



New Jersey Agricultural Convention & Trade Show  
and the  
2016 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 9-11, 2016  
Harrah's Resort & Waterfront Conference Center



December 11, 2015

Dear Friend of Agriculture:

Planning for the 2016 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 2016 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 9, at the Harrah's Resort & Waterfront Conference Center 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 farm safety, from the latest ideas in agricultural practices to pest management and much more will be offered. Please make it a point to visit each of the trade show exhibitors.

The 2016 State Agricultural Convention will open with its regular business session on Wednesday, February 10, and continue on Thursday, February 11, 2016. 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 highlight Locally Grown, an Agriculture Agents Micro Speed Session, where county agents will provide an update on their current projects, and a third session which is still to be determined. This year we will also be highlighting the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

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 25.** No money will be refunded for any reason after January 29, 2016.

If you want to reserve a room at Harrah's Resort, please call the Reservation Center at 1-888-516-2215. To be guaranteed the discount rate, indicate that you are with the **NJ Vegetable Growers Association** and use the **Group Code SH02VG6**. The room rates for convention attendees are \$70 per night/per room for the Marina Tower and \$79 per night/per room for the Waterfront Tower. These rates cover single and double occupancy and do not include applicable taxes, resort fees and parking fees. Reservations can also be made online at <http://www.totalrewards.com/hotel-reservations?propCode=ATL&groupCode=SH02VG6>. To ensure that you get the group rate, room reservations must be made by **January 25, 2016**.

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](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture) or [www.njveggies.org](http://www.njveggies.org).

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Wood  
NJDA Convention Coordinator

Rocco D. DiGerolamo  
VGANJ Convention Coordinator

# 2016 MEAL RESERVATIONS

**CONVENTION MEALS**

	# OF TICKETS	COST	TOTAL
Wednesday, February 10, 2016			
<b>NJ AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY LUNCHEON</b>	_____	\$35.00	_____
<b>CONVENTION DINNER</b> (choice) Prime Rib	_____	\$60.00	_____
Scallops	_____	\$60.00	_____
Stuffed Flounder	_____	\$60.00	_____
Thursday, February 11, 2016			
<b>FARM CREDIT EAST LUNCHEON</b>	_____	\$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 25, 2016.**

**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 29, 2016**