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Ohio Poultry Association Announces 2014 Award Recipients
Individuals, farms honored for dedication to Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey communities

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Poultry Association (OPA) recently announced its 2014 award recipients, at the organization's annual banquet on April 4 in Columbus. These awards honor businesses, farms and individuals who have made significant contributions to Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey farming communities.

“There were many outstanding nominees this year, but unfortunately we cannot honor every individual or organization that makes a positive impact,” said Jim Chakeres, OPA executive vice president. “We are grateful for all of the hard work that everyone contributes to Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey farming communities – from farmers and academia to elected officials and restaurateurs.”

Awards and recipients at the 29th Annual Banquet included:

Meritorious Award: Dr. James Kinder

The OPA award for Meritorious Service is given annually to an individual in the academic field who has contributed to the egg and poultry farming communities. This year's recipient is Dr. James Kinder, director of The Ohio State University's Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster, Ohio. Dr. Kinder has provided nearly 20 years of leadership and service to the research programs in Wooster. During his research career, Dr. Kinder has published more than 160 full-length, peer-reviewed research papers in the area of reproductive endocrinology of food animals. He also has helped generate more than \$2 million in research grant support and has been instrumental in the success of many graduate student degrees.

Golden Egg Award: Dr. Glyde Marsh

The Golden Egg Award is given to an individual who has provided extraordinary service to Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey farmers. Dr. Glyde Marsh, of New Albany, Ohio, is the recipient of this year's prestigious award. Dr. Marsh is a retired professor of veterinary science at The Ohio State University. He specialized in poultry medicine and continues to serve as a consultant to egg farmers throughout the state. At 95, Dr. Marsh remains very active in the local community and is currently serving his seventh term on the New Albany City Council.

Golden Feather Award: Dr. Mo Saif

The OPA Golden Feather award is given annually to an individual who has distinguished himself or herself as a champion of livestock agriculture or poultry issues. This year's award was presented to Dr. Mo Saif of Wooster, Ohio. Saif is recognized internationally as a leading researcher in the field

of poultry diseases. He began his 50-year relationship and career with The Ohio State University in 1965 as a research assistant. Through the years, he has held various positions within the university as a post-doctorate fellow, an assistant professor, and most recently served as the head of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center's Food Animal Health Research Program since 1993. Dr. Saif retired in 2013.

Environmental Stewardship Award: Lefevre Farms

The OPA's Environmental Stewardship Award is given each year in recognition of a farmer's commitment to his or her neighbors and to the environment as a whole. This year's recipient is Lefevre Farms of Fort Recovery, Ohio. The farm has taken a number of actions to make their operation more environmentally friendly. Some of these projects include: developing a comprehensive nutrient management plan through the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, properly managing and applying manure to the land, routine manure and soil sampling, using minimum tillage to protect the soil, constructing retention and detention ponds to capture runoff water and irrigate water out in the summer months, and installing grass waterways and filter strips to reduce erosion and further protect the environment.

Turkey on the Menu Award: City Barbeque

OPA recognized City Barbeque for the organization's recent achievement of winning the National Turkey Federation's Turkey on the Menu Award. City Barbeque was one of four restaurants across the United States to receive the award, which recognizes food service providers for their innovative techniques in showcasing a variety of Ohio turkey offerings on their menu. City Barbeque offers a variety of turkey menu options, including Bowman & Landes premium, free-range, prepared fresh, never frozen turkey served hot off the smoker. In addition, they serve Cooper Farms' local, sweet butter basted turkey breast smoked over hickory wood for hours before being sliced to order right to the plate. Both Bowman & Landes and Cooper Farms are headquartered in Ohio.

Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey farms are significant contributors to the success of the state's economy. Ohio ranks number-two in the nation in egg production and produces more than 7.6 billion eggs per year with a retail value of more than \$523 million. Ohio is also ninth in the nation for turkey production and produces more than 379 million pounds of Ohio chicken annually. Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey farms create more than 14,600 jobs generating \$412 million in earnings to the state's economy.

For more information, visit the OPA website at www.ohiopoultry.org.

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