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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Offers Animal Disease Traceability Informational Meetings

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (October 25, 2013) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will host a series of meetings throughout the state in October and November regarding the new Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) rule and how it relates to moving animals from 1 state to another.

The purpose of the Animal Disease Traceability rule is to protect American animal agriculture by providing producers and animal health officials with the infrastructure to improve efforts in current or emerging disease eradication and control; by providing proper traceback and traceforward capabilities for a timely response; and by addressing threats from deliberate disease introduction.

Those who transport livestock across state lines are strongly encouraged to attend. Veterinarians and their staff, OSU extension personnel, licensed livestock dealers, haulers or others interested in learning about the new Animal Disease Traceability rule are also invited.

The meetings will include officials from ODA and USDA APHIS. The public will have the opportunity to talk with experts and ask questions at the following meetings:

October 29, 2013 6:30p.m., Sugarcreek Livestock Auction, 102 Buckeye St., Sugarcreek, Ohio.

October 30, 2013 6:30p.m., RG Drage Career Center, 2800 Richville Dr., Massillon, Ohio.

November 1, 2013 6:30p.m., UPI Hillsboro, 976 W Main St., Hillsboro Ohio.

November 19, 2013 6:30p.m., Fulton County OSU Extension Office, Robert Fulton Agriculture Center, 8770 State Route 108, Wauseon, Ohio.

November 20, 2013 6:30p.m., UPI Gallipolis, 357 Jackson Pike, Gallipolis, Ohio.

For more information on additional ADT resources, please visit <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/>.

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