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Department of
Agriculture

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ODA ISSUES STOP SALE ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL OHIO MULCH PRODUCTS

2.0 and 3.0 cubic foot mulch products cannot be offered for sale unless they are re-labeled or re-bagged

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (May 9, 2014) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture today issued a stop-sale order for a number of 2.0 and 3.0 cubic foot bags of mulch produced by Ohio Mulch Supply in Columbus. In order for the affected bags to be offered for sale, all products subject will need to be re-labeled or re-bagged in such a way that the bag accurately indicates the minimum amount of mulch the bag is likely to contain.

The department initially issued a stop-sale order on April 24 for all 1.5 cubic foot bags of mulch produced by Ohio Mulch Supply after testing indicated they failed to contain either the stated amount or an amount within the maximum allowable variance of 5 percent. In the weeks since, the department continued to test the volume of bagged mulch, manufactured by both Ohio Mulch Supply and other manufacturers, at retail outlets.

The additional testing found shortage issues with a number of 2.0 and 3.0 cubic foot bags produced by Ohio Mulch Supply. As a result, the department has issued a stop-sale order prohibiting the sale of the following Ohio Mulch products:

Cypress Elite All Bark Cypress, Golden Trophy Cypress Blend, Golden Trophy Pine Bark Mulch, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Pine Bark Mulch 302, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Cypress Blend 112, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Pine Bark Mini Nuggets, Forest Pine – Pine Bark Rustic Mulch, Cypress Rose Blend, Golden Trophy Pine Bark Mini Nuggets 342, Golden Trophy Absolute Red, Pro Choice Black Accent Hardwood Mulch, Pro Choice Absolute Gold Mulch, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Absolute Gold 1902, Pro Choice Absolute Brown, Pro Choice Absolute Brown 1982, Quad Grind Fines Absolute Black, Pro Choice Absolute Red, Pro Choice Golden Trophy All Bark Cedar, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Premium Cypress Blend, Absolute Black Extra Black Hardwood, Absolute Black Hardwood Fines, Pro Choice Positively Black 1952PB, Extra Black Hardwood, UMS Pro Choice Black Accent Hardwood 412BA, Golden Trophy Premium Cypress Blend, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Premium Cypress Blend 113, Quad Grind Fines #1912, Absolute Black, Absolute Red, Pro Choice Absolute Red #1922, Pro Choice Absolute Red, Pro Choice Golden Trophy #223, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Absolute Gold, Pro Choice Golden Trophy Absolutely Red, All Bark Cedar, Pro Choice Gold Trophy Absolute Black, Pro Choice Premium Cypress.

The company has been given several options on what to do with any remaining product included in the stop-sale order including the permission to donate it to charity. The product can also be removed and replaced with a new and correctly labeled product, or the existing product can be re-labeled for sale. If re-labeled, the labels must properly indicate the amount of mulch contained within.



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ODA's Division of Weights and Measures exists to protect Ohio consumers and to ensure equity and competitiveness in the marketplace. The department will continue to monitor compliance with the stop-sale orders and respond to complaints.

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Editor's Note: A copy of the signed order is attached