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- Press Release -

Difficult year for apples for processing

Apple processors inside PROFEL¹ describe the current market situation as difficult. Growers predict that overall apple volumes could be 20-30% down on forecasts in some countries, with some varieties such as Golden Delicious even more severely hit.

Weather havocs such as frosts in early spring, excessive rain and hail led to considerable damage during the blossoming period in May in orchards in France, the Netherlands and Belgium. Crops in Germany and Poland seem less affected.

Some EU manufacturers of apple sauce, compotes, purees, pulps and jams even fear supply shortages as a result of the overall poor EU-crop outlook for this season. This in return is likely to have an impact on prices.

Apple compotes and apple sauce are the leading products among EU compotes production, with apples representing around 70% of the volumes of compotes produced. Main producer countries are France, Germany, Netherlands and Belgium.

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¹ PROFEL is the European Association of fruit and vegetable processing industries (canned vegetables, frozen vegetables, dehydrated vegetables, jams and fruit preserves, canned fruit and compotes). Over 500 companies affiliated via our national associations in 15 countries produce each year approximately 650.000 t of fruit preserves, 1,2 million t of canned fruit and compotes, 2,3 million t of canned vegetables, 2,5 mill t of frozen vegetables, and about 35.000 t of dried vegetables.