

John R. Kasich
Governor

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State Agencies Join Together to Promote Agriculture Exports in Ohio

Columbus – The Ohio Department of Development and the Ohio Department of Agriculture will begin efforts this week to work more closely in providing export assistance to the state’s agribusinesses.

The change is part of the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s efforts to address the historic \$8 billion state budget shortfall in which the Ohio Department of Agriculture will no longer maintain a stand-alone international trade program.

“We believe it is more efficient, and cost effective to house international trade assistance at the Ohio Department of Development, which operates numerous international trade offices and maintains a core staff dedicated specifically to international trade,” said James Zehringer, Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

International Trade Specialist Tim Sword, formerly with the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s Division of Markets, begins new duties this week with the Ohio Department of Development’s Global Markets Division.

“We are excited at this opportunity to further unify Ohio’s exporting resources which will streamline support and afford enhanced client outreach to Ohio exporters,” said Scott Kuehn, Director of the Ohio Department of Development’s Global Markets Division. “We welcome Tim’s expertise in agribusiness and look forward to utilizing his best practices to continue to grow our exporting network.”

Agribusinesses interested in exporting may contact Sword at (614) 728-3120.

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works at the speed of business to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio’s future.*

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