

For fresh fruit and vegetable marketing and distribution in Asia



By Carl Collen

Friday 9th February 2018, 23:05 GMT

WAPA forecasts 'stable' SH apple crop



Consolidated crop estimates released at Fruit Logistica AGM predict a 15 per cent drop in Southern Hemisphere pear production

The World Apple and Pear Association (WAPA) held its Annual General Meeting at Fruit Logistica in Berlin on 9 February, with representatives of the key global apple and pear producing and exporting countries meeting to discuss the Southern Hemisphere production forecast, the final update of the Northern Hemisphere, and the various actions regarding marketing, promotion, and sustainability within their countries.

During the meeting, the consolidated crop forecasts

for the forthcoming Southern Hemisphere apple and pear seasons were discussed and published, having been collected from industry associations in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand and South Africa

The figures showed that the 2018 apple Southern Hemisphere crop is expected to be stable compared to last year, at 5.31m tonnes, with exports rising from 1.63m tonnes to 1.65m tonnes,

The pear crop, meanwhile, is expected to decrease by 15 per cent to 1.12m tonnes, with exports dropping

to 569,349 tonnes compared to last year's 670,082 tonnes – also a decrease of 15 per cent.

Overall the Southern Hemisphere season is due to start with one to two weeks of delay compared to the average, WAPA noted.

Additionally, the figures for the 2017 EU Northern Hemisphere forecast were confirmed, with 9.19m tonnes for apples and 2.21m tonnes for pears.