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Christe administration kicks off Jersey Fresh season with farm tour

May 24, 2013

New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Douglas H. Fisher on May 21 visited farms in Cumberland and Gloucester counties to highlight the start of the Jersey Fresh growing season. Stops included Dooley Farms and A. Pagnini Farms in Vineland and Dan Graiff Farms in Newfield.

[Read more](#)

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Food culture trends bode well for produce industry

May 24, 2013

June Jo Lee, a self-described ethnographer, told a crowd at the United Fresh Produce Association convention that "food culture" is the basis for all food trends, and the future looks bright for fresh produce.

In fact, she said that most of the important trends have increased consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables as their major component. Before delving into those trends, Lee explained the kind of

work she does and how it relates to the industry.

[Read more](#)

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Increased uncertainty on the farm requires a more nimble produce industry

May 24, 2013

While the entire world may be embroiled with the seemingly never-ending debate about climate change — the causes, its short- and long-term realities — our produce farmers in New Jersey simply know that for now they must deal with the effects of weather-related changes in growing conditions.

[Read more](#)

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Ecuador trade office kicks off campaign for trade pact extension

May 24, 2013

The Ecuador Trade Office in Chicago launched a campaign May 15 to extend trade agreements between Ecuador and the United States that expire July 31. Unless either the Andean Trade Promotion & Drug Eradication Act or the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences program are renewed by an act of the U.S. Congress, tariffs on imported products from Ecuador will be imposed and their prices will likely increase.

[Read more](#)

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Alaska peony industry shows growth spurt, prediction hits mark

May 24, 2013

The Alaskan peony industry is enjoying a growth spurt, according to a new report by two university researchers, Patricia S. Holloway and Kathleen Buchholz of the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. They stated that commercial peony growing began there in 2004, with small test plots of 20 plants. By 2012, that number had grown to 120,000. With an average yield of 10 stems per plant, the harvest is projected to be 1.2 million fresh-cut peony stems by 2015.

[Read more](#)

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Monterey Bay greenhouses host open houses June 15

May 24, 2013

A giant globe made of succulent plants will be on display at one of the six growers on the Monterey Bay Greenhouse Growers fourth annual open house tours on June 15. The floral masterpiece of living plants that accurately represents the world was two years in the making. It is the brainchild of Succulent Gardens owner Robin Stockwell. And, he said in an interview, “It spins.”

[Read more](#)

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