

### FARM TO EVERYTHING!

A Monthly Newsletter from the NJDA Farm to School Team

August 2017 Volume 4

# August is National Peach Month!

New Jersey is listed as the 4<sup>th</sup> largest producer of peaches in the United States, behind California, South Carolina and Georgia. That's a lot of peaches, we think!

If you're looking to do something educational with peaches, click <a href="here">here</a> for our downloadable, two-sided printout with Peach "Fun Facts" and pictures.

Peaches are available in abundance this year, due to the ample rain in the spring and the abundant heat for most of July. Everything you need to know about Jersey-grown peaches can be found <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>, at the New Jersey Peach Promotion Council website.

Please check out the Jersey Fresh Produce of the Week Report here to see what's in season right now. It is never too late to start planning for September when Back to School means Farm to School is in season.

#### Inside this issue:

National Peach Month	1
Seasonal Forecast	1
arm to School	2
arm to Summer	2
arm to Preschool	2
Share Your Story	2
allow I Io	,

## Monthly Seasonal Forecast

August 6-12 is National Farmers Market Week and what better way to celebrate then by taking your family to a local community farmers market. Check out the NJDA listing <a href="here">here</a> to find one close to you.

As we're delving into August and the beginning of true harvest season, check out NJDA's agritourism link to plan a visit to one of our state's 9000 farms here.

We're aptly named the Garden State and taking your family out to visit a farm keeps our farms farming and our farmland viable for future generations.

Looking for information about what's in season, click <u>here</u> for our downloadable seasonality chart.



# Growing, Cooking, Serving



#### **FARM TO SCHOOL:**

September 25-29, 2017 is this year's "Jersey Fresh Farm to School Week" celebration.

Join schools across New Jersey to honor our agricultural history by connecting with farms, hosting school garden events and offering produce that is grown on local farms. Click the picture below to learn more about our Jersey Tastes kick-off on September 26<sup>th</sup>.





#### **FARM TO SUMMER:**

Stay tuned for our September newsletter where we will highlight some of the SFSP Farm to Summer activities that took place in the summer of 2017.

We're visiting sites that utilize gardens to teach children how fresh fruits and vegetables grow and checking out sites that purchase local produce.

Check out this picture from
Greenwood Ave Farmers Market's
Summer Meals program,
highlighting fresh peaches from
New Jersey.



#### **FARM TO PRESCHOOL:**

Taste tests are a great way to incorporate Farm to Preschool education into any childcare setting. Whether starting a garden, providing fresh fruits and vegetables or offering meals that incorporate local produce, giving our youngest eaters an opportunity to LOVE IT, LIKE IT OR TRY IT is fun!

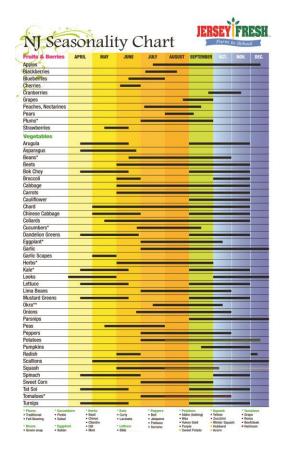


# We want to hear from you!

Let us know your "Farm to" story! Send an email to <a href="mailto:newjerseyf2s@ag.state.nj.us">newjerseyf2s@ag.state.nj.us</a> or call us at 609-292-8747 so we can highlight your local procurement, gardens and nutrition around New Jersey fruits and vegetables!

## Follow Us!







NJ Department of Agriculture Division of Food & Nutrtion Farm to School

> P.O. Box 334 Trenton, NJ 08625 **Phone:** 609.292.8747

farmtoschool.nj.gov