



# Northwest Ohio Ag-Business Breakfast Forum



**State-funded programs: *Ag-Link and GrowNOW***  
**Thur., Feb. 18, 2010 from 7:30 - 9 a.m.**

## ***Ag-Link and GrowNOW***

Jessica Ford, regional community affairs director, Office of Ohio Treasurer of State, will present information on the **Ag-Link** and **GrowNOW** programs.

**Ag-Link** is an annual program that provides an interest rate reduction on operating loans and lines of credit to Ohio's farming community (\$125 million is allocated annually). The Ohio Treasury places deposits with Ohio banks at below market rates when the bank agrees to reduce the interest rate on the farmer's loan. If an eligible farmer's application is accepted, the Treasurer purchases a certificate of deposit at a reduced rate from a lender for one year – in turn, that lender lowers the interest rate of the loan given to the farmer.

Through **GrowNOW**, the Treasury has more than \$350 million invested in low-cost financing for small businesses that creates and retains jobs in the state. When a business finances a loan with an eligible bank, GrowNOW can provide a 3% interest rate reduction on their loan. To fund the program, the Treasury places a deposit with the business' bank at a 3% interest rate reduction on their loan.

## **What is the Northwest Ohio Ag-Business Breakfast Forum?**

The Northwest Ohio Ag-Business Breakfast Forum is an educational networking opportunity to provide information on current issues, trends and programs available to the agricultural community and those who support its advancement.

If you are a supporter of the agricultural economy, join us on the **third Thursday each month** from 7:30-9 a.m. for a delicious breakfast and informal networking. Cost is just \$10 per person payable at the door (cash or check). Guests can reserve a seat in advance by contacting Paula Ray at 419-823-3099 or [pray@eisc.org](mailto:pray@eisc.org).

### **Upcoming Topics:**

Thurs., Mar. 18 - 7:30 - 9 a.m.

### **Alternative Growing Systems for Increased Food Production**

Rebecca Singer, vice president and director of agricultural programs, Center for Innovative Food Technology, will present information on various growing techniques being applied within the region that are demonstrating increased production capacity.

## **Forum Location**

### **Agricultural Incubator Foundation**

13737 Middleton Pike  
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Directions: I-75 to S.R. 582 exit 187, Luckey/Haskins. Turn West on State Route 582 (Middleton Pike) and continue approximately 2.2 miles.

**For more information, please contact:  
Paula Ray at 419-823-3099 or email at  
[pray@eisc.org](mailto:pray@eisc.org).**

**Make check payable as you arrive to:  
Agricultural Incubator Foundation**