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Acting Governor Kim Guadagno Continues Agribusiness Tour at Griggstown Quail Farm and Market

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Poultry Farm Sells Products to Competitive Retail Outlets Across Tri-State Area

Trenton, NJ – Showcasing the diversity of the state's agribusiness sector, Acting Governor Kim Guadagno visited Griggstown Quail Farm and Market in Franklin Township for the third stop in her month-long tour of New Jersey's agricultural businesses. The farm features all-natural, free-range chickens and houses a USDA processing plant that processes poultry two to three days a week to serve restaurants in the tri-state area. Griggstown's products are also sold at over 30 different retail outlets in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania as well as 12 neighboring seasonal farmers markets.

"Griggstown Quail Farm and Market is an agribusiness success story," said Acting Governor Guadagno. "What started as a small farm in the early 70's is now a thriving business that has expanded to serve the competitive food service industry across the tri-state area. Their commitment to expand and grow in New Jersey complements the Christie Administration's commitment to continue helping businesses succeed and grow in the Garden State."

In 1973, Farmer George Rude began raising a handful of quail on two acres of a farm located in the small village of Griggstown in Franklin Township. By 1992, the Griggstown Quail Farm had grown to over 75 acres of land with 35,000 pheasants, 70,000 quail, and 150,000 chickens. The Rudes opened the Griggstown Farm Market in 2002 to make their natural farm poultry available to local customers and added a USDA kitchen in 2004.

In 2009, the farm started a community supported agricultural program. For a small fee, program participants enjoy a weekly supply of freshly-harvested vegetables, herbs, and cut flowers when in season. Recently they have introduced 'pick-your-own' plots featuring a small variety of vegetables and flowers available for picking right off the plant.

New Jersey produces more than 100 kinds of fruits and vegetables and ranks among the nation's largest producers of blueberries, cranberries, peaches, tomatoes, bell peppers, cucumbers, snap beans, spinach, and squash. The state's 10,300 farms generated sales of about \$1.1 billion in 2011. This includes nursery and greenhouse plants, sod, fruits and vegetables, field crops, equine, poultry and eggs, and dairy.

Led by Lt. Governor Guadagno, the New Jersey Partnership for Action (PFA) supports the vital role business plays in advancing the state's economy and creating jobs. The PFA is a three-pronged public-private approach to economic development and the starting point for all initiatives, policies, and efforts to grow New Jersey's economy and create quality, sustainable jobs in our communities. The three elements of the PFA include the Business Action Center, reporting directly to the Lt. Governor and providing the business community with a single point of contact, applying a proactive, customer-service approach to businesses' interactions with State government; the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, serving as the state's "bank for business"; and Choose New Jersey, an independently funded and operated 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation created to encourage and nurture economic growth throughout New Jersey.

Businesses considering a move or in need of assistance are encouraged to call New Jersey's Business Action Center at (866) 534-7789 or visit the State's Business Portal at www.newjerseybusiness.gov.

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