



STATE OF IDAHO



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Dinner in the Orchard Event Celebrates 10 Years of Idaho Preferred Program

Boise - In celebration of its 10th anniversary, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's Idaho Preferred® program will host Dinner in the Orchard to promote the quality, diversity and availability of Idaho food and agricultural products. Dinner in the Orchard is scheduled for Saturday, July 13, at Symms Fruit Ranch in Sunnyslope.

Dinner in the Orchard will feature a six-course meal created from the best of Idaho's agricultural bounty. The menu will include local pork, beef, trout, potatoes, legumes, vegetables and of course juicy ripe cherries – all sourced from southern Idaho growers. In addition, local wines will be paired with each course for those who wish to sample the great Idaho wines grown in the region. This memorable meal will be prepared by Chef Dean Fuller, executive chef of the Castle Ranch Steakhouse in Boise. Chef Dean is known for his commitment to using local products in his onsite and catering menus and has built a broad following through charity and fundraising events across the Treasure Valley.

In addition to outstanding Idaho foods, Dinner in the Orchard will include a tour of the Symms Fruit Ranch orchards. Symms Fruit Ranch will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2014 and is still owned and operated by the fourth generation of the Symms family. The Ranch encompasses over 5,000 acres of trees where, in addition to cherries, they grow peaches, nectarines, apricots, plums, pears, apples and wine grapes. Symms fruit is tree-ripened and handpicked before it is shipped to local grocery stores as well as to markets throughout the US and worldwide.

"This event is a great way for consumers to learn about the vast Idaho agriculture industry," said Leah Clark, who manages the ISDA's Idaho Preferred program. "The table will be set beneath rows of cherry trees, ripe with fruit, and allow guests to see firsthand how orchards are managed and fruit is harvested. Dinner in the Orchard will be highlighted by exceptional local foods, excellent wines poured by three local vintners, and an outstanding view of the Snake River Valley."

Dinner in the Orchard will take place at Symms Fruit Ranch at 14068 SunnySlope Rd. beginning at 5:30 p.m. Advance tickets are required and can be purchased at www.idahopreferred.com. Tickets are \$60 for one, or \$50 each for two or more. Transportation will be available from Boise for those who reserve a seat in advance. For more information and event details email info@idahopreferred.com or call 208-332-8542 or 208-332-8500.

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