

Public Notice

The Department of Agriculture, State of Ohio, will hold a public hearing for the purpose of accepting testimony on the proposed adoption of new administrative rules **901:3-44-01 Mandatory food sampling tolerance level standards and action steps for maple syrup, sorghum, and honey; 901:3-45-05 Bulk containers; 901:3-46-01 Definitions; 901:3-46-02 Voluntary sanitation and inspection standards for exempt honey, maple syrup, and sorghum producers; 901: 3-46-03 Registration; 901:3-46-04 ODA seal of conformity and inspection; 901:3-46-05 Collection equipment; 901:3-46-06 Packaging and fill; 901:3-46-07 Bulk containers; 901:3-46-08 Production/processing areas; 901:3-46-09 Water supply;** and, amendment of existing rules **901:3-45-01 Grades and standards; 901:3-45-03 Labeling; and, 901:3-45-04 Packaging and fill.**

New rule **901:3-44-01** establishes chemical and antibiotic tolerance levels for maple syrup, sorghum, and honey. New rules **901:3-46-01** through **901:3-46-09** implement a voluntary inspection program for maple syrup, sorghum, and honey producers. The program includes standards for good manufacturing practices, packaging, fill of containers, including bulk containers, and adopts a seal to be used by producers who participate in the program and comply with its' requirements.

The amendments to rules **901:3-45-01; 901:3-45-03;** and, **901:3-45-04** make editorial corrections to the rules. New rule **901:3-45-05,** adopts standards for the construction and cleaning of bulk tanks.

The hearing will be held Monday, December 8, 2003, at 8:30 a.m., in Hearing Room 133 (Seminar 'B') Bromfield Administration Building, Ohio Department of Agriculture, 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 proposed changes 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 proposed changes, if adopted or effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful.

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