PACMA says output down, demand up for apples

CAMP HILL - Apple producers are predicting a strong demand for fresh and processing apples this fall, because production is expected to be down 21 percent when compared to the 1984 crop. This forecast was made today by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (PACMA) after a review of statistics related to production and demand.

PACMA is the marketing cooperative of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, a general farm organization.

"All factors indicate prices to the producers should be good," said Joseph P. Buck, PACMA fruit division director. "We're looking

at a good demand for fresh market apples, and a heavy demand for sauce and slicer by the processing industry.

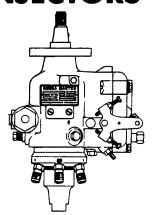
PACMA through its grower advisory committee is recommending the following minimum prices for processing apples: U.S. #1 canner grade apples-York and other premium varieties \$10 per cwt., 2 3/4 inches up; other varieties \$8 per cwt., 2½ inches up, and straight loads juice apples \$4.50

U.S. Department of Agriculture is predicting a 27.6 million bushel crop (down 21 percent from the 1984 crop) in the Appalachian area (Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia).

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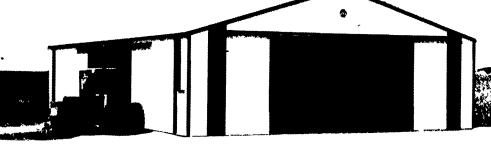
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