



New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show
and the
2014 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 4-6, 2014
Trump Taj Mahal



December 6, 2013

Dear Friend of Agriculture:

Planning for the 2014 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 2014 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 4, 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 farm safety will be offered. Please make it a point to visit each of the trade show exhibitors.

The 2014 State Agricultural Convention will open with its regular business session on Wednesday, February 5, and continue on Thursday, February 6, 2014. 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 Local Grown, Microenterprise, Affordable Health Care and Crisis Management.

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 20.** No money will be refunded for any reason after January 24, 2014.

If you want to reserve a room at the Taj Mahal, call **1-800-825-8888**. To be guaranteed the discount rate of \$67 plus applicable taxes for a single or double room, you should use the **Group Code AVEG14**. The Chairman Tower is also available for \$87 plus applicable taxes. There is a \$5 per day parking fee. Reservations can also be made online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/VEGE2014>. To ensure that you get the group rate, room reservations must be made by **January 18, 2014**.

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

2014 MEAL RESERVATIONS

CONVENTION MEALS

| | # OF TICKETS | COST | TOTAL |
|---|--------------|-----------|-------|
| Wednesday, February 5, 2014 | | | |
| NJ AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY LUNCHEON | _____ | \$32.00 | _____ |
| CONVENTION DINNER (choice) Prime Rib | _____ | \$60.00 | _____ |
| Scallops | _____ | \$60.00 | _____ |
| Stuffed Flounder | _____ | \$60.00 | _____ |
| Thursday, February 6, 2014 | | | |
| FARM CREDIT EAST LUNCHEON | _____ | \$10.00** | _____ |

*** Farm Credit East is paying for the luncheon, but we are charging the \$10.00 in order to get an accurate count. 100% of the money collected will be donated to the NJ Agricultural Leadership Development Program.*

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT NAME OF EACH PERSON ATTENDING AS THEY WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR ON THEIR NAME BADGE. (ALSO, PLEASE WRITE MEALS AND DINNER CHOICE NEXT TO EACH PERSON'S NAME WHO WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE - attach separate sheet if necessary):

| NAME | MEAL (AND CHOICE) |
|-------|-------------------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Name, address and telephone number of contact person:

Please make checks payable to ***Vegetable Growers Association.***
Payment is due January 20, 2014.

Please check in at the Convention Registration Desk upon arrival.

For questions about **MEAL RESERVATIONS**, contact Nancy Wood (609) 292-8896.

Return to: NJDA, Attn: Nancy Wood, PO Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625

NO REFUNDS AFTER JANUARY 24, 2014