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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ODA Accepting Public Comments on Draft Permits to Operate for Six Darke County Farms

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Oct. 21, 2009) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) is accepting comments on draft Permits to Operate (PTO) for six farms in Darke County, including A-1, Cal-Maine Foods, Inc. Rossburg Farm, DeMange Poultry Farm, Livingston Farm, Stillwater Pullet Farm and Weaver Pullet Farm. Each was issued a Review Compliance Certificate (RCC) by the department in 2004 to operate for a period of five years, after which time the facility was required to apply for a Permit to Operate renewal.

Any person may submit written comments on the any of these draft permits and request a written request for a public meeting. Where there is significant public interest, the director will hold a public meeting. Written comments or public meeting requests must be received by the department no later than 5 p.m. on Nov. 20, 2009. Comments or public meeting requests must be hand-delivered or mailed to the ODA Livestock Environmental Permitting Program (LEPP) at 8995 East Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068. Comments received after this date will not be considered by the director before issuing the final permits.

Copies of the draft Permits to Operate for these farms may be reviewed or copies made at the ODA LEPP office. The permits can also be viewed at the Darke Soil and Water Conservation District Office, 1117 South Towne Court, in Greenville. Those interested should call the SWCD office at (937) 548-2410, Ext. 3, and make an appointment. Written comments cannot be submitted to the Darke SWCD office.

Overview of Permit to Operate

A Permit to Operate is drafted to regulate operations with plans for manure management, insect and rodent control, mortality management and emergency response. This permit renewal is also valid for a five-year period, at which time the owner would again be required to renew the operating permit.

A Manure Management Plan is required as part of the PTO to demonstrate effective and responsible use of the nutrients contained in the manure. An Insect and Rodent Control plan is required to minimize the presence and negative effects of insects and rodents. A Mortality Management Plan is required for the disposal of dead livestock. Approved methods for disposal are burying, burning, rendering, or composting. An Emergency Response Plan is required to ensure accidents or emergencies are handled quickly and efficiently to maintain the safety of the environment, wildlife and water supplies.

Finally, an Operating Record is contained in the draft PTO that includes all forms and information that must be maintained by the facility to show compliance with ODA's rules. These records, which will be inspected by the department a minimum of twice annually, include inspection of the manure storage structures, manure characterization, land applications, insect and rodent control, distribution and utilization of manure, and mortality management.



Facility Name	Owner/Operator	Facility Address	Township	Watershed	Livestock	Stocking Capacity
A-1	Weaver Bros., Inc.	10638 St. Rt. 47; Versailles	Wayne	Upper Great Miami	Laying Hens	946,000
Cal-Maine Foods, Inc., Rossburg Farm	Cal-Maine Foods, Inc.	3078 Washington Rd.; Rossburg	Brown	Upper Great Miami	Laying Hens/Pullets	1,226,360
DeMange Poultry Farm	Guy DeMange	13642 Yorkshire-Osgood Rd.; Yorkshire	Patterson	Upper Great Miami	Laying Hens	112,000
Livingston Farm	Dennis Livingston	1789 Rossburg-Lightsville Rd.; New Weston	Mississinewa	Mississinewa	Swine >55 lbs.	3,840
Stillwater Pullet Farm	Weaver Bros., Inc.	9519 Seibt Road; Bradford	Adams	Upper Great Miami	Pullets	614,400
Weaver Pullet Farm	Weaver Bros., Inc.	11341 Cramer Road; Versailles	Wayne	Upper Great Miami	Pullets	456,000

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