

South Carolina Department of Agriculture

Hugh Weathers, Commissioner



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**A-Mazing Corn Mazes on farms in South Carolina
- McLeod Farms in McBee features Certified SC Grown logo**

COLUMBIA, SC, October 5, 2009 – Fall agritourism events abound throughout South Carolina. Agritourism is any activity carried out on a farm that allows the general public recreational, entertainment, or educational opportunities. That could be a corn maze, festival, tractor show, U-pick farm, bird-watching, hunting, fishing, hiking, and trail riding on farm and forest land. It's all about recreation and entertainment for the family while providing extra income for the farming community.

According to the 2007 agriculture census, agritourism increased in value from \$2.7 million in 2002 to \$8.2 million in 2007. The value per farm increased from \$5,000 to \$22,000 during that same time. So, agritourism plays an important role in our economy.

Corn mazes and fall festivals are the big attraction this time of the year. Some farms that have featured corn mazes in their fall festival line-up include: Legare Farms on Johns Island, Sease Farms in Lexington, Harmon Tree Farm in Gilbert, Pim Farms in Darlington, Boone Hall in Mount Pleasant, Thompson Farm and Nursery in Conway, Nivens Farm in Moore, Stewart Farm in Enoree, Beechwood Farm in Slater, Lost Emerald Farm in Gaffney, Willard Farms in Gable, West Farm in Monck's Corner, Barnyard Bay Farm in Edisto, J&C Farms in Reevesville, and Denver Downs in Anderson. McLeod Farms in McBee is hosting a corn maze that features the South Carolina Department of Agriculture's Certified SC Grown logo.



McLeod Farms in McBee, S.C. features the Certified SC Grown logo in their 2009 corn maze.

For information about corn mazes and other on-farm agritourism events in the state, visit www.pumpkinpatchesandmore.com and click on South Carolina, but call to make sure that the corn maze is up and running this season.

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