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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ohio Department of Agriculture Offers Export Seminar for Ohio Companies  
to Provide Insight on the Canadian Market**

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (May 28, 2010) – Ohio companies can learn more about pursuing or expanding their export sales in the Canadian market at a seminar offered by the Ohio Department of Agriculture and the Food Export Association of the Midwest USA.

“During the past decade, Ohio has been the only state in the nation to consistently increase its number of exports each year,” said Ohio Agriculture Director Robert Boggs. “With Canada being Ohio’s top food export destination, this seminar will help our state’s producers capitalize on the opportunities available in the Canadian market.”

Trade agreements and a high demand for U.S. food products make Canada an opportune market for both experienced and first-time exporters. Ohio’s proximity to Canada also puts the state within 500 miles of more than 60 percent of Canada’s population. Canada imported more than \$700 million of Ohio food products in 2009, making it the top destination for Ohio food exports.

Food Export Association Canadian Market Representative, Kathy Boyce, will familiarize Ohio companies with the market by providing an overview of the economy, export requirements, entry strategies and market opportunities. Food Export and Ohio Department of Agriculture representatives will also speak about exporting resources and programs.

Companies will have the option of attending the seminar in either Toledo or Reynoldsburg. The seminar will take place on June 16 at the Center for Innovative Food Technology, Conference Room, 5555 Airport Hwy, Suite 100, Toledo, and on June 17 at the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Bromfield Administration Building, Auditorium A, 8995 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg. Both sessions will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost to attend is \$30 per company. Those who are interested must RSVP to the Office of International Markets at 614-728-4760 by June 3.

Food Export Association of the Midwest USA is a private, non-profit association of the Midwestern state agricultural promotion agencies that use federal, state and industry resources to promote the export of Midwestern food and agricultural products. For more information on the Food Export Association and their services visit [www.foodexport.org](http://www.foodexport.org).

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