

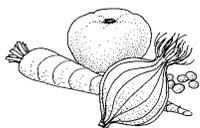


# Homerville Wholesale Produce Auction Guidebook

9430 Spencer Rd., Homerville, OH 44235  
1/2 mile south of Homerville on State Route 301  
330/625-2369

35 minutes from downtown Akron via US 224 and Interstate 76  
45 minutes from Cleveland via SR 301, US 10 and Interstate 71

A short drive from millions of produce consumers.



## Goals of the Homer Wholesale Produce Auction:

### For the Buyer:

- To provide a high quality fresh product packed and ready for resale.
- A central location to buy a wide variety of fruits and vegetables
- A self adjusting market based on supply and demand.

### For the Seller:

- To provide a system of marketing which encourages a high quality product.
- The fastest and fairest method of marketing
- Rapid return of payment for the product.

### For the Ultimate Consumer:

- The opportunity to purchase the freshest Ohio produce available.



**Policies For Produce Auction Buyers**

1. Buyers must register at the office for a buyer's identification number.
2. Registry consists of a buyer's name, company name, address and telephone number.
3. Buyer's number is to be used whenever a purchase is made at the auction and is to be displayed for the auctioneer's view.
4. The buyer is responsible for the inspection of quality and grading of produce offered for sale and will place bids accordingly.
5. All items are sold as is, where is, unless otherwise stated by the auctioneer.
6. Buyers will not have the option of splitting lots.
7. There will be absolutely no sales transactions of any kind permitted on the market property except through the auction. Pooling by buyers is absolutely forbidden. When caught the buyer will be banned from the market for the remainder of the season.
8. In a situation where the seller has misrepresented the quality of his product by deceptive packing, the manager of the Homerville Wholesale Produce Auction shall serve as arbitrator in negotiating settlement.
9. Buyer is responsible for loading his produce onto his vehicle after purchase is made. Pallets are charged to the buyer - refund if brought back.
10. Buyer shall remove from the premises all produce purchased on the day of sale. Homer Wholesale Produce Auction will not be responsible for any produce not removed immediately after sale.
11. Buyer shall pay in full for all produce purchased immediately after the sale.
12. Any announcement made on the day of sale shall take precedence over printed matter.
13. By registering for a buyer's number the buyer agrees to the terms set forth above.

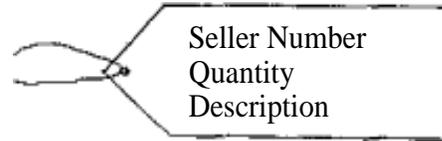
**Policies For Produce Auction Sellers**

1. Sellers must register at the office of the Homer Wholesale Produce Auction for a seller's identification number.
2. Registry consists of seller's name, address, and telephone number.
3. Seller's number must be used on all lots of produce offered for sale at the Homer Wholesale Produce Auction.
4. Any products requiring inspected facilities will not be accepted.
5. Seller is responsible for unloading, stacking and labeling his produce.
6. Seller is responsible for the proper grading and packaging of his produce to the standards set by the Homerville Wholesale Produce Auction.
7. The Produce Auction reserves the right to refuse to sell any produce of inferior or very poor quality. Definition of inferior or very poor quality produce is defined by the Homerville Wholesale Produce Auction.
8. Where a clear misrepresentation of quality of produce has been made by the seller, the Homer Wholesale Produce Auction reserves the right to withhold payment until proper restitution has been made by the seller.
9. Checks will be issued in payment for produce sold at the Produce Auction by the first day of sale the following week. Payment can be received by the seller at the office of the Produce Auction on the first day of sale the following week. Checks will be mailed to the seller only upon the seller's request.
10. Seller shall pack his produce in a new or good used box. Produce packed in non-vegetable boxes or box not suitable for the merchandise is not acceptable. Boxes are the responsibility of the seller.
11. Sellers shall not split lots of the same grading onto several carts or pallets.
12. Single boxes: Anything less than two full boxes will be sold on tables.
13. By registering for a seller's identification number the buyer agrees to the terms set forth above.

## Produce Auction Procedures

ALL PRODUCE MUST BE TAGGED with the following information:

1. Seller I.D. numbers.
2. Number of boxes or units to be sold.
3. Written description.



Place tag on cart handle. Use one tag for each product.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE AUCTION FOR THE FIRST TIME:

- Come to the office to register and receive a seller number.
- Box sales - unload in auction pavilion.
- Unload onto carts or pallets, identify carts or pallets with seller's number, amount and description.
- Place cart in line.

GROWER'S PLEASE NOTE:

- Read your "Packing Standards" carefully.
- Your "Seller's number" will be permanent.
- Be certain to label #2 produce as #2

**Buyers will come to know you by your number and pay well for good quality. Bring the Best - Leave The Rest.**

THERE ARE FOUR TYPES OF PRODUCE AUCTION SALES:

### 1. Drive thru

- Minimum 10 boxes. Lesser quantities use carts or pallets.
- 50 or fewer cantelopes sell as one lot of mixed sizes.
- 25 or fewer watermelons or pumpkins sell as one lot of mixed sizes.
- Make one display of the same grade and size instead of multiple lots of the same grade and size.
- 10 dozen or less sweet corn should be bagged and put on carts.
- When selling indian corn or gourds, etc. bring only one grade or size on a given day.

### 2. Pallet & bin lots

- Minimum 6 boxes.
- 50 or fewer cantelopes sell as one lot of mixed sizes.
- 25 or fewer watermelons or pumpkins sell as one lot of mixed sizes.

### 3. Cart lots

- Minimum 2 boxes. Maximum of 5 boxes.

### 4. Table Lots

- Anything less than 2 full boxes.
- Do not sell items of very low or zero value.

## Packing standards for the Homer Wholesale Produce Auction.

(Please grade your produce to our standards.)

### Vegetable Packing Standards

<p><b>Asparagus</b> Sold by the bunch. State number of bunches per box. 3/4 lb bunches all cut to same length in boxes. Pack on ice if available.</p> <p><b>Broccoli</b> 1 1/9 bu. box. State number of heads per box. When cutting leave several inches of stem on head. Add ice on top of box.</p> <p><b>Beans-Lima</b> 1/2 bu. or 1 1/9 bu. box. Pick at early maturity.</p> <p><b>Beans-Green and yellow</b> 1/2 bu. or 1 1/9 bu. box. No wet picking. Straight, slim varieties preferred.</p> <p><b>Cabbage</b> Preferred method is in bins and sold by the bin. State number and size. Also 1 3/4 bu. boxes, green net bags or bulk on wagons.</p> <p><b>Cantaloupes</b> Pack in bins or bulk. Pick at 1/2 slip and grade #1's in 3 sizes. Sort out all #2's. If your lots are less than 50 please combine and sell as a mixed size lot. <u>State variety</u> and count on lot tags.</p> <p><b>Cauliflower</b> Preferred method is in bins and sold by the bin. State number and size. Also cabbage boxes. State number of heads per box.</p> <p><b>Celery</b> 1 1/9 bu.</p> <p><b>Cucumbers</b> <b>Super-Kings</b> Longer than 9 inches. Pack in 1 1/9 bu. boxes <b>King size-Select</b> Between 8 and 9 inches and straight. This is the size supermarkets want. Pack exactly 24 in a 24 count cucumber box. <b>Queen size-Select</b> Between 7 and 8 inches and straight. Pack as many as possible in 24 ct cuc box. <b>#2 Cucumbers</b> Crooked, blemished, and less than 7 inches. Pack in 1 1/9 boxes.</p> <p><b>Eggplants</b> Pack in 1 1/9 bu. boxes. #1s should have no scars and not be misshapen. Baby, White, or Japanese can go in 1/2 bu. boxes</p> <p><b>Gourds</b> #1 ornamental should be packed in 1/2 bu. or peck boxes with good color mix. Large gourds should be packed in 1 1/9 bu. boxes. Extra large gourds such as Turbans, Birdhouse, Snake and Goose may be loose or in bins. Counts are essential for all boxes.</p> <p><b>Hull peas</b> Pack in 1/2 bu. or 1 1/9 bu. box</p>	<p><b>Leeks</b> Sold by the bunch in pecks Tie 3 to 6 per bunch.</p> <p><b>Lettuce</b> Pack in 1 1/9 bu. box with 12 to 24 heads per box. State no. of heads per box on lot tag.</p> <p><b>Onions</b> Pack in pecks for best price. If tops are nice and left on, fold and tuck into peck. 25 and 50 lb bags are OK. State kind/variety on lot tag.</p> <p><b>Peppers-Bell</b> Pack in 1 1/9 bu. box. Keep size uniform within box. Grade small, med., large, and extra large. Always state color on the lot tag.</p> <p><b>Peppers-Specialty</b> Cayenne, Jalepeno, Purple, Hungarian, etc. Pack in 1/2 bu. boxes.</p> <p><b>Pickles</b> Pack in 1/2 bu. boxes. Grade to three sizes. No yellow bellies. small 1/2" to 2" medium 2 1/2" to 3 1/2" large 3 1/2" to 4 1/2"</p> <p><b>Potatoes</b> Pack in 5 lb or 50 lb potato bags or 1 1/9 bu. New red potatoes may be packed in quart berry masters.</p> <p><b>Pumpkins</b> Bulk in trucks or wagons or loose in bins. Graded for uniformity in size with good quality stems. Counts or weights a must. Miniature pumpkins packed in pecks or 1/2 bu. Hand painted pumpkins in 1/2 bu. boxes.</p> <p><b>Radishes</b> Tie 12 per bunch and pack 20 bunches per 1/2 bu. box or 40 bunches per 1 1/9 bu. box. Add ice to maintain freshness.</p> <p><b>Rhubarb</b> Tie in bunches, pack in banana box. 15 bunches per box. Leave a small amount of leaf. Will be sold by the bunch.</p> <p><b>Red beets</b> With tops: Tie 6 per bunch and pack in 1 1/9 bu. Without tops: Leave 2-3 inches stem. Pack in 1/2 bu.</p> <p><b>Summer Squash -Zucchini, Yellow straight neck, Patty Pan</b> Pack in 1/2 bu. box. Grade for size. Seven inches is ideal for zucchini.</p> <p><b>Winter Squash-Acorn, Butternut, Buttercup, Hubbard, Spaghetti</b> Pack in 1 1/9 bu. box. Grade for size</p> <p><b>Spring onion</b> Tie 6 to 9 in a bunch. Peck, 1/2 bu. or 1 1/9 bu. box. Trim greens only enough to fit box.</p> <p><b>Sugar Peas</b> Pack 10 lb in 1/2 bu. box. Pick at early maturity.</p> <p><b>Sweet corn</b> Loose in bins, bulk on wagon, or 65 in corn bag. Must be counted.</p>
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Sweet potatoes

Pack in Peck, 1/2 bu. or 1 1/9 bu. box. Grade for size.

Tomatoes

10 or 20 lb boxes. Grade for size and color. No stem.

Extra large...2 7/8" to 3 1/2"

Large.....2 1/2" to 2 7/8"

Medium.....2 1/4" to 2 1/2"

Small.....2 1/8" to 2 1/4"

Cherry tomatoes

Pack in 12 pint flats. Fill to level full.

Pick at pink or solid red.

Watermelons

Grade for size and uniformity. Loose in bins or bulk.

Must be counted. State variety on tag.

Turnips

Pack in pecks, 1/2 bu or 1 1/9 bu

Let small amount of tops and roots.

Zucchini

Pack in 1/2 bu. box. Harvest at 7" in length.

**Fruit Packing Standards**

Apples

Standard apple 1/2 bu. boxes. Do not use baskets.

State variety on lot tag.

Small 2 1/4" to 2 1/2"

Medium 2 3/4" to 3"

Large 3" or more

Peaches

Peck box or 1/2 bu. Sized and graded.

Pears Peck box. Sized and graded.

Plums Peck box. Sized and graded.

Raspberries

12 1 pint containers per flat. (no quarts)

Blueberries

12 1 pint containers per flat. (no quarts)

Blackberries

12 1 pint containers per flat. (no quarts)

Strawberries

Pack in 8 quart flats level full.

Pick at early ripe stage.

Ship only clean, top quality fruit. No over ripens.

1 1/2 lb. of fruit per quart.

**Flowers, Bedding Plants, and Ornamentals Packing Standards**

Vegetable flats

State variety and number of plants per flat)

Annual flowering flats

State variety and number of plants per flat)

Annual-4" to 4 1/2" pot - 15 pots/flat

Annual-5" to 6" pot - 6 pots/flat

Perennial flat (18-32 plants)

Perennial 4" to 4 1/2" pots - 15 pots/flat

Perennial 1 gallon container

Perennial 1/2 gallon container

Perennial 1 quart container

African Violets 4" pots

Geraniums 4" to 4 1/2" pots - 15 pots/flat

Cut or dried flowers

Sold by the stem or bunch.

For example: up to 50 Gladiola stems in 5 gal bucket.

Hanging basket, 8"

Hanging basket, 10"

Indian corn

Tie 3 ears per bunch (use string or wire) in wooden box.

Grade to uniform ear size.

State number of bunches per box.

Mark as #1 or #2.

Mums 8" pot

Mums 10" pot

Corn stalks - 6/bunch

Nursery - pots - evergreen

Straw - Small square bales

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