



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**OHIO POULTRY ASSOCIATION FEATURES NEW FOOD OPTIONS,
POPULAR CULINARY COMPETITIONS AT 2014 OHIO STATE FAIR**
Chicken & Waffles, Turkey Burgers Add Fun Twist to Traditional Fair Food

COLUMBUS – The 161st Ohio State Fair kicks off this week. New this year, the Ohio Poultry Association (OPA) is offering additional delicious, affordable food options featuring Ohio-produced eggs, chicken and turkey. In addition, chefs will have the opportunity to flex their culinary muscles and stir up some sweet creations during three cooking competitions sponsored by OPA.

A variety of foods from Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey farmers will offer fairgoers a healthy alternative to traditional fair food at the Ohio Poultry and ETC (Eggs, Chicken and Turkey) booths located in the Taste of Ohio Café. New additions this year include Chicken & Waffles and Turkey Burgers. OPA will once again be serving up other popular menu items – ranging from \$1 for a snack to \$10 for a complete meal – including:

- Sandwiches, including grilled chicken breast and roasted turkey;
- Chicken and noodles served over Bob Evans® Original Mashed Potatoes;
- Thanksgiving-style turkey dinner with all the trimmings;
- Chicken dinner;
- Salads, available with eggs, chicken or turkey;
- The fair-favorite egg on a stick; and
- Chicken nugget kids' meals.

“We are excited to offer even more delicious alternatives to appeal to all fairgoers' food desires – from nutritious, protein-packed snacks to a full, wholesome meal,” said Jim Chakeres, OPA executive vice president.

In addition to serving Ohio-produced eggs, turkey and chicken, OPA is once again sponsoring three culinary competitions at the fair, including the popular “Cupcakes and Cake Pops Galore,” “Ultimate Breakfast Challenge” and “Smile and Say, Cheesecake!” contests.

The “Smile and Say, Cheesecake!” Recipe Contest will make its 10th appearance at 1 p.m. on July 25 in the DiSalle Creative Arts Center. Three classes of cheesecakes will be judged including a savory, sweet and individual.

The “Cupcakes and Cake Pops Galore” contest will return for its sixth year and will take place at 3 p.m. on July 25 in the DiSalle Creative Arts Center. The amateur baker division will feature four classes, including: chocolate cupcakes, white/vanilla cupcakes, any other flavor cupcakes, and cake pops. Additionally, a professional baker division will feature a class for cupcakes or cake pops.

The “Ultimate Breakfast Challenge” competition will kick off at 10 a.m. on July 26 with a cooking challenge that will pit local celebrities against each other. After the celebrity chef competition, up to 20 exhibitors will be judged on recipes they must prepare in 30 minutes using a mystery basket of ingredients that will include Ohio eggs and dairy products.

Ohio is the number-two egg-producing state in the nation, behind Iowa. Ohio egg farmers produce more than 7 billion eggs each year. Ohio is ninth in the nation for turkey production and produces nearly 400 million pounds of chicken for sale each year.

“Ohio’s egg, chicken and turkey farmers are dedicated to putting safe, healthy sources of protein on the tables of families across the state,” said Chakeres. “The Ohio State Fair offers us the chance to demonstrate our commitment to providing consumers with high-quality foods and our support for Ohio’s top economic contributor: agriculture.”

For more information about Ohio’s egg, chicken and turkey farms and delicious recipes, please visit www.ohiopoultry.org or find us on Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/ohiopoultryassn.

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