



# STATE OF IDAHO



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## Idaho Farmers Markets Kick Off 2015 Season

Farmers markets are popular across Idaho with 44 markets operating in all corners of the state. Idaho farmers markets have experienced significant growth over the past few years. The number of markets in Idaho increased from 20 in 2002 to 44 markets today.

Farmers markets are an excellent source of quality local products and truly showcase the bounty of Idaho agriculture. To help consumers find information on farmers markets in each area of the state, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture releases the yearly *Guide to Idaho Farmers Market*. The 2015 Idaho Farmers Market guide has been distributed to Idaho visitor centers, local chambers of commerce, and all Idaho farmers markets. It also can be found online at [www.idahopREFERRED.com](http://www.idahopREFERRED.com).

Farmers markets provide a central link between citizens and farmers by providing communities with access to fresh, nutritional food.

"When you are shopping at the farmers markets you are not only buying local, you are getting some of the freshest products available as well as supporting your local farmers and the local economy," said Skylar Jett, Trade Specialist with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture. "People are interested in knowing where their food comes from and farmers markets provide a connection between the producers and the consumers."

In recognition of the importance of farmers markets to the state, Idaho Farmers Market Week will be celebrated August 2-8, 2015. For details on events, please visit the events calendar at <http://idahopREFERRED.com/events/>. Farmers markets also will host a variety of events throughout the season, from recipe contests to giveaways.

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