

# Together

WITH farmers



From specialty crop growers, farm markets and food hubs to brewers, vintners and distillers, just about anybody involved in value-added businesses that use Ohio-grown products have found an ally in Ohio Farm Bureau. Together with farmers, we work to ensure producers of all sizes and types can provide consumers safe, affordable and abundant food supplies.

## THE FARM BUREAU NETWORK

Farm Bureau is an organization with a broad reach, helping make decisions about policies impacting food production from small-town America to the international stage. Farm Bureau's grassroots structure means its members influence policy at every level, from the local planning commission to forums with state, national and international leaders.

## WORK TOGETHER WITH FARMERS TO SHAPE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC POLICY

Farm Bureau's grassroots policy development process provides every member a say in the organization's policy positions. Attending local meetings, sitting on advisory teams or even serving as a member of the OFBF State Policy Development Committee are just some of the opportunities available to be part of setting OFBF's policy positions.



## ADVOCACY FOR LOCAL PRODUCERS

- ✓ The federal **Food Safety Modernization Act** will mean tremendous changes for specialty crop growers. Farm Bureau helped shape the legislation to ensure the first overhaul of food safety laws since the 1930s was workable for the farm and food community. Farm Bureau will be a leader in **providing its members with compliance resources to foster understanding** of the new law's complex requirements.
- ✓ To **promote the growing sector of agritourism** in Ohio, a new law was recently established based on **model legislation developed by Ohio Farm Bureau** that addresses zoning, liability and how land for agritourism is taxed. Farm Bureau continues to work with its members to develop marketing and other strategies to promote agritourism.
- ✓ Winemakers, craft brewers and distillers have all worked recently with Farm Bureau to **change Ohio regulations that will allow for more locally crafted products**, while enhancing markets for locally grown ingredients.
- ✓ Farm Bureau is working to **address gaps in developing regional and local food distribution** to create access to markets for local growers. Farm Bureau members benefit from the organization's partnerships among growers, regional planning organizations, food kitchen incubators and distributors as well as food sales and marketing experts.



Rebecca Singer, CEO of the Center for Innovative Food Technology, speaks to an audience at the Farm and Food Institute hosted by Ohio Farm Bureau. The event was designed to bring farmers and food processors together to discuss supply chain strategies.