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PRESS RELEASE

August 11, 2006

NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey 2006 Apple and Peach Crop Forecasts

- **Apple** production is forecast at 45 million pounds, unchanged from last year. Growing conditions are rated good. Apples are sizing well. Early varieties are being harvested in the southern portion of the state. Prospects for this year's crop are good.
- **Peach** production is forecast at 36,000 tons, up 1,000 tons from July forecast. Fruit quality and size are rated good to excellent. Current prices and demand are strong. Harvest of peach was one week earlier than usual and will continue until the mid-September.

Apple and Peach Production, August 1 Forecast

Crop	Units	Final 2005	- Total Production -	
			Forecast July 1, 2006	Forecast August 1, 2006
NEW JERSEY				
Apples	Million Pounds	45.0	1/	45.0
Peaches	Tons	35,000	35,000	36,000
UNITED STATES				
Apples	Million Pounds	9864.9	1/	9,619.7
Peaches	Tons	1,184,550	1,058,300	1,053,800

1/ First apple forecast is August 1.

NEW JERSEY'S SOYBEAN CROP UP 19 PERCENT

- **Corn** production is forecast at 7.56 million bushels, unchanged from last year. Producers expect 122 bushels per acre for the 2006 crop. The state record yield per acre is 143 bushels, set in 2004. The 10-year (1996-2005) state average yield is 104.8 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain, at 62,000 acres, unchanged from 2005.
- **Soybean** yield is forecast at 33 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels from the previous year. The state record yield per acre is 42 bushels, set in 2004. The 10-year average yield is 31.9 bushels. Production is expected to total 3.04 million bushels, up 19 percent from 2005. Soybean harvested area is expected to total 92,000 acres, 1,000 acres more than 2005.

Acres, Yield, and Production of Corn and Soybeans, August 1 Forecast

Crop	Acres Planted		Acres for Harvest		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2005	Forecast 2006	2005	Forecast 2006	2005	Forecast 2006	2005	Forecast 2006
NEW JERSEY	----- Thousand -----				- Bushels -		- Thousand Bushels -	
Corn for grain	80	75	62	62	122.0	122.0	7,564	7,564
Soybeans	95	95	91	92	28.0	33.0	2,548	3,036
UNITED STATES	----- Thousand -----				- Bushels -		- Million Bushels -	
Corn for grain	81,759	79,366	75,107	72,091	147.9	152.2	11,112.1	10,975.7
Soybeans	72,142	74,939	71,361	73,935	43.3	39.6	3,086.4	2,927.6

Notes: Forecasts in this report are based on conditions around August 1, 2006, and do not reflect changes in conditions since that time. The next crop production forecast will be released September 12, 2006.

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