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## MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### RETURN TO NEWSROOM

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## TDA to Host Farm Animal Exhibitor Workshops

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – The Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) is hosting regional workshops in April to help operators of farm animal exhibits and activities better manage public health issues.

“These educational workshops were very well attended last year, which really shows that there is a need for this kind of information and training, and that animal event managers want to provide their patrons with a safe, enjoyable experience,” said state Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens.

The workshops are being presented in cooperation with the University of Tennessee Extension, Tennessee Department of Health and Tennessee Association of Fairs to reduce disease risks to workers and visitors at fairs and other public venues where animals are exhibited.

The workshops are open to agricultural fair and livestock show managers, agritourism owners, petting zoo operators and others. Veterinarians and public health officials will present information on understanding and preventing the spread of *E.coli* and other potential diseases associated with exposure to animals.

The workshops are scheduled for:

April 23 – Cookeville, Hyder-Burks Agricultural Pavilion, Hwy. 290 W.  
 April 24 – Columbia, Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, Hwy. 412  
 April 25 – Martin, UT Martin University Center, Legislative Chamber Room 111

Workshop hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (CDT) with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. There is no fee; however, pre-registration is required. To pre-register or for more information, contact TDA fair administrator Lynne Williams at (615) 837-5081, or email [lynne.williams@state.tn.us](mailto:lynne.williams@state.tn.us).

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