



New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show
and the
2013 Annual State Agricultural Convention
coordinated by
The Vegetable Growers Association of New Jersey,
the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and the
New Jersey Blueberry Association
Garden State Wine Growers Association
New Jersey Agriculture Experiment Station, Rutgers University
February 5-7, 2013
Trump Taj Mahal



December 3, 2012

Dear Friend of Agriculture:

Planning for the 2013 Annual State Agricultural Convention and the New Jersey Agricultural Convention and Trade Show is well underway. This partnership offers more opportunities for delegates and guests to learn about issues and the latest technologies, agricultural practices and opportunities throughout the industry.

If you are attending the 2013 State Agricultural Convention, please feel free to come on Tuesday and attend both the trade show and the educational sessions. If you are attending the New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show, please feel free to attend the State Convention sessions as well.

The trade show and VGA educational sessions will open on Tuesday, February 5th at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The show will feature exhibits and displays from many of the industry's suppliers and business associates. In addition, a wide variety of educational sessions on topics ranging from growing crops to food safety, from the latest ideas in agricultural practices to pest problems, and from farm labor management to agriculture water issues will be offered.

The 2013 State Agricultural Convention will open with its regular business session on Wednesday, February 6th and continue on Thursday, February 7th, 2013. As in the past, the meeting will focus on developing and setting a policy agenda for the industry over the coming year through the resolutions process. The listening sessions, during which members of the agricultural industry can provide on-the-ground experiences and ideas for policy will also be an important part of the convention. This year's listening sessions will address Risk Management, Farm Profitability and a presentation from the Jersey Fresh Program's new Advertising Agency.

Please read the following information carefully and complete the forms as indicated. Reservations are required for all convention meals. **Please return the meal reservation form no later than January 22nd.** No money will be refunded for any reason after January 26, 2013.

If you are not a member of the VGA-NJ but wish to become one, use the enclosed form to enroll and receive two admissions to the Convention. This form can also be used to purchase one-day passes for the event.

If you want to reserve a room at the Taj Mahal, call **1-800-825-8888**. To be guaranteed the discount rate of \$67 for a single or double room, you should use the **Group Code AVEG13**. Reservations can also be made online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/agriculture13>. Room reservations must be made by **January 18, 2013**.

We hope that you will come and participate at the convention, particularly at the sessions that impact your operation. For additional convention information including registration and event schedule, please visit www.nj.gov/agriculture or www.njveggies.org/convention.htm.

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Wood
Convention Coordinator

Rocco D. DiGerolamo
Convention Coordinator