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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **New Fertilizer Regulations for Increased Environmental Protection** ***On-Farm Secondary Containment of Bulk Liquid Fertilizer Required, Farmers Must Comply***

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Aug. 23, 2007) – Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Robert Boggs reminds farmers about a new regulation requiring them to install a secondary containment structure to help contain bulk liquid fertilizer in the event of a spill. This became effective on Jan. 1 and affects those storing more than 5,000 gallons for more than 30 days per year.

The new regulation, adopted in 2001, required immediate compliance on modified or new facilities constructed after Jan. 1, 2002. Facilities constructed prior to 2002 were provided a five-year grace period to meet compliance.

“We will continue to work with farmers throughout the year to bring them in compliance,” said Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Robert Boggs. “But we may have to take steps to enforce the regulation for those who refuse to comply.”

Over 775 farmers have either submitted plans, pending approval, or have already made the required changes. When the regulation was implemented, the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) worked with Ohio State University Extension, fertilizer dealers, and the media to inform farmers of the new regulation.

ODA Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation Section licenses manufacturers, applicators and dealers of fertilizer, lime, and restricted-use pesticide products. Staff members also serve as the registrar for the state for fertilizers, pesticides, and pesticide-containing products for use; enforces state laws and rules; inspects anhydrous ammonia installations; administers the Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Program; and assists the U.S. EPA in enforcing federal rules.

For more information about the rule change, contact the Division of Plant Industry, Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation Section, at 614-728-6987.

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