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# News Release

In Cooperation with Clemson University

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## SOUTH CAROLINA FRUIT PRODUCTION

Based on August 1 conditions, SOUTH CAROLINA'S 2007 **peach** production is expected to total 9,000 tons, up 13 percent from the July 1 forecast of 8,000 tons, according to the USDA NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production is down from last year's crop of 60,000 tons, and 2005's production of 75,000 tons. Later variety peaches are currently being harvested, with production rated as very light. April's freezing temperatures drastically reduced South Carolina's crop to the lowest level since 1996.

The SOUTH CAROLINA **apple** forecast on August 1 is 0.5 million pounds, down 83 percent from 3.0 million pounds in 2006, and 88 percent down from the 4.0 million pounds produced in 2005. Like peaches, the State's apple yield was also reduced due to frost and freeze damage that occurred at Easter.

## UNITED STATES NONCITRUS PRODUCTION

The August 2007 forecast of U.S. **peach** production is 1.03 million tons, up fractionally from the July 1 forecast and 2 percent above 2006. New Jersey's expectations, at 32,000 tons, were unchanged from July 1 but 6 percent below a year ago. Washington showed no change from last month's forecasted production or last season's crop. Michigan's forecast, at 19,000 tons, is down 1,000 tons from July 1, while Pennsylvania's expectations, at 19,100 tons, increased 100 tons from last month's forecasted production.

The U.S. Freestone crop, as of August 1, is forecast at 576,945 tons, virtually unchanged from last month but 11 percent below last year. The California Freestone forecast, which is carried forward from July 1, at 390,000 tons, is up 10 percent from 2006 and 1 percent above the 2005 crop.

The U.S. **apple** forecast for the 2007 crop year is 9.28 billion pounds, down 7 percent from last year and 4 percent below 2005. Extreme weather conditions across most of the United States, from spring freezes to summer drought, have had a significant impact on apple production. Production in the Western States (AZ, CA, CO, ID, OR, UT, and WA) is forecast at 5.99 billion pounds, down 4 percent from last year and 6 percent below 2005. Production in the Eastern States (CT, GA, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, and WV) is forecast at 2.31 billion pounds, down 5 percent from last year but 3 percent above 2005. Production in the Central States (IL, IN, IA, KY, MI, MN, MO, OH, TN, and WI) is forecast at 979 million pounds, a decrease of 20 percent from 2006 and 11 percent below 2005.