Expected shortfalls in qualified professionals in agriculture (e.g., plant breeding and food safety) are expected in the next five years. This is largely due to an aging population of farmers since half of American farmers are 55 and over. It is vital to the future of the agriculture that the industry attract a younger generation. Providing hands-on learning programs such as the peach tree project can help introduce youth to agriculture while educating them on a specific agricultural industry. Research has indicated that, when youth are introduced to concepts of horticulture, they are more likely to consider horticulture as a career choice. Over the past two years the program has educated and introduced a total of 22 youth to basic plant science, horticultural skills, and agriculture. Starting in 2014, the peach tree project was offered to 4-H and FFA youth in Sumter County as a chance for members to learn how to grow a food crop. This project was first developed by the Osceola County Fair Association as an alternative to the citrus tree project. The 4-H youth development and commercial horticulture agents collaborated to adjust the project to fit into the Family Living Exhibit at the Sumter County Fair. The objective of this educational program was to educate youth on the basic plant science knowledge and horticultural skills needed to produce a tree fruit crop. The peach tree project consists of two educational workshops (distribution and winter preparation), a field trip to a local peach tree orchard, a record book with two (out of 7) educational activities to be completed. An instructional PowerPoint on winter pruning techniques and tree transportation was used to help youth with the final steps for preparing their tree for the fair. Trees were purchased from the Sumter County Peach Tree Project Committee. A maximum of two peach trees were allotted to each youth participant (Fig. 1). The varieties were ‘UFGlo’ in 2014 and ‘TropicBeauty’ in 2015. Youth cared for trees for 11 months. Each participant had to provide basic care for their tree(s) by: monitoring the weather on a daily basis for storms and freezes; decisions on irrigation; fertilization and pest management; taking measurements of the tree(s), and evaluating the growth and health of the tree. A total of 22 youth have enrolled in the project over the two years it has been offered to date. Twenty-seven percent completed the project and exhibited their tree at the Sumter County Family Living Exhibit. All youth were able to sell the trees at a silent auction where community members anonymously bid on the trees. Youth received premium monies, which included their silent auction funds at the project conclusion. Since the completion of year two on 11 Mar. 2016, several parents and 4-H leaders continue to request that they be notified of the start of the next project year. Inspiring youth to explore horticulture through extension programming such as plant science projects may encourage more to explore a career in agriculture or horticulture.