



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Ohio Department of Agriculture will hold a public hearing for the purpose of accepting testimony on the proposed amendments made to Chapter 901:3-1 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Ohio Revised Code 3715.021 states that the director of agriculture shall adopt rules to conform with or be equivalent to the standards for foods established by the United States Department of Agriculture found in Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These rules adhere to the standards and good manufacturing practices for food processing establishments.

Ohio Administrative Code 901:3-1-12 sets forth the standards of identity of various food products. Standards of identity are legal definitions of food products which outline what a food must contain, often in terms of ingredients and measurements, in order to be marketed as that product. These standards are adopted by reference to the particular food standards found in 21 C.F.R. Parts 100 - 169. The rule has been updated to include standards of identity for salt and iodized salt, common or usual name for non-standardized foods, milk, cheese, and frozen desserts. The adoption of these standards allow Ohio producers to ship their products across the United States. The adoption of these rules is not a federal requirement however, by adopting the federal standards of identity, Ohio have producers the flexibility needed to expand their businesses nationwide.

Ohio Administrative Code 901:3-1-13 adopts standards found in Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations applicable to the use of color additives in foods. As with standards of identity, the adoption of these standards allow Ohio producers to ship their products across the United States. The adoption of these standards is not a federal requirement however, by adopting the federal standards of identity, Ohio have producers the flexibility needed to expand their businesses nationwide.

The hearing will be held on:

August 7, 2017 at 9:00 A.M.

**Ohio Department of Agriculture
Bromfield Administration Building
Hearing Room 133 (Seminar "B")
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-3399.**

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 119 of the Revised Code. Any person affected by the no change rule package may appear and be heard in person, by his attorney, or both, may present his position, arguments, or contentions, orally or in writing, offer and examine witnesses, and present evidence tending to show that the no change rule package, if adopted or effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful.



More information on the rule package, including a business impact analysis and copies of the rules, can be found at <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/proposedrules/proposedrules.aspx> or by visiting the Register of Ohio at www.registerofohio.state.oh.us.

Any person who wishes to present his position, arguments, or contentions in writing, other than at the public hearing, may do so by either mailing his or her written comments to the Ohio Department of Agriculture, c/o Legal Section, 8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068; by email at ecomments@agri.ohio.gov, or by transmitting by facsimile at (614) 995-4585. Written comments sent by mail shall be postmarked no later than the day of the hearing. Written comments transmitted by facsimile shall be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.

