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### **Farm Fun Heats Up in Spring**

Last fall thousands of people visited Tennessee's farms to ride a wagon, walk through a corn maze, pick their own pumpkin and buy farm products such as mums, hay bales or cornstalks. Thousands more are expected this spring and summer.

"Many opportunities exist for people to visit and experience Tennessee farms and agricultural enterprises in the spring and summer," said Megan Bruch, University of Tennessee Extension marketing specialist with the UT Center for Profitable Agriculture. "More and more farmers and agri-entrepreneurs are adding value to their farm resources by inviting the public to their operations for entertainment, educational activities or to purchase Tennessee products."

Opportunities for farm adventures span the gamut of experiences from picking your own strawberries or blueberries to spending a weekend at an on-farm bed and breakfast. Bruch says other popular attractions include equestrian activities; visiting on-farm retail markets for fresh meats, produce and baked goods; and sampling the newest wines at any of several Tennessee wineries.

Bruch reminds consumers planning to improve their landscapes or preparing to plant a vegetable garden to stop by an on-farm greenhouse to pick up spring plants.

To find a listing of agritourism enterprises in the state, visit the Pick Tennessee Product's Web site developed by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at [www.picktnproducts.org](http://www.picktnproducts.org).

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