



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCES WINNER OF BONNIE PLANTS CABBAGE PROGRAM**

*\$1,000 Scholarship awarded to Riley Suchy of Streetsboro Elementary School*



*Riley Suchy receives a \$1,000 check as the Ohio winner of the Bonnie Plants 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Cabbage Program. Pictured left to right: Bonnie Plants Representatives, Riley Suchy and ODA Deputy Director Janelle Mead.*

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (April 11, 2017) – During an assembly for *Streetsboro Elementary School* students, Ohio Department of Agriculture Deputy Director Janelle Mead announced Riley Suchy as the 2016 winner of the Bonnie Plants Cabbage Program. Suchy received a \$1,000 scholarship for growing a 39.8 pound cabbage as part of the company’s annual nationwide contest.

“I am happy to honor Riley Suchy of Streetsboro Elementary School for growing an impressive cabbage and being named as Ohio’s 2016 winner,” said Deputy Director Mead. “The Bonnie Plants Cabbage Program is a great way to introduce younger generations to the importance of growing food, and it’s our hope programs like this one encourage students to consider a food or agriculture related career in their future.”

In 2002, Bonnie Plants started the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Cabbage Program to encourage young people to learn gardening and how to grow vegetables. Each year Bonnie Plants distributes more than 1 million free cabbage plants to students and classrooms all across the nation. Bonnie Plants awards a \$1,000 scholarship to one student in each state. Each participating teacher in the state submits a class winner, with the final winner being randomly drawn by each state’s director of agriculture.

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