



As Ohio brewers seek out locally grown hops, research and education from Ohio State help growers such as Dave Volkman, bottom, and wife Nina Volkman, top, increase production.

The Ohio State University's hops research helps farmers, growing industry

Dave Volkman formerly grew produce on his 12-acre Maineville, Ohio, farm. But by attending a workshop on hops production offered by Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and Ohio State University Extension horticulturist Brad Bergefurd, Volkman learned about the crop's potential strong profit and high demand. As a result, he traded in his produce for hops. Volkman now has more than 400 plants on 12 acres, supporting two Ohio craft breweries. He also formed the Ohio Hop Growers Guild, which currently brings together more than 50 Ohio hops growers.

Hops are a key ingredient in beer manufacturing. Thanks to The Ohio State University's ongoing hops research and trials, hops are making a resurgence in Ohio after a 100-year absence. With Ohio-grown hops in high demand from Ohio microbrewers, the economic potential for growers and the state's economy is significant. Ohio growers are poised to capture the \$30 million in hops sales and related jobs currently sourced out of state by Ohio's growing craft brewing industry.

More: go.osu.edu/hopsres

"After significant research and attending numerous Ohio State hops production workshops, I've gone from no hops to now more than 400 plants on 12 acres, supporting two Ohio craft breweries. With Ohio State's research and input, the economic potential for Ohio hops is huge."

— **Dave Volkman**, grower, Ohio Valley Hops, Warren County



Hops cones



At current-use rates, 6,000 acres of hops are required to meet Ohio craft brewers' needs.

ESSENTIALS

- One hundred Ohio breweries produce 1.09 million barrels of craft beer annually, requiring 4 million pounds of dried hops at 4 pounds per barrel — worth more than \$30 million — all currently purchased from out-of-state farms.
- To meet this demand, an estimated 6,000 acres of hops are required by Ohio craft brewers at current-use rates. Today, 100 acres are planted with hops in the state, so the potential for growth is enormous.
- OARDC's hops research trials are helping growers identify the following: new hops varieties for Ohio, effective pest and disease management techniques, successful fertility and irrigation management methods, and mechanical harvesting tools.

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

OARDC: A LEADER IN AGBIOSCIENCE

ag·bi·o·sci·ence (ăg'bī'ō-sī'ens) *n.* the integration of scientific disciplines to address critical needs of food security, safety and health; environmental sustainability; and biobased energy, fuel and products



Food Security, Production
and Human Health



Environmental Quality
and Sustainability



Advanced Bioenergy
and Biobased Products

Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center

As the research arm of The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) employs nearly 650 scientists and staff members throughout the state.

Ohio State's Wooster campus is the largest agbioscience research facility in the United States. OARDC scientists work closely with researchers in The Ohio State University Colleges of Education and Human Ecology, Medicine, Public Health, Veterinary Medicine, Biological Sciences, and Engineering.

At any one time, OARDC researchers are engaged in nearly 400 research projects. Primary focus is in three signature areas:

- Food Security, Production and Human Health
- Environmental Quality and Sustainability
- Advanced Bioenergy and Biobased Products

The Ohio General Assembly established OARDC as the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station in 1882. It is supported by a line-item appropriation from the Ohio General Assembly, competitive grants, gifts, contracts, federal grants and other sources. OARDC uses these funds to provide direct research support and economic development for Ohio's annual \$100+ billion agbioscience industry. OARDC is not funded by student tuition or any other general funds of The Ohio State University.

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