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Ohio's Largest Certified Organic Full Service Nursery to Host Public Tour

COLUMBUS— Marvin's Organic Gardens, the largest certified organic full-service nursery, landscape design company, and retail garden center in the state of Ohio, will host a free public tour on Saturday, August 22, at 11:00am. Marvin's Organic Gardens is located at 2055 US Route 42 South, in Lebanon, Ohio.

This tour, and 11 others like it throughout the state, is sponsored by the Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association (OEFFA) to demonstrate examples of sustainable farming and gardening systems to Ohio consumers who are increasingly choosing organic and local products.

"The tour of Marvin's Organic Gardens is a highlight of the 2009 Ohio Sustainable Farm Tour Series," according to Carol Goland, executive director of OEFFA, "More families are looking for alternatives to chemical treatments in their landscapes and home gardens. Marvin's Organic Gardens is helping those conscientious gardeners by providing certified organic planting stock and exceptional service."

Established in 1999, Marvin's Organic Gardens has grown into an industry leader in organic landscape services for homeowners and commercial property owners. Marvin's Organic Gardens earned its official USDA organic certification in 2003 and has been continuously certified since that time. Marvin's Organic Gardens is also home to the largest commercial composting facility in southwestern Ohio. Tour participants will learn more about organic management of home landscapes, the establishment of native plants, and the creation and maintenance of water gardens.

"Homeowners looking for organic alternatives for their landscape and garden care can attend this tour to learn from one of the pioneers in organic nursery management" said Goland.

OEFFA collaborates with other farming organizations in the development of this farm tour series. The Innovative Farmers of Ohio, the Ohio State University Sustainable Agriculture Team, the Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council, and the OSU OFFER program sponsor additional farm tours and workshops as part of this series. A full listing of tours, including maps and descriptions is available at <http://www.oeffa.org/pdfs/farmtour2009.pdf>

OEFFA is a non-profit organization of farmers, gardeners, conscientious consumers, and others founded in 1979 to promote a permanent, profitable, and accountable agriculture in Ohio. For more information, see www.oeffa.org or contact OEFFA at (614) 421-2022.

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