.101	4.758	5.158	5.182	5.276	5.262	5.228	-1	0



SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE PEAR PRODUCTION

Pears

x 1000 tons

Country	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	F2011	(1)	(2)
Argentina	530	750	739	723	895	770	897	16	13
Australia	151	142	135	130	127	107	128	19	5
Chile	201	196	194	189	176	170	167	-2	-6
New Zeal	13	11	9	9	12	11	11	-2	1
South Afr	316	324	359	342	366	356	348	-2	-2
Total	1.211	1.423	1.436	1.393	1.577	1.414	1.550	10	6

(1) Percentage difference between F2011 and 2010

(2) Percentage difference between F2011 and the average of 2008 - 2009- 2010

x 1000 tons

Variety	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	F2011	(1)	(2)
Beurre Bosc	86	105	118	116	128	124	138	11	12
Forelle	58	71	78	84	90	90	88	-2	0
Others	250	313	259	261	305	284	314	11	11
Packham's Trium	402	460	487	480	528	488	525	8	5
Williams BC / Bart	415	474	494	454	526	429	486	13	3
Total:	1.211	1.423	1.436	1.393	1.577	1.414	1.550	10	6