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PRESS RELEASE

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NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey 2008 Apple and Peach Crop Forecasts

- **Apple** production is forecast at 40 million pounds, 2 million pounds less than last year. Growing conditions were favorable in the early stage, but hot temperatures and inadequate rainfall may affect fruit size. Early varieties are being harvested throughout the state. Prospects for this year's crop are good.
- **Peach** production is forecast at 34,000 tons, unchanged from the July forecast. Many growers reported a large crop this season while others experienced late maturation due to heat stress in June. Overall, fruit quality and size are rated good to excellent.

Apple and Peach Production, August 1 Forecast

Crop	Units	Final 2007	- Total Production -	
			Forecast July 1, 2008	Forecast August 1, 2008
NEW JERSEY				
Apples	Million Pounds	42.0	1/	40.0
Peaches	Tons	32,000	34,000	34,000
UNITED STATES				
Apples	Million Pounds	9113.9	1/	9,165.2
Peaches	Tons	1,128,740	1,097,150	1,093,850

1/ First apple forecast is August 1.

NEW JERSEY'S SOYBEAN CROP UP 11 PERCENT

- **Corn** production is forecast at 8.88 million bushels, down 13 percent from last year. Producers expect 120 bushels per acre for the 2008 crop. The state record yield per acre is 143 bushels, set in 2004. Area harvested for grain, at 74,000 acres is down 8,000 acres from 2007.
- **Soybean** yield is forecast at 32 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from the previous year. The state record yield per acre is 42 bushels, set in 2004. Production is expected to total 2.72 million bushels, up 11 percent from 2007. Soybean harvested area is expected to total 85,000 acres, 6,000 acres more than 2007.

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

Crop	Acres Planted		Acres for Harvest		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2007	Forecast 2008	2007	Forecast 2008	2007	Forecast 2008	2007	Forecast 2008
NEW JERSEY								
----- Thousand -----								
Corn for grain	95	85	82	74	125.0	120.0	10,250	8,880
Soybeans	81	87	79	85	31.0	32.0	2,449	2,720
UNITED STATES								
----- Thousand -----								
Corn for grain	93,600	86,977	86,542	79,290	151.1	155	13,073.9	12,287.9
Soybeans	63,631	74,783	62,820	73,341	41.2	40.5	2,585.2	2,972.6

Notes: Forecasts in this report are based on conditions around August 1, 2008, and do not reflect changes in conditions since that time. The next crop production forecast will be released September 12, 2008.

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