

EU-15: 13% decline in area under fruit trees

Statistics in focus

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

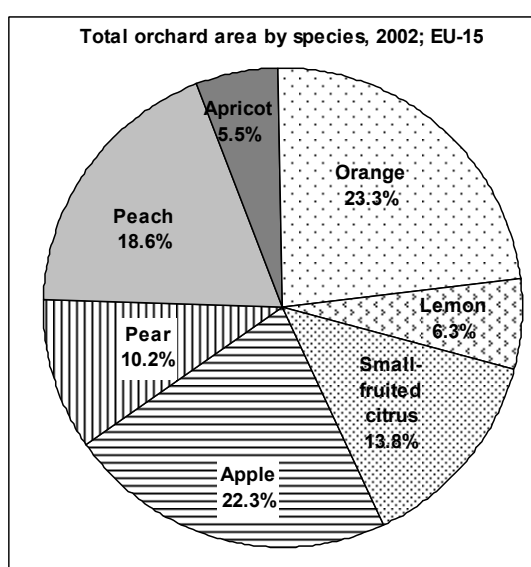
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The basic survey on plantations of certain species of fruit trees (apple, pear, peach, apricot, orange, lemon and small-fruited citrus) is carried out every five years, to determine the production potential of plantations from which fruit produced is intended for the market. The 2002 survey covered then the 15 EU Member States.

Data was collected on the areas under fruit trees broken down by: country, region (production zone), species, variety, density (number of trees/ha), age of trees.



The EU orchard area declined by approximately 165 000 ha (-13%) from 1997 to 2002.

The phenomenon was particularly notable for apple trees: 53 000 ha (-18%) and peach trees: 43 000 ha (-18%).

The only species with increasing area were small-fruited citrus trees. This resulted mainly from a significant rise in Spain: 18 000 ha (i.e. by 20% of the area under this species in Spain).

Despite the decline in fruit tree plantations at European level, two Member States (Ireland and Finland) recorded an increase in orchard area. In Spain, Greece and Austria the area under orchards declined slightly (less than 5% decline). In other Member States areas under fruit trees shrank significantly.

88% of the EU orchard area was located in only four Member States: Spain, Italy, Greece and France.

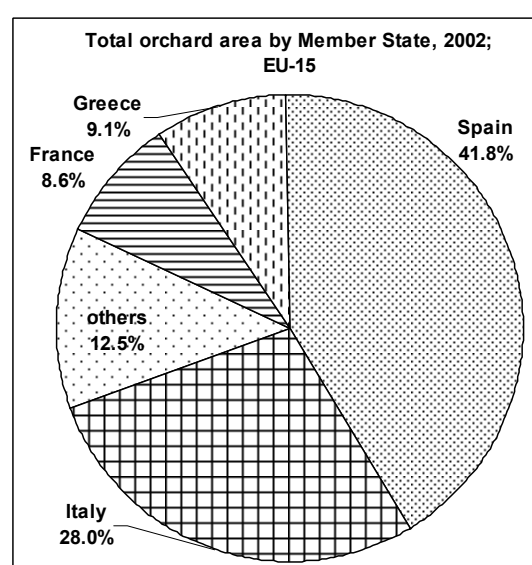


Table 1: Area under fruit trees by species, Member State and production zone, 2002
0.0 = less than half of the unit used ; - = not applicable (not surveyed) or real zero

	Total	Apple	Pear	Peach	Apricot	Orange	Lemon	Small-fruited citrus
1000 ha								
EU-15	1,082.0	241.5	110.3	201.3	59.1	252.1	68.0	149.6
BELGIUM	14.6	8.2	6.4	-	-	-	-	-
DENMARK	1.8	1.4	0.4	-	-	-	-	-
GERMANY	33.3	31.2	2.1	-	-	-	-	-
North	8.4	8.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-
Central	4.6	4.1	0.4	-	-	-	-	-
South	12.3	11.2	1.1	-	-	-	-	-
East	8.0	7.8	0.2	-	-	-	-	-
GREECE	98.1	10.4	3.4	35.2	5.0	33.0	6.2	5.0
Peloponissos	26.9	0.7	0.5	-	3.2	17.6	2.3	2.5
Makedonia	40.8	5.0	1.0	33.3	1.5	-	-	-
Thessalia	7.2	4.2	1.5	1.5	-	-	-	-
Kriti	4.1	-	0.1	-	-	3.5	0.2	0.3
Ipeiros	4.6	-	-	-	-	4.6	-	-
Kentriki Ellas Kai Evia	8.7	-	-	-	-	6.1	2.6	-
Nisia Aigaio	1.4	-	-	-	-	0.9	0.2	0.3
Other zones	4.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.9
SPAIN	452.7	43.3	31.4	69.5	22.6	131.4	43.9	110.6
Galicia	2.9	2.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	-	21.0	-
Principado de Asturias	5.6	5.6	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-
Cantabria	0.1	0.1	0.0	-	-	-	-	-
Pais Vasco	1.8	1.7	0.2	0.0	-	-	-	-
Navarra	3.7	0.7	2.3	0.5	-	-	-	-
La Rioja	5.7	0.8	2.2	1.9	0.0	-	-	-
Aragon	38.1	8.5	7.7	14.2	1.5	-	-	-
Cataluna	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baleares	6.8	5.6	1.2	0.1	0.0	-	-	-
Castilla y Leon	2.3	0.3	0.1	0.4	1.5	0.0	-	-
Madrid	8.3	0.0	0.8	4.9	0.1	0.0	-	-
Castilla-La Mancha	65.0	14.8	13.2	16.5	0.2	1.6	0.1	8.6
Comunidad Valenciana	254.1	1.7	0.8	8.4	4.8	73.6	13.1	93.6
Region de Murcia	4.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.7	1.8	0.3	0.2
Extremadura	88.0	0.3	0.9	8.3	0.1	41.4	2.7	3.6
Andalucia	90.5	0.1	1.6	14.0	13.7	11.6	27.3	4.6
Canarias	3.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.4	0.3	-

	Total	Apple	Pear	Peach	Apricot	Orange	Lemon	Small-fruited citrus
	1000 ha							
FRANCE	93.0	47.6	9.0	19.7	14.9	0.0	0.0	1.7
Sud-Ouest	0.2	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-
Aquitaine	5.3	4.5	0.5	0.4	-	-	-	-
Midi-Pyrénées	7.1	5.9	0.4	0.9	-	-	-	-
Limousin	2.6	2.5	0.1	0.0	-	-	-	-
Rhône-Alpes	20.5	4.2	1.9	6.5	8.0	-	-	-
Loire	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.0	-	-	-
Auvergne	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-
Languedoc-Roussillon	15.5	2.6	0.4	7.9	4.6	-	0.0	0.0
Provence-Alpes- Côte d'Azur	21.1	11.4	3.8	3.7	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Corse	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Île de France	0.9	0.6	0.4	-	-	-	-	-
Pays de Loire	7.9	7.5	0.4	-	-	-	-	-
Poitou-Charentes	1.9	1.8	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
Centre	4.4	3.7	0.7	-	-	-	-	-
Other zones	3.2	2.7	0.5	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
IRELAND	0.6	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
ITALY	303.4	54.3	38.4	73.1	15.6	76.0	17.6	28.4
Lombardia	3.4	1.6	1.0	0.7	0.1	-	-	-
Lazio	3.6	0.4	0.2	2.5	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1
Campania	19.7	1.7	0.7	10.4	4.3	0.9	1.2	0.6
Valle d'Aosta	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
Liguria	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Emilia-Romagna	62.3	5.0	25.8	27.0	4.5	-	-	-
Piemonte	12.6	4.3	1.4	6.2	0.8	-	-	-
Trentino Alto-Adige	28.0	27.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
Veneto	16.5	6.7	4.1	5.1	0.6	0.0	-	-
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	1.9	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	-	-	-
Toscana	3.3	1.0	0.6	1.3	0.3	-	-	-
Umbria	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	-	-	-
Marche	2.3	0.5	0.2	1.2	0.4	-	-	-
Abruzzi	2.6	0.3	0.1	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-
Molise	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.1	0.0	-	-
Puglia	11.5	0.2	0.3	2.8	0.4	3.9	0.2	3.9
Basilicata	15.0	0.4	0.3	3.8	2.7	5.4	0.0	2.4
Calabria	35.4	0.7	0.4	3.7	0.3	15.7	0.6	13.9
Sicilia	75.8	1.0	2.2	3.9	0.4	46.7	15.3	6.3
Sardegna	7.1	0.6	0.5	1.2	0.3	3.1	0.2	1.3
LUXEMBOURG	1.1	1.0	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
NETHERLANDS	17.5	11.2	6.3	-	-	-	-	-

	Total	Apple	Pear	Peach	Apricot	Orange	Lemon	Small-fruited citrus
	1000 ha							
AUSTRIA	8.2	7.0	0.5	0.3	0.5	-	-	-
PORTUGAL	43.6	13.6	10.0	3.6	0.5	11.6	0.4	3.9
Portugal Norte	6.0	4.9	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1
Portugal Centro	5.8	3.6	0.6	1.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.1
Lisboa e Vale do Tejo	17.0	4.8	9.1	1.4	0.4	1.1	0.1	0.2
Alentejo	2.0	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.1
Algarve	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	8.6	0.1	3.4
Região Autónoma dos Açores	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Região Autónoma da Madeira	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FINLAND	0.5	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
SWEDEN	1.5	1.3	0.2	-	-	-	-	-
UNITED KINGDOM	11.9	9.8	2.0	-	-	-	-	-

Table 2: Change in the area under fruit trees, 2002 over 1997* (in %)

Member State	Total	Apple	Pear	Peach	Apricot	Orange	Lemon	Small-fruited citrus
	%							
EU-15	-13.2	-17.8	-16.3	-17.6	-11.3	-10.8	-20.6	+5.6
Belgium	-26.3	-39.0	+1.1	-	-	-	-	-
Denmark	-6.4	-8.2	+0.2	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	-12.7	-12.8	-11.9	-	-	-	-	-
Greece	-3.5	-2.8	+6.3	-5.2	+13.1	-1.0	-26.8	+9.4
Spain	-0.7	-14.5	-12.4	-9.6	-18.1	+3.9	-3.3	+19.1
France	-12.4	-12.4	-23.6	-14.5	0.0	-70.4	+2.3	-12.2
Ireland	+26.9	+26.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-28.7	-24.4	-25.3	-28.5	-16.6	-32.1	-44.0	-25.3
Luxembourg	-6.0	-4.7	-15.6	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	-17.4	-26.3	+5.1	-	-	-	-	-
Austria	-3.1	-2.0	-7.0	-30.2	+7.5	-	-	-
Portugal	-9.0	-16.2	-7.4	-23.9	-1.4	+6.8	-16.6	-8.6
Finland	+19.1	+19.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sweden	-19.9	-18.8	-27.9	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	-26.1	-26.8	-22.3	-	-	-	-	-

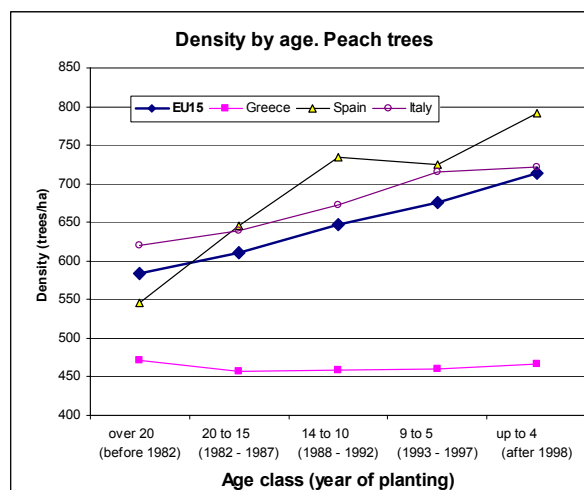
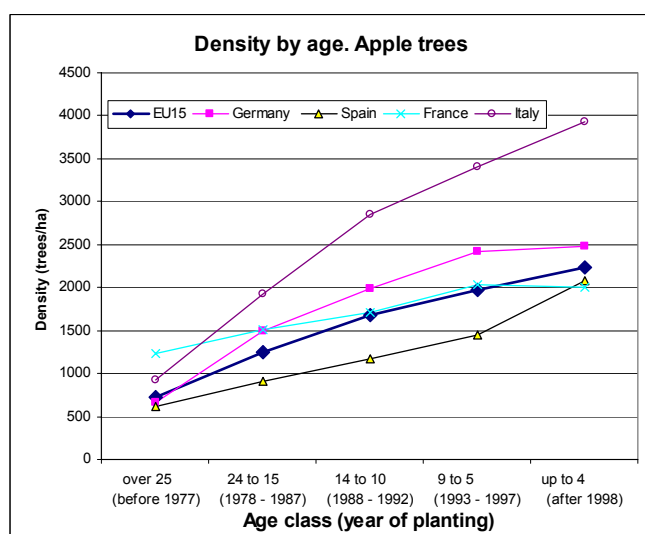
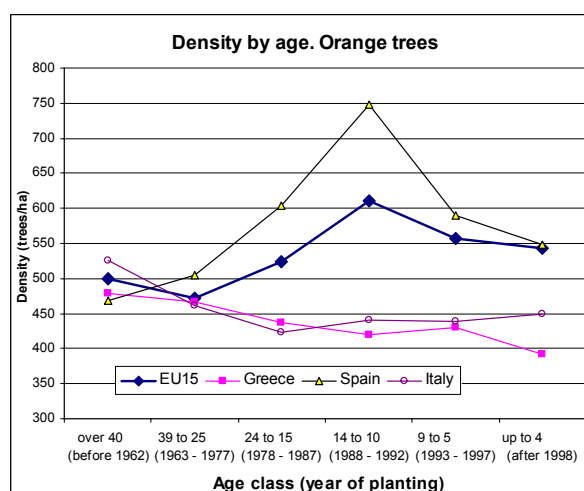
* 1997: data was recalculated from gross into net area for Finland, France and Spain.

Table 3: Average age of plantation of fruit trees by species and by Member State, 2002

Member State	Apple	Pear	Peach	Apricot	Orange	Lemon	Small-fruited citrus
	years						
EU-15	12.2	14.7	9.5	12.7	19.1	22.5	13.9
Belgium	7.4	12.8					
Denmark	12.2	12.0					
Germany	10.7	14.3					
Greece	13.8	13.4	10.2	13.2	26.8	26.2	19.2
Spain	14.1	13.3	9.4	14.7	14.2	19.5	11.4
France	12.2	20.0	8.8	11.0	21.3	21.3	20.2
Ireland	12.3						
Italy	12.6	15.1	9.0	11.2	24.5	29.0	22.4
Luxembourg	22.0	23.4					
Netherlands	7.4	13.4					
Austria	9.3	13.5	11.7	10.8			
Portugal	11.3	14.7	8.8	15.6	17.5	19.3	15.1
Finland	13.1						
Sweden	15.8	16.5					
United Kingdom	16.7	20.5					

Average age of the plantations of fruit trees was calculated approximately with the assumption that the age of the plantation is the mean of the relevant age class limits.

Breakdown by age classes enables comparison of the density¹ of plantations over time. A comparison of the average number of trees per hectare of fruit tree plantations over age classes (i.e. according to the year of planting) shows an increasing density of apple and peach tree plantations.



¹ Average density of the plantations of fruit trees was calculated approximately with the assumption that the density of the plantation is the mean of the relevant density class limits.

Distribution of the most important varieties (and groups of varieties) of fruit trees in 1997 and in 2002 is given in table 4 (varieties are ranked according to their share in the total area under given species). At European level the changes are most significant for lemon trees and pear trees: up to 11% increase of the share of the areas under some varieties in comparison to the 1997 results.

The most significant change concerning sub-groups of the varieties is a drop in the share of areas under mandarins (replaced by clementines and other small fruited citrus).

Table 4: Distribution of the most important varieties by species, EU-15, 1997* - 2002

Species/variety	1997	2002
Apple trees	100.0	100.0
Golden Delicious and Golden Spur	31.1	27.3
Groupe Gala	5.2	9.7
Red Delicious, etc. (groupe) and Starking Delicious	10.6	6.5
Jonagold	7.6	5.9
Elstar	4.3	5.1
Granny Smith	3.0	2.9
Braeburn	1.3	2.6
Cox's Orange Pippin	3.2	2.2
Reinette du Canada	2.1	2.1
OTHER	31.6	35.8
Pear trees	100.0	100.0
Conférence	18.5	23.8
Abate Fetel	10.5	11.2
William's	12.5	10.0
Blanquilla	9.6	9.7
Rocha	7.4	8.4
Doyenné du Comice	5.9	5.6
Jules Guyot/Limonera	4.2	3.7
Ercolini	3.0	3.3
Coscia	4.1	2.6
Kaiser Alexander	2.8	2.5
OTHER	21.5	19.4
Peach trees	100.0	100.0
a. Sub-groups		
Yellow flesh (y.f.)	80.2	83.8
Nectarines (y.f.; N)	13.7	13.5
White flesh (w.f.)	17.3	12.1
Nectarines (w.f.; N)	8.5	5.6
Unspecified colour	2.5	4.0

* 1997: data was recalculated from gross into net area for Finland, France and Spain.

Species/variety	1997	2002
b. Groups of varieties (peach)		
Group Cresthaven (y.f.)	8.9	9.0
Group Pavie/Percoche (y.f.)	13.5	8.6
Group Springcrest (y.f.)	6.7	8.0
Group Stark Red gold (y.f.; N)	5.5	6.7
Group Redhaven (y.f.)	6.7	4.2
Group J.H. Hale (y.f.)	4.2	3.2
Group Glohaven (y.f.)	1.3	3.1
Group Maycrest (y.f.)	4.2	2.6
Group Grimson-Maygrand (y.f.; N)	2.6	2.5
Group Fantasia (y.f.; N)	1.6	2.5
OTHER	44.8	49.6
Apricot trees	100.0	100.0
Bulida	17.0	19.5
Bergeron	7.6	8.3
Bebecou	5.3	6.5
Précoce de Tyrinthe	5.1	4.2
Polonais	4.4	3.5
Galta Rocha	6.0	3.2
Orangered or NJA32	0.0	2.5
Vitillo	-	2.3
Moniqui	4.2	2.3
Real Fino	1.8	2.2
OTHER	48.6	45.4
Orange trees	100.0	100.0
a. Sub-groups		
Non-sanguine oranges (sweet)	80.5	84.3
Navels, Group of varieties (sweet; N)	48.8	58.6
Sanguine oranges (blood)	19.5	12.5
Varieties not elsewhere specified	-	3.1
b. Varieties		
Navelina or Dalmau (sweet; N)	16.8	27.4
Merlin or Washinton Navel (sweet; N)	20.4	13.5
Valencia Late (sweet)	11.9	12.4
Tarocco (blood)	15.2	9.7
Lane Late (sweet; N)	2.7	6.5
Navelate (sweet; N)	3.4	4.9
Salustiana (sweet)	2.6	3.8
Navel New Hall (sweet; N)	4.8	2.5
Bionda Comune (sweet)	7.3	2.0
Moro (blood)	2.5	1.2
OTHER	12.4	15.9
Lemon trees	100.0	100.0
Groupe Mesero 013	23.5	32.4
Groupe Berna 012	26.3	26.2
Comune 016	2.5	13.6
Maglini 007	5.2	5.3
Monachello 003	7.0	3.6
OTHER	35.5	19.0

Species/variety	1997	2002
Small-fruited citrus trees	100.0	100.0
a. Sub-groups		
Mandarines* (mn)	11.8	11.2
Clementines* (cl)	74.2	72.9
Satsumas (st)	8.6	6.6
Other small-fruited citrus	5.3	9.3
b. Varieties		
Clemenules or Clémentine Di Nules (cl)	28.2	25.1
Clementina Comune (cl)	13.9	12.2

Species/variety	1997	2002
Marisol (cl)	6.1	6.4
Clemenvilla o nova (cl)	4.3	5.4
Hernandina (cl)	5.3	4.8
Satsuma (st)	5.3	4.3
Fortune (cl)	4.5	3.8
Oronules (cl)	-	2.9
Oroval (cl)	4.5	2.8
Fina (cl)	3.2	2.6
OTHER	24.7	29.8

* varieties: 'Clemenvilla o nova' and 'Fortune' were classified here as Clementines – both in 1997 and in 2002 survey.

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The 2002 survey covered all agricultural holdings with an area planted with fruit trees (apple, pear, peach, apricot, orange, lemon and small-fruited citrus) provided that the fruit produced is entirely or mainly intended for the market.

The 2002 survey was

- a complete enumeration in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden and United Kingdom (for large holdings);
- an area frame sampling in Spain;
- a farm sample survey in the other Member States.

The following species were surveyed:

- (a) dessert apples (in the 15 EU member states)
- (b) dessert pears (in the 15 EU member states, except Ireland and Finland)
- (c) peaches (in France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Austria only)
- (d) apricots (in France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Austria only)
- (e) oranges (in France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain only)
- (f) lemons (in France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain only)
- (g) small-fruited citrus fruit (in France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain only)

Data on plantations producing apples for uses other than dessert fruit were sent optionally by Germany, Spain, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and United Kingdom.

Data on plantations producing pears for uses other than dessert fruit were sent optionally by Germany, Spain, Luxembourg and Netherlands.

All Member States sent the 2002 survey results in terms of net orchard area.

Net area planted – surface solely occupied by trees, (in contrary to 'gross area planted' i.e. the total area of the plot – the net area does not cover service areas, roads, irrigation ditches, headwaters etc.). From the areas under associated crops, the surface under the fruit trees is calculated on a "pro rata" basis. Isolated trees (or trees in rows) are not covered.

The method of determining **plantation density** is left up to the Member State, either on the basis of the net area planted and the number of trees or based on tree spacings and the distance between rows.

Age of trees is calculated from the time of their planting in the orchard. The planting season, extending from the autumn to the spring, is considered a single period and corresponds to "0" in time. The date of grafting has no influence on the age of the trees.

Further information:

➤ **Reference publications**

Title The European orchard - 1987 and 1992 basic surveys. Analysis and results
Catalogue No CA-98-96-582-EN-C Price EUR 32
Title The European orchard in 1997
Catalogue No KS-28-00-874-3A-C Price EUR 7

➤ **Databases**

[EUROSTAT Website/Agriculture, forestry and fisheries/Agriculture/European orchard surveys](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&code=sdg_12_10_01_01_01)

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ORIGINAL TEXT: English