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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Join the Ohio Agriculture Department at Their Farmers' Market Exhibit at the State Fair

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Aug. 1, 2008) –Ohio Agriculture Director Robert Boggs invites State Fair visitors to take a walk through a farmers' market and experience what Ohio's farmers have to offer during this year's Ohio State Fair, July 30 - Aug. 10. The farmers' market will operate daily from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) tent, located north of 17th Ave., just inside the Cardinal Gate.

"We're very excited to bring the farmers' market to the fair this year," Boggs said. "Agriculture touches every aspect of our lives, and we want to share our rich Ohio heritage with fair visitors."

A farmers' market is a location where several producers congregate to offer items such as fruits, vegetables, flowers, and plants. Ohio is home to more than 600 farm markets, and 78 of these vendors will be represented at the farmers' market during the fair.

Fairgoers may also sample products from Ohio Proud partners throughout the ODA display. Ohio Proud is the department's signature marketing program that promotes food and agricultural products that are made and grown in Ohio. Originally created in 1993, the program was re-launched in 2008 to meet changing consumer trends. Ohio Proud companies support the state's agricultural economy by employing more than 50,000 Ohioans throughout 73 counties.

In addition to enjoying some fresh produce and treats at the ODA tent, family members of all ages can also participate in learning activities and displays featuring Ohio agriculture.

- 30 -

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