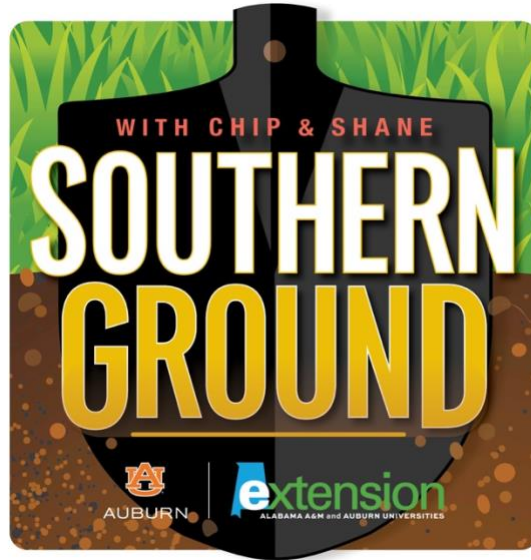




Season 1 Episode 15—It's Peach Season, Y'all

July 10, 2026

Announcer

Welcome to the *Southern Ground* podcast provided by Alabama Extension through Auburn University. Extension educators Shane Harris and Dr. Chip East discuss seasonal lawn and garden topics, address common questions, and provide the practical solutions you want to know. Let's dig in to our southern ground.

Shane Harris

Hello everyone, and welcome to another episode of *Southern Ground*. I'm Shane Harris and joining me today is Chip East. He's back with me again for another episode here today as we talk about peaches.

Chip East

I'm all excited today, Shane, because we've got my good friend David Lawrence with us.

Shane Harris

The David Lawrence that you've been highly touting for several weeks now. You said he is the peach guy. He is going to come talk about this, the basket of peaches that we love so much this summer.

Chip East

David is an Extension agent with us here at the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. He's been working with us a long time, and he was raised in Chilton County, Shane. And if anyone knows anything about peaches in Alabama, they know that Chilton County is associated with raising some tasty peaches. So welcome, David.

David Lawrence

Good morning, Chip. Morning, Shane. Thank y'all for having me today.

Shane Harris

You didn't bring us any peaches, though I'm highly upset.

David Lawrence

I did not. I got here, and I realized I left them, and we'll just have to make another trip back home and get us some.

Shane Harris

The original plan was we were going to Clanton. That's what Chip had scheduled, and then we said we're suddenly going to Auburn. And I'm missing my basket of peaches this morning.

Chip East

Well, we can work that out. Peaches are still there.

David Lawrence

Yeah, they're still there. We got another month or so, so we'll make it happen.

Shane Harris

Well, that's the reason for this podcast. Today we are going to talk about those beautiful basket of peaches that everybody looks forward to in the middle of the summer. And here we're recording this for July podcast. And that's peak peach season where you can go and get lots of baskets of peaches, bushels of peaches. And I love those fresh eating peaches this time of year, you know, nice and fresh and those large peaches, you can just peel and eat them. But when it comes to summertime treats, peaches are definitely my favorite. And I love the peach milkshakes. I love the peach pies. I love the peach cobblers. I like, you know, anything peach related. Peach ice cream. You gotta have it all. So, I love those peaches. I'm very tempted when I go to Clanton, and other places to buy peaches. I always buy too many because I think I can eat a dozen or more.

Chip East

You can eat that many on the way home. I'll say peach cobbler is my favorite. And then I guess ice cream's in there somewhere. But I've never spit any out. I mean, I can eat, I love them too.

David Lawrence

Yeah, peach ice cream is probably my favorite. You go to any of the big markets there on the interstate, and they're all competing for the best ice cream. Got peach praline, peach pecan, and they take pride in who has the best ice cream. But they're all good.

Chip East

Now. That's what we need to do. We don't need to take anybody's word for it. Who's got the best ice cream? We need to determine that for ourself.

Shane Harris

You're talking about a tour?

Chip East

Yeah.

Shane Harris

Yeah, I know y'all judged peaches over the years with peach contests and all that. So we just need to have a peach ice cream tasting contest or peach pies, peach cobblers. See guys, when's lunch. I'm already getting hungry because we're talking about all these nice summertime treats.

David Lawrence

You talked me into it. I'm ready. I'll be a judge.

Shane Harris

David, why are peaches so popular from your opinion? Growing up there in Chilton County and being a commercial agent, dealing with it, why is this time of year, why is everyone so excited about peaches as a summertime treat?

David Lawrence

Well, not everybody can grow a peach. And so, a lot of people are, you know, counting on those growers to have those peaches ready for them this time of year. You go to any farmer's market any roadside stand this time of year and peaches kind of are the spotlight.

Shane Harris

I always want to know which one is the king during the summer: tomatoes or peaches?

David Lawrence

Oh, well, people like their tomatoes. Maybe I'm biased, but I'm going to say peaches for me.

Shane Harris

For me, I can't grow the peaches. And as you heard before, I really can't grow the tomatoes anymore either for all the stinkbugs. But peaches are hard to grow. Tomatoes are hard to grow. But I could probably grow a few tomatoes, but I can't really grow the peaches like I want to.

Chip East

David, we don't want to talk anybody out of growing peaches, and I don't want somebody to grow a lot that doesn't know how to tend to them. Just give us a brief overview or what are some issues associated with raising peaches that we need to be on the lookout or think about before we go plant a big field or even a dozen plants at the house?

David Lawrence

Sure. So, the biggest thing with peaches is battling these environmental conditions that we have, you know, selecting the right varieties that have the right amount of chill hours. You can get peaches that chill hours from 300 up to 1000, and you've got to find whatever part of the state you're in that's going to fit that. Central Alabama, we're typically 800, 900, sometimes we'll get 1000 chill hours. And so we want to stay kind of in that window. If you're in South Alabama, you're going to want something much lower. If you're north Alabama, you can get away with some of those higher chill varieties. So that's the first thing is selecting the right variety. Once you get past that, you still got to get through those spring events, those frost events. And then, you know, everything loves a peach, every insect, every disease. And so, it can be a battle, but we have good spray programs, good IPM guidelines that we follow. If I was going to recommend somebody to plant a peach tree, I would select one that's going to be early season. So, peaches they vary also by when they come in during the season. Peaches will come in mid-May all the way through mid-August and anywhere in between. And so, the earlier that tree comes into harvest, the shorter amount of time you have to take care of it. Those late season peaches, they can be hard to get a good crop that far into the season. So, if I was going to pick a tree, it'd be you know, one of those that comes in early season.

Chip East

I was down in Florida years ago at a peach farm, and it was February and they were picking peaches. Now they didn't have the size ours have. They didn't do a lot of thinning and all, but they were highly desirable. They had a market for those peaches in mid-February when we were there, and it was amazing having fresh peaches at that time of year.

Shane Harris

Did you get some ice cream in Florida too?

Chip East

I didn't, we didn't have ice cream. We didn't have peach ice cream on that trip.

Shane Harris

So why is the farmer so successful while the homeowner has their challenges? Why are the farmers so successful?

David Lawrence

So, it's really a numbers game. You know it's hard to go out there and justify tending 2 or 3 trees just to get that amount of crop off of there. But, you know, when you've got 4 or 5, ten, 20 acres, you know, much more than that in some cases planted, you really just come down to a numbers game. You can you can get away with some of these spring frost events and still have a crop. In a backyard you're really limited to how many varieties you can plant. In a commercial orchard there may be 30 or 40 different varieties out there. And yeah, you might have a frost get 5 or 6 of them, but you still got 20 or 25 that are going to make a crop. And so that's one way to get around that. Also, just much more, the equipment able to spray when you need to, you know, that's a big deal when you're managing peaches.

Chip East

I think about if you was having beef, you might not want just one. It's a lot of trouble. But if you had two, that that puts the trouble in half. If you had three, if you had four, if you had five, the more you have, it's not as much trouble to tend to them as it is just having one. And a lot of people don't have one cow that they make, you know, harvest a year, you know, one steer, one heifer.

Shane Harris

What would you do with ten peach trees in the backyard? That's if you're successful. That's a lot of peaches. That's more than I can eat, you know, unless you're freezing or selling them. That's a lot of pies, Chip. That's a lot of ice cream.

Chip East

I think about a lot of trouble, just to have one. But our farmers, David, do a phenomenal job of managing those trees.

David Lawrence

They do. And, you know, we work with them real close. They come to a lot of our meetings. We talk on phone calls, text all the time about different issues going on. And I mean, that's their livelihood. They study up on it. And so that's how they make a living. So they take it very, very seriously.

Chip East

And I'll tell you my opinion. What's the biggest challenge? And I think about the cold temperatures early in the year. Like we know we're going to get brown rot, or we know we're going to get certain insects and diseases, and we may or may not have the cold weather at the wrong times. But that frost event is what would scare me more than anything else if I was the peach farmer.

David Lawrence

That's it, and this year there's proof of that. We had a pretty significant cold event on March 17th, and we were in full bloom. So, a lot of the trees had small fruit on them, and that's the most vulnerable stage they can be in. So, like you said, getting that amount of chill hours is number one. Once we get past that, got to get through mid-March, through bloom, without having any cold events, frost or freezes. We can spray for diseases, or we can spray for insects. We can fertilize, we can do all this other stuff, but when it gets that cold, there's only so much you can do. Now, we do have wind machines. Some growers on small scale build fires. And whatever they can do, run their sprayers. But that only helps minimally, you know, it'll help a few degrees. And I mean, that could be the difference between a crop and no crop. But, this year, it didn't make a huge difference no matter what we did. And so that's the number one thing is getting past those spring frost events.

Chip East

And it's out of our hands. And just not a lot a farmer can do about it. And it is a gamble. But I'm so proud they take that gamble, David, because it's a good crop. I will go back to one thing you said about the chill hours. So, if we have a friend in Mobile and they come to Chilton County and eat some of your peaches, they don't need to take that pit and go back to Mobile and plant that same tree. Or I mean, it wouldn't come up the same variety wouldn't come up from that. But even if I bought a tree, what was this peach? Oh, I really like that one. I'm going to go back to somewhere else that has a different chill hour and plant it. What's the issues associated with that? If I have either a low chilling that I bring up north or a high chilling that I bring down south?

David Lawrence

Yeah. So, the high chill that you take down south, it's not going to get the amount of chill hours it needs. And so, a chill hour is temperatures below 45 degrees that they accumulate during the dormant season. And each variety has a specific dormancy that they need to achieve before they break dormancy at a certain amount of chill hours. So, if they don't get that amount of chill, they will struggle to put leaves on, set buds, set fruit. We had a situation, it's been nearly a decade ago, around 16, 17, that had really low chill hours here and the entire part of the state. But the central part of the state, we only had about 500 hours. And there were trees in April and May that hadn't put leaves on yet. Growers at the beginning of the season were worried that they were not going to have a crop. But a month later they worried about, oh, we might lose all of our trees because they hadn't put leaves on, but they eventually did. But that's the situation you run into with a high chill and a low chill area. Now you get a low chill tree in a high chill area. Those hours are going to be satisfied, say Christmas time, you know, December, and then you know how it is. It might be 80 degrees on Christmas Day. And as soon as those chill hours are satisfied and you get a few growing degree days, those are going to set, they're going to bloom out and then they're going to get obviously bit by a frost or freeze, within the next two months. And then you're not going to have any fruit that point either. So, you just got a little window there where you got to hit it just right. And we do have a chill hour map. You can find it on our website. And it's got the average chill accumulation for the last decade or so. That's how all of our growers make decisions on what trees to plant.

Shane Harris

Those trees are pretty in February, or January and February when they bloom out in the yard. Oh hey, spring's coming, but that tree's not going to produce peaches later on because of the cold.

David Lawrence

No, we don't like to see them blooming that early. We want them to bloom as late as we can. And there are certain products that we can spray to kind of delay bloom by a few days. Some growers will choose to do that, some just to let it ride and see what happens. But, you know, it's not like setting a tomato crop out and hoping to get those first tomatoes. We'd much rather wait a couple of weeks and have a for sure a crop than an early crop because early peaches, they're good. Some people turn their nose up at that early peach. They're smaller and cling stone. And, I like 'em and enjoy 'em and, you know, it's been eight months since you ate a peach, so you ready to eat one. So, I enjoy early peaches, but some people, you know, that's not really where they make the bulk of their money anyway. Most of the volume is going to be later season, so...

Shane Harris

Well, that leads us to our next topic. As you're talking about cultivars and varieties of peaches out there, a lot of people, do like the early peaches just because, hey, there's something to eat. But a lot of people like those freestone ones that we do have mid-summer. So, explain to the audience listening what's the difference between clingstone and freestone peaches.

David Lawrence

Yeah. So clingstone. That's where the flesh is going to bind to the seed in the middle. So, you cut it open and the seed doesn't separate from the flesh. Freestone is going to be where that flesh does pull away from the pit. And you can have a good, pretty, half of the peach. A lot of people like those for canning and, you know, making pretty dishes and all. Those are typically going to be a good bit bigger. And it's really based on the date and time of the season. Those first 3 or 4 weeks of the season till about mid-June, those are going to be mostly clingstone. Once we get into what we call harvester season, Harvester variety, that's one of the first freestones that come in. From that point on, pretty much everything is going to be freestone. So right now, we're right in the middle of the freestone.

Shane Harris

Yeah. Ready to get those peaches that tend to like that season. I prefer the freestone ones because fresh eating, they're messy and all that. Now, you mentioned a couple variety names, and Chip did too. Growing up and still even today, you'll say it's got to be a Elberta peach. And if it's not Elberta, it's not a good one. Chip and David talk about varieties and cultivars out there. I know when I go to a farmer in these curb markets and farmer's markets, I always love seeing all the different cultivar names out there, especially based on season when they come in. And typically Elberta is not even listed anymore. So, explain to the folks listening that there's hundreds and hundreds of peach varieties out there now.

David Lawrence

Oh yeah, there's a lot. And, like you said, Elberta, you'll see it every now and then. There's a red Elberta, a few others, from that lineage, but there's not a whole lot of Elberta's left out there. That was one of the first varieties that was planted around here. And so, when you look at a pamphlet from a nursery or something about it, every variety is based off of Elberta as far as the ripening date goes. So, it'll be, you know, 20 days before

Alberta or 40 days before Alberta. Because if I planted Julyprince in Clanton and then I planted one up in Blount County, well, those aren't going to be ripe on the same date because of the geographical difference there. And so, we just kind of use Elberta as a reference point as far as ripening date goes. But there's a lot of different varieties. For homeowners, there's a lot of crops that you do have to have cross pollination. Peaches aren't that way. And so, you can plant just one variety, and you can set fruit as long as the climate is right, temperature is right. But most commercial producers, they'll grow, like I said, 20, 30, sometimes 40 different varieties. And that's just where they can have peaches all season long because we're only going to pick peaches off of one variety for maybe a week. You get about three pickings off that tree, and that tree's done for the year until that time next year. And so as one variety is tapering off, the next one is coming in. That way you can have a continual supply all year long.

Chip East

We'll divide them up David, into the early, mid, and late season peaches. How many different early? How many different mid? How many different late? How many different varieties or cultivars would you see in a typical peach orchard?

David Lawrence

So, 30 to 40 in a typical orchard are mid-season. That's where most growers probably have the biggest volume. About right now, right prior to 4th of July, is a lot of people going to the markets, they're going to the lake, they want to get peaches. And so right now is when we want to have a big supply of peaches available. Early season there's several varieties available, but not quite as many. And then kind of on that same line of thinking, late season, once school starts back about 1st of August, farmer's markets slow down. People aren't traveling as much, and so not quite as many late season peaches as are mid-season. But that mid-June to mid-July is the biggest volume of peaches that we have coming in.

Chip East

Going back to Elberta, is it hard to get people to try new things? Not the farmer. The farmer is planting new varieties. What I learned, it seems like with ornamentals compared to fruit or vegetables or something, if it's an ornamental, they want the new impatiens, the new poinsettia, the new whatever that's blooming. But they want the old vegetables and the old fruit, and we can improve on that. For a new variety to be released, it's got to be something better than what we have, and we might have something better. We don't drive the same cars we drove. I mean, some people do, but I mean, we got air conditioning in our cars now. Do you want to go back to the old way? If we can improve on something, and a lot of these have been improved on for whatever reason, whether it be sweetness or size or production or disease resistance, I don't know, but there's something better about it. So there's nothing wrong with going to a new one.

David Lawrence

There's a lot of breeding programs around the country. That's where plant breeders will select for new varieties. And then we get those and try them out. There are some that do really good, and there's still some old varieties

that just outperform the new ones. And so when you go to an orchard you'll see a mix of old varieties, new varieties.

Shane Harris

What are some good varieties out there? If you had a top ten, you and Chip. I mean a lot of them that end in Haven I've always heard are always good, especially from a homeowner. You got the Cresthaven and the Redhaven and Julyprince and Harvester and Majestic, I think. I've heard all these over the years. Which one would you say is the top one? The top, best ones for a homeowner or farmer? Especially if you had to only plant 1 or 2 in your yard.

David Lawrence

If I had to pick one peach tree to plant, and I could bank on it having peaches every year, it would probably be Julyprince. And I'm not going to say it's going to have peaches every year, I can't. No, I can't say that. But, on years when other trees struggle, it seems to be able to set a crop. And so, and it's a good tasting peach. It's a good peach. We had our peach auction a couple days ago with the Chilton County Peach Festival. And I would say out of the 20 baskets that were there, probably 15 of them were Julyprince peaches. Because it happens to be that time of year, but also because it makes a pretty peach.

Shane Harris

Part of that, I think, from a homeowner standpoint, Chip, is availability of the trees. Is education knowing that that variety I want, say Julyprince, where can I get one? Where do I buy one if I want to set one in my yard? You said you only needed one. So where can I get that? Do I have to rely on a seed catalog? Do I have to go to a local nursery? Sometimes, I just don't know anything about it, can't find it.

David Lawrence

And I would go to a reputable nursery, somebody you can trust, that's going to have that tree labeled for what variety it actually is. I think some situations, you can find trees that are labeled not correctly. And so, you just want to go to a reputable nursery where when they say it's this variety, you can guarantee that it's that variety. Most of our commercial growers purchase bare root trees. Most of the nurseries are up in Tennessee. They're ordering thousands at a time so they come bare root in the mail and plant those. You can go that route. Or there's potted plants. You go to local nursery. They may have plants that are already potted and leafed out.

Chip East

They'll put an order in, buy these trees from some nursery in Tennessee. They'll pot them out and sell them to homeowners. And if you call your local extension office, whoever's there, they'll find the right person for you to talk to. But they'll tell you where these nurseries are.

Shane Harris

And the time frame. If you plant that bare root tree out in the wintertime, what about within three, 4 or 5 years, you should start having peaches?

David Lawrence

So, we can typically get a crop off of them that third year. Even the second year, they'll bloom out. I don't recommend trying to crop on that second year. I'd rather those resources go to producing a good, healthy tree. You try to put peaches on a two-year-old tree, you're going to get limb breakage and drooping down and really hurt the structure of that tree. So, we try to not crop on that second year, but that third year, they're strong enough to have some crop. Fourth year, more like a normal mature crop. And that fifth year, is really when you get probably the highest. Year five, year six, you get that highest yield.

Chip East

How long David, do farmers crop a tree before they say I probably need to replace this?

David Lawrence

I mean it's a long investment. It's not like planting a tomato plant, or you can make a mistake, or change your mind and start over the next year. It's a long investment. Starting that third year, you can get a crop. And usually, it varies, but 15 years, it depends on what ground you're on. If you're on old peach ground, what we call old peach ground where peach trees have been in the past, you're going to deal with things like armillaria, some of those root rot diseases. And you may be lucky to get ten years out of them. If you're on good ground. I've seen trees that are 30 years old.

Chip East

We were at one of our friend's peach farm in north Alabama, and he had a row of peaches, and they were around 30 years old. I believe they were a little more than 30. And he said, you know, I've been threatening to replace these for a while, but he's still getting peaches off of those trees. Now he's planted others since then and all, but he really liked those and still producing. But yeah, we want to replace that with another tree.

Shane Harris

How many peaches can we get off a tree, say from a homeowner or a farmer? A basket of peaches, bushels of peaches? What would be a good average of a peach crop that you would get?

David Lawrence

So, it's going to go back to how much you thin them. Peaches on a good year can set way more fruit than they can handle. And so, we got to get those taken off. If not, they're just going to be all golf ball size and hard as a rock and not going to be good. So, we want to thin those out. You know typically 6 to 8 inches apart, just rule of thumb. It's going to vary on the size of the limb, the location on the tree and all that. But as far as a good yield for a tree, 5 to 6 to 7 boxes on a tree, on a good mature tree is a good number to shoot for. I'm saying box is like a 25-pound bushel box, a half bushel box.

Shane Harris

That's a lot of peaches, Chip. That's a lot of pies. Lots of ice cream. That's a lot of eating.

Chip East

So go back to thinning peaches, David. 6 to 8 inches is if I had early peaches or late peaches? How does thinning change? And I hate to say we're pulling a peach off and throwing it on the ground, but that's what thinning is. It just can't support that many fruit, or they're not going to size up, as you said.

David Lawrence

They just don't have enough reserves. And so early season peaches, all of their reserves are what they built up the fall before. They don't have enough carbohydrates stored up to produce that crop that early season. And so getting those early season peaches thinned as early as possible is crucial for getting those peaches to be able to size up. So when we say thinning, we're talking about physically removing peaches from the tree, throwing them on the ground as soon as that threat of spring frost is over. We don't want to go thin and then have a frost hit and then wipe out what we had left. At that point, it's a numbers game. When the threat of cold weather is over, go in thin those early season ones first and then that'll give those time to build up. But you don't want to wait until they get to where they're pit hardening. You still want to thin even the late season ones when they're the size of a pecan, something like that. You want to get those pulled off where they can continue to size up.

Chip East

I got a question about just Alabama peaches. There's people that grow them in north Alabama, central Alabama, south Alabama. What makes an Alabama peach better than a peach grown in another state?

David Lawrence

For people in Alabama, it's just the freshness. If you get peaches from Georgia or South Carolina, they can grow them good. I mean, I'm not going to knock them, but if you buy a peach from out of state, it spent some time in a cooler or just traveling. When you get a peach from Alabama, it most likely was harvested fresh, and you're getting it the shortest amount of time from harvest to consumption as you can. So that's where they stand out.

Chip East

It would be like buying a local grown tomato or anything else. It's freshness.

Shane Harris

It's hard to beat that freshness.

Chip East

Freshness usually wins out. When I ask people, why do you want to grow something? Freshness is the answer. Because it's not to save money. Freshness is usually number one.

Shane Harris

And that's why they're stopping at these curb markets and farmer's markets and buying directly from the farmer. Because they know it's fresh, they know it's locally grown, and it's ready to eat.

David Lawrence

That's right.

Chip East

So, when did peaches first become an important crop in Alabama?

David Lawrence

About the start of the 1900s, we started having some commercial orchards in the state and really saw production start to build up. Of course, we had the Great Depression and all, but about 1950s, 1960s is when we saw the peak here in Alabama. I think we had about 10,000 acres in production in the 1960s. And then I guess the market really got flooded at that point, and you saw a dip in production. We're nowhere near that now, that was the peak of it. As far as acreage and the number of producers, I think we had somewhere around 800 producers in the state. Those are all small family farms. And that's still how we produce today. Everything we have is family farms. For the most part, we're a retail state. Everything we grow goes to retail market. There are a few growers that will wholesale some, but all those peaches still end up at a retail market somewhere. We don't produce anything for canning or storing or anything. It's a big part of the state as far as the ag economy goes everywhere. Like we said at the beginning, everywhere you go, every farmer's market, you go to, you'll see peaches on display. And that's kind of one of the highlights of the market is the peaches.

Shane Harris

In your opinion, do y'all say the peach industry growing? Do you see the opportunities for people to get into growing peaches?

David Lawrence

The opportunity is there. I will admit it's hard to get into it if you weren't born into it. It's just a big learning curve, and you got to have land. You got to have the equipment, and you got to have that, kind of born into you, got to have that want to. I'm not saying if you weren't born with it, you can't get it. It's just a little bit more of an obstacle. As far as industry goes, it's been pretty stagnant. Not a lot of growth, not a lot of decline in recent years. But the potential's there. For Alabama fresh market production, the potential is there.

Chip East

I was going to ask, and you kind of hit on it, how it's changed in the last 50 years, 75 years, 100 years or whatever? We have less acres, but are the farms that are there, are they the same size, or they larger than they were, say, in the 50s?

David Lawrence

Just looking at the numbers, I would say they're larger. We do have some that are like five, six acres, a tree range, and that's really just going to support their market. We do have growers that have 100 or more acres, and that's going to support their markets plus some wholesale distribution. I would say on average probably larger

because looking at the amount of acreage we have in the state versus the amount of growers I know we have, we have pretty good-sized farms for a family market.

Shane Harris

So that leads me into some sort of final thoughts. If we buy a box of peaches, a basket of peaches, what are we going to do with them? I guess I'll start with you guys. How do you select a peach?

David Lawrence

So peaches don't last a long time. They're short, short shelf life. And so, you got to have something in mind with them to do when you buy them. We have certain crops that we can store. We sell apples on the shelf for a while, and it'll still be good. Or we stick it in refrigerator, and it'll be good for a while. But peaches, they're not that way. So have something in mind to do with them. They freeze well. They can well. So that's things you can do with them. We may have to get our food safety people in here to talk about how to take care of them after you purchase them.

Chip East

But you need to have the end in mind, what you're going to do. You can certainly share with a lot of people when you go and buy a truckload of peaches, but something needs to be done.

Shane Harris

Well, David, we appreciate you being here on *Southern Ground* and gotten deep and talking about the peach crop in the state of Alabama, as well as it's a summertime treat. Chip, this talk about peaches, I'm hungry now. It's getting time for lunch, but I'm ready for some fresh peaches. I'm ready to go back to Clanton or wherever the peaches are grown and get some of that ice cream and peach cobbler and peach pie.

Chip East

It sure does. Can't wait to get some. And we will go to Chilton County and get some pretty soon.

David Lawrence

Follow me home, y'all. Make a detour.

Chip East

David, thank you so much for joining us today on *Southern Ground*. And as always, if anyone has any questions about peaches or anything else, just give us a call at your local extension office. We can be found at Alabama Cooperative Extension System at aces.edu. Thank you all for listening.

Announcer

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