

Apples & Pears

Industry Statistics



Apples

- South Australia produces 29,000 tonnes of apples annually which represents about 9% of Australia's apple production. This includes about 2,000 tonnes of South Australian grown apples which are processed annually. There are currently about 1.2 million apple trees in South Australia.
- The annual farmgate value of South Australian apple production is \$57.6 million.
- There are currently about 250-300 apple growers in South Australia, of which about 100 growers primarily produce apples; the remainder produce apples with other mixed enterprises.
- South Australian fresh apple exports are over 1,000 tonnes each year, mainly the variety Pink Lady (90% of exports). Processed apple juice (90,000 litres) and dried apples (6 tonnes) are also exported
- South Australia's fresh apple exports are valued at \$2.3 million annually. Value of apple juice and dried apple exports are \$0.2 million.



Pears

- South Australia produces about 6,000 tonnes of pears annually which represents about 4% of Australia's pear production. There are currently about 76,000 pear trees in South Australia.
- The farmgate value of South Australia's pear production is \$9.2 million annually.
- There are currently about 100 pear growers in South Australia.
- South Australia's fresh pear (including nashi and quince) exports are around 12 tonnes annually, mainly the variety Packham. Minor amounts of processed pears are exported.
- South Australia's fresh and processed pear exports are valued at \$13,000 annually.

Industry structure

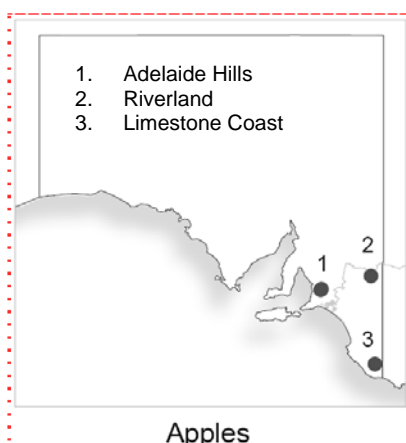
Apples

There are about 250 apple growers in South Australia, (of which about 100 are solely apple growers). There are 2 large (200-300ha in the Adelaide Hills), 15 medium (20-40ha) and about 230 smaller (<20ha) enterprises.

Pears

There are about 50 pear growers in South Australia. There are no large enterprises (>40ha), however, there are about 15 medium (20-40ha) and about 35 smaller (<20ha) producers.

Location of industry

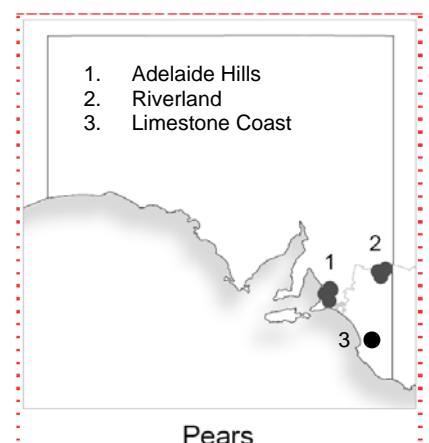


Apples

South Australian apples are grown in the Adelaide Hills (Lenswood, Forest Range), Riverland (Loxton) and in the Limestone Coast (Kalangadoo, Mt Gambier, O.B. Flat).

Pears

South Australian pears are grown in the Adelaide Hills (Paracombe, Lenswood, Coromandel Valley, Ashbourne), the Riverland (various towns) and in the Limestone Coast (Naracoorte).



Why South Australia is a good place for the crop

Apples

South Australia has an optimal growing environment for growing high quality apples, with adequate chilling temperatures and rainfed irrigation water of high quality and quantity in the Adelaide Hills. South Australia also has a well established apple marketing system with local experienced apple packers, marketers and exporters. The Riverland area produces some of the earliest season apples in Australia.

Pears

South Australia has an optimal growing environment for quality pear production with adequate chilling temperatures and rainfed irrigation water of high quality and quantity in the Adelaide Hills. The fertile soils of the Coromandel Valley and the ideal climate of Paracombe area in the Adelaide Hills are ideal for pear production.

Main varieties

Apples

There are a large number of varieties of apples grown in South Australia with the main varieties being Pink Lady, Granny Smith, Red Delicious, Gala and Fuji.

Pears

The main varieties of pears grown in South Australia include Packhams, Duchess (WBC or Bartletts), Lemon Bergamot and Corella. In the Riverland, the main varieties are dual purpose (fresh and processing) Duchess and Packhams, whereas fresh market pear varieties are mainly grown in the Adelaide Hills. Other fresh pear varieties include Buerre Bosc, Josephine, Sensation and Red Anjou.



Examples of downstream value adding

Apples

Examples of downstream value adding of apples in South Australia include processed apple juice, with some apples dried or dehydrated.

Pears

Examples of downstream value adding of pears in South Australia include processed pear juice, canned pears (mainly in the Riverland) and some dried or dehydrated pear products.

Main industry issues

Apple & Pear

Some of the high priority issues for South Australian apple and pear producers are: need to utilise high density orchard systems for improved cost competitiveness, market access, competition from other fruit products and imports, availability and cost of labour, availability and cost of rootstock, implementation of a user friendly and internationally accepted QA system, appropriate business and industry structures and lack of industry statistics.

The solutions or options for addressing the major issues have been prioritised and addressed in the [South Australian Apple, Pear and Cherry Industry Strategic Plan 2006-2011](#).

Main markets including export

Apples

Major export markets for apples include United Kingdom, Malaysia, India, Taiwan, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

Pears

Minor amounts of South Australian fresh and processed pears are exported to similar markets as apples.

Industry associations

Apple and Pear Growers

Association of
SA Inc (APGA of SA)
Trevor Ranford,
General Manager
6 Frederick Street,
Cavan SA 5094
Phone: (08) 8349 4556
Fax: (08) 8349 5316
Email:
aplnpear@ozemail.com.au

Apple and Pear Australia Limited (APAL)

39 O'Connell St, North
Melbourne, Victoria 3051
Phone: (03) 9329 3511
Fax: (03) 9329 3522
Web: www.apal.org.au
Email:
aplnpear@apal.org.au

South Australian Pome Fruit Improvement Committee

c/- Main Road
Lenswood SA 5240
Phone: (08) 8389 8023
Fax: (08) 8389 8592