



Governor Ted Strickland
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ohio Proud to Provide Retail Ready Training to Producers

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (March 2, 2010) – Ohio producers, processors and growers can learn how to sell to retailers, restaurants and institutions by participating in one of the retail ready training sessions offered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Ohio Proud program.

The training sessions will also assist producers, processors and growers in determining the expansion of business, as well as increasing business with existing customers.

Registration forms and the participation fee of \$25 must be submitted one week prior to the date of the event.

Ohio Proud is the department’s signature marketing program with a goal of increasing sales of products that are made in Ohio or grown in Ohio. Ohio companies that grow or make at least 50 percent of their product in Ohio are eligible to join the Ohio Proud program. Currently, the department has 441 Ohio Proud partners located across 77 counties, and that number continues to grow.

Training dates and locations are as follows:

Columbus

March 9, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center
2201 Fred Taylor Dr.
Contact: Lori Panda, 614-466-8798

Peninsula

March 17, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
The Cuyahoga Valley National Park Happy Days Visitors Center
500 W. Streetsboro Rd.
Contact: Christy Eckstein, 614-728-6438 or Amalie Lipstreu, 614-466-6198

Xenia

March 23, 1-4 p.m.
Greene County Fairgrounds
120 Fairground Rd.
Contact: Beth Bridgeman, 937-372-9971 or Brian Raison, 937-440-3945

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Athens

April 5, 1-4 p.m.
ACENET, Food Ventures Center
94 Columbus Rd.
Contact: Leslie Schaller, 740-592-3854

Bowling Green

April 13, 4-7 p.m.
Northwest Ohio Cooperative Kitchen
13737 Middleton Pike
Contact: Paula Ray, 419-823-3099

To request a registration form or to receive more information, contact the Ohio Proud office at 1-800-467-7683 or by e-mail at ohioproud@agri.ohio.gov.

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