

# Huge losses for apple producers

## *Nearly 60% of the harvest is unusable*

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Unfavorable climatic conditions are one of the reasons for the low harvest and zero profits for apple producers in Bulgaria. Another major problem is the fruit purchasing factories. The harvest is of poor quality and farmers are forced to sell their produce mainly for processing. In the active apple harvesting campaign, processing factories are buying the fruit at prices ranging from 9 to 20 st./kg. The better and larger apples are offered in small quantities at 60-80 st./kg, while the actual overall price is around 30-40 st./kg. This means that at these prices and with a subsidy of 30 BGN/decare, producers are at a complete loss.

At the same time, there is an increase in the prices of some traditional autumn fruits according to data from the analysis of the State Commission on Commodity Exchanges and Markets.

Wholesale grape prices have risen from 1.59 BGN/kg to 1.66 BGN/kg. The price per kilogram of apples varies from 1.12 BGN/kg to 1.15 BGN/kg, currently it is again 1.12 BGN/kg. Wholesale pear prices also vary between 1.69 BGN/kg to 1.72 BGN/kg, with the price for the last reported period being 1.68 BGN/kg.