



Governor John R. Kasich  
Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor  
Director James Zehringer

Office of Communication  
8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068  
Phone: 614-752-9817 • Fax: 614-466-7754  
www.agri.ohio.gov • communications@agri.ohio.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JUNE IS OHIO WINE MONTH**

*Ohio's Grape and Wine Industry Produces Quality Product, Adds Millions to Economy*

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (May 31, 2011) – To celebrate Ohio's wines, known as some of the best in the country, and their significant impact on Ohio's economy, Ohio Gov. John R. Kasich declared June "Ohio Wine Month".

Ohio's 148 wineries tend to 1,600 acres of grapes that produce more than 1 million gallons of wine each year. Wineries, located all over the state, offer wine tastings, educational day trips, and tours to educate about the art of wine making and the top quality of Ohio wines.

For a limited time, consumers can also find Ohio wines at their favorite restaurants across the state. Select restaurants in the Cincinnati, Cleveland and Columbus areas will feature Ohio Quality Wines by the glass or bottle from June through August. For more details about these events, or for more information about Ohio's award winning wines, visit [www.tasteohiowines.com](http://www.tasteohiowines.com).

Over the last 10 years, Ohio's wine industry has grown significantly. According to a 2008 Economic Impact report, Ohio's grape and wine industry generates more than \$580 million in economic activity that supports local communities while producing a superior agricultural product. The Ohio grape and wine industry also employs more than 4,000 people, providing a payroll of \$124.2 million.

The Ohio Grape Industries Committee, chaired by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, provides marketing and promotion efforts to generate and expand new markets for grapes and grape products and research to improve the quality of grapes and profitability of grape growing as an agribusiness.

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*Media Contact: Erica Pitchford, Public Information Officer, 614-752-9817*

