



Governor John R. Kasich
Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor
Director David T. Daniels

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

HAY DIRECTORY, DROUGHT RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR OHIO PRODUCERS

Ohio Department of Agriculture offers web-based assistance to help farmers

REYNOLDSBURG, OH (Aug. 16, 2012) – Ohio Department of Agriculture Director David T. Daniels is urging Ohio farmers to take advantage of resources that will help connect farmers who may have grown more hay than they need to farmers who don't have enough to feed their herds.

Ohio's Hay Directory, along with other drought-related information, is now available at:
www.agri.ohio.gov/TopNews/DroughtInformationAndResources/.

The directory is the result of an Executive Order signed by Governor John R. Kasich in July to help farmers through what is being called the worst agricultural drought in 50 years. ODA is also scheduling informational meetings around the state to provide crop and livestock farmers with information on farming in a drought and on accessing available relief resources.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service Ohio Field Office, 53 percent of the state's corn crop and 34 percent of the soybean crop is currently rated in poor or very poor condition. Most of the topsoil in the state has an inadequate amount of moisture to grow crops well.

"Providing food and fiber for a growing population is a daunting task even without taking into account uncontrollable variables, like weather. This is just one part of the governor's Executive Order to help make sure Ohio farmers are not forced to abandon their fields or their herds, so they can afford to farm again next year," said Daniels.

In addition to the necessities it provides everyone every day, Ohio's food and agriculture industry adds more than \$105 billion to the state's economy and employs one in seven people.

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Media Contact: Erica Pitchford, Communications Director, 614-752-9817

