**Referendum Ballot**

**for Establishment of an Assessment on Commercial Peach Orchards**

**due Friday, April 11, 2014 to**

**NCDA&CS Agricultural Statistics Division**

**P.O. Box 27767**

**Raleigh, NC 27611**

**Attn. Dee Webb, State Statistician**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Orchard/Farm:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For the implementation of an assessment on NC commercial peach orchards.

The annual assessment would be based on the grower’s number of trees:

**Tier 1: 100 - 500 trees: $100**

**Tier 2: 501 - 2,500 trees: $250**

**Tier 3: more than 2,500 trees: $350**

**YES, I support an assessment: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**NO, I DO NOT support an assessment: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Ballots will remain anonymous; they are being held and counted by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.**

**Instructions for Upcoming Peach Referendum**

**What:** North Carolina Peach Growers are being asked to vote for the implementation of a **new assessment** on commercial growers to provide funds to support critical work for the improvement of the peach industry in North Carolina. These funds will be managed by the NC Peach Growers’ Society. The annual assessment would be based on the grower’s number of trees: **Tier 1- growers with between 100 and 500 trees, $100. Tier 2- 501 to 2,500 trees, $250. Tier 3- more than 2,500 trees, to be assessed at $350.**

**When:** The referendum will be held April 1, 2014, through a mail in referendum supported by NCDA&CS. Growers should return the ballot by April 11, 2014 to: NCDA&CS Agricultural Statistics Division, P.O. Box 27767 Raleigh, NC 27611. A return self addressed stamped envelope will be included with the ballot.

**How:** 2/3 majority of votes in favor will pass the referendum.

**Who:** One vote per orchard – one assessment would be levied per each orchard, and therefore one vote. **Who may vote as a representative of the orchard**: the owner or designated family member or orchard manager may vote. Must be at least 18 years of age at the time of the referendum.