<u>Notice</u>

The Ohio Department of Agriculture, State of Ohio, will hold a public hearing to accept testimony on the proposed adoption of fifty-six new rules relating to the processing and packaging of food products. Proposed new rules:

- 901:3-1-01 through 901:3-1-12 apply to good manufacturing practices;
- 901:3-3-01 through 901:3-3-18 apply to thermally processed low-acid foods packaged in hermitically sealed containers;
- 901:3-5-01 through 901:3-5-05 apply to acidified foods;
- 901:3-7-01 through 901:3-7-11 apply to fish and fishery products; and,
- 901:3-23-01 through 901:3-23-10 apply to juice products.

These rules are being proposed for adoption under Revised Code section 3715.02 and are intended to establish manufacturing practices and procedures which will help ensure these foods are processed and packaged in a manner that makes them safe and unadulterated.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2003, at 8:30 a.m., in hearing room 133, 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 amendments to the rules 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 rules, if adopted will be unreasonable or unlawful.