

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Sherry Mulkins
VP Client Outreach and Development
502.574.1599 | sherry.mulkins@wtcky.org

Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Ryan Quarels Led World Trade Center Kentucky Trade Mission to Canada

Lexington, Ky. – (July 26, 2018) World Trade Center Kentucky (WTC-KY) recently returned from an agriculture and agribusiness-focused trade mission to Canada, led by Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture, Ryan Quarels.

The Canada 2018 Trade and Business Mission, organized by (WTC-KY) presented by Kentucky Farm Bureau and Masterfeeds/Alltech, took place June 18-22, 2018 in Toronto and Guelph.

Kentucky businesses who attended the Mission include: University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, Hust farms, Kentucky's Equine Education Project, Kentucky Horse Racing Commission, Lancaster/Garrard Industrial Development authority. SUL4R – PLUS, and, Eqqus Run

“America makes and grows the best products in the world. In Kentucky, our farmers and agribusinesses take pride in our long history of providing food and fiber for not only the Bluegrass State but for other countries as well,” said Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Ryan Quarles. “That’s why it is no surprise that nearly 20% of Kentucky’s agricultural exports go to Canada: they simply want to buy the best ranging from bourbon to horses. While on the first-ever Kentucky agriculture trade mission to Canada, we strengthened existing relationships and discovered new economic opportunities for our hardworking farmers. We look forward to continuing the work at home by connecting our farmers to new and existing markets in the years to come,” said Commissioner Quarels.

Canada, the world's 10th largest economy and member of NAFTA, is Kentucky's top agriculture and agri-food export market. In 2016 Kentucky's agriculture and related industries exported \$230 million to Canada.

“Learning about global markets and developing relationships outside the U.S. will be critical to the future growth of Kentucky agriculture. This well-organized trade mission allowed our delegation to network with political, education, business, and farm leaders in Canada which undoubtedly will create future opportunities to expand Kentucky ag, food, and beverage trade with our friends north of the border. I look forward to strengthening the working relationship between the WTC-KY and Kentucky agriculture-- a win-win for our state,” said William Snell, Extension Professor at University of Kentucky.

This mission is sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau, Masterfeeds/Alltech, Kentucky Distillers' Association, and Kentucky Thoroughbred Association.

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About World Trade Center Kentucky:

The World Trade Center-Kentucky (WTC-KY) serves as a catalyst for trade and economic development through innovation, education, trade advisory services and international business missions. For more information, contact the World Trade Center Kentucky at 502-574-2400, or visit our website at www.wtcky.org.

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