



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**OHIO POULTRY ASSOCIATION SERVES FAIRGOERS AFFORDABLE,
NUTRITIOUS MEALS AT OHIO STATE FAIR**

COLUMBUS – With just a couple days left to go, the countdown is on for the 155th Ohio State Fair. The Ohio Poultry Association (OPA) will once again be selling affordable, nutritious meals featuring fresh, Ohio-produced eggs, turkey and chicken from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day of the fair’s operation, from July 30-Aug. 10, in the Taste of Ohio Café, formerly the Ohio Food Pavilion.

A variety of foods from Ohio’s egg and poultry producers will offer fairgoers a healthy alternative to traditional fair food. Prices range from \$1 for a snack to \$7 for a complete meal. The menu includes:

- Sandwiches, including chicken salad, egg salad, shredded chicken, turkey and chicken breast;
- Chicken and noodles;
- Chicken nuggets;
- Thanksgiving-style turkey dinner with all the trimmings;
- Chicken dinner;
- Salads, available with eggs, chicken, chicken salad or turkey;
- “Hot Shot” open-faced turkey sandwich with mashed potatoes and gravy;
- The fair-favorite egg on a stick; and
- Chicken nugget kids’ meals.

“Our intent was to offer a wide range of products to appeal to everyone’s food desires, from healthy snacks to salads to a full, wholesome meal,” said Jim Chakeres, OPA executive vice president. “And, despite higher food prices, Ohio’s eggs, turkey and chicken remain an affordable mealtime option and a good source of protein.”

In addition to serving Ohio-produced eggs, turkey and chicken, OPA, along with the American Dairy Association Mideast, is sponsoring two culinary competitions at the fair.

“Breakfast for Two” is a new contest for fairgoers this year. The competition will kick off at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 2, in the DiSalle Arts and Crafts Building, with a celebrity chef cooking challenge featuring Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Bob Boggs and WCMH-TV personality Mindy Drayer.

After the celebrity chef competition, there will be a second class that is open to anyone from 10 to 101 years of age. Exhibitors will prepare a breakfast dish for two using only six ingredients. Each recipe must contain four eggs and at least one of the following, including three ounces shredded cheese, one cup milk or eight ounces yogurt.

In addition to the “Breakfast for Two” competition, the popular “Smile and Say, Cheesecake!” Recipe Contest will make its fourth appearance at the fair. Three classes of cheesecakes will be judged including a savory appetizer, dessert cheesecake, and culinary professional class.

“The new culinary professional’s class will be a great opportunity for chefs, caterers and bakery professionals to showcase their talents and have the chance to win \$300 in first place prize money,” said Chakeres. The contest will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 1.

Ohio is the number-two egg-producing state in the nation, behind Iowa. The state produces more than eight billion eggs each year. Ohio is 11th in the nation for turkey production and produces almost 200 million pounds of chicken for sale each year.

Complete fair menus and a coupon for food discounts are available on the OPA Web site at www.ohiopoultry.org. To find out more information about the culinary competitions, please visit www.OhioStateFair.com and click on “competitions” and then “special days.”

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CONTACT: Jim Chakeres, OPA executive vice president, 614/882-6111
Hinda Mitchell or Diane Hurd, 614/224-0600