

DeWitt, Sarah

From: karibu1977@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 7:48 PM
To: Public Market Advisory Commission
Subject: Peaches in 2014

July 7, 2014

Dear members of the Ann Arbor Market Commission,

As you may have heard last winter was devastating for those of us growing peaches. The entire crop in southeast Michigan was wiped out with many of us losing hundreds of trees as well. Temperatures of -15 degrees F. will kill the dormant peach bud. And temps lower than that will kill trees. We, along with several other growers, have been providing fresh peaches to the Ann Arbor for several years. I don't know of any grower on the market who will have peaches this year.

There are growers in western Michigan who have a crop of peaches. I am asking if those of us who are peach producers could purchase Michigan peaches and resell on the market? This would be a one time exemption from your policy and only to those who have been producers and sellers of peaches on the Ann Arbor Market in the past be allowed to do this.

I understand and respect the policy of selling only the fruit you grow. We have long advocated this and it is one of the reasons, I believe, that the Ann Arbor is a successful and vibrant market for both sellers and customers. But this was an extreme occurrence which will affect those of us as producers as well as customers.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Steve Elzinga
President, Erie Orchards and Cider Mill