

N.J. Peach Festival

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For Immediate Release

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25th Annual New Jersey Peach Festival July 26-29 2007

Clayton, NJ. Not only is Gloucester County the largest peach growing county in New Jersey, but it is home to the state's official Peach Festival. Located in Gloucester County for the past 12 years, the "The Festival" marks the official kickoff of the New Jersey peach season. The peach harvest will be just beginning when the 2007 festival opens.

The New Jersey Peach Festival will begin this year on Thursday, July 26 with the placement and judging of the commercial peach pack competition from the state's top peach growers. The New Jersey Department of Agriculture annually judges the best firm and ripe peaches from samples taken from peach packing and shipping facilities and the best is awarded the Governor's Cup. This will be presented Friday evening July 27 during the Peach Queen Competition. Last year's New Jersey Peach Queen, Amber Hoolahan of Franklinville will be on hand to help crown the new queen. Amber has done an outstanding job representing the New Jersey peach industry at promotional events throughout the year.

In addition to displays of all types of yellow and white-fleshed peach and nectarines, there are educational displays of peach pest management, variety development, and everything you want to know about peaches.

The annual peach bake off competition will be held on Saturday, July 28 and the Little Mister and Miss Peach Blossom Parade for kids will be held on Sunday, July 29. Many peach products and peach cider drinks will again be sold to complement that special New Jersey peach ice cream that has long been a favorite of attendees.

Jersey Fresh peaches and other peach products will be sold throughout the 4-day festival. These include the best fresh New Jersey peaches, peach breads, peach pastries, Jersey grown plants and Jersey Fresh fruits and vegetables.

The New Jersey Peach Festival is held concurrently with the Gloucester County 4-H Fair and will be held at the 4-H Fairgrounds south of Mullica Hill, Gloucester County on route 77. For a complete listing of events and directions to the festival and fair go to <http://gloucester.rce.rutgers.edu/fairfest>. For information on New Jersey peaches go to www.jerseypeaches.com.

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