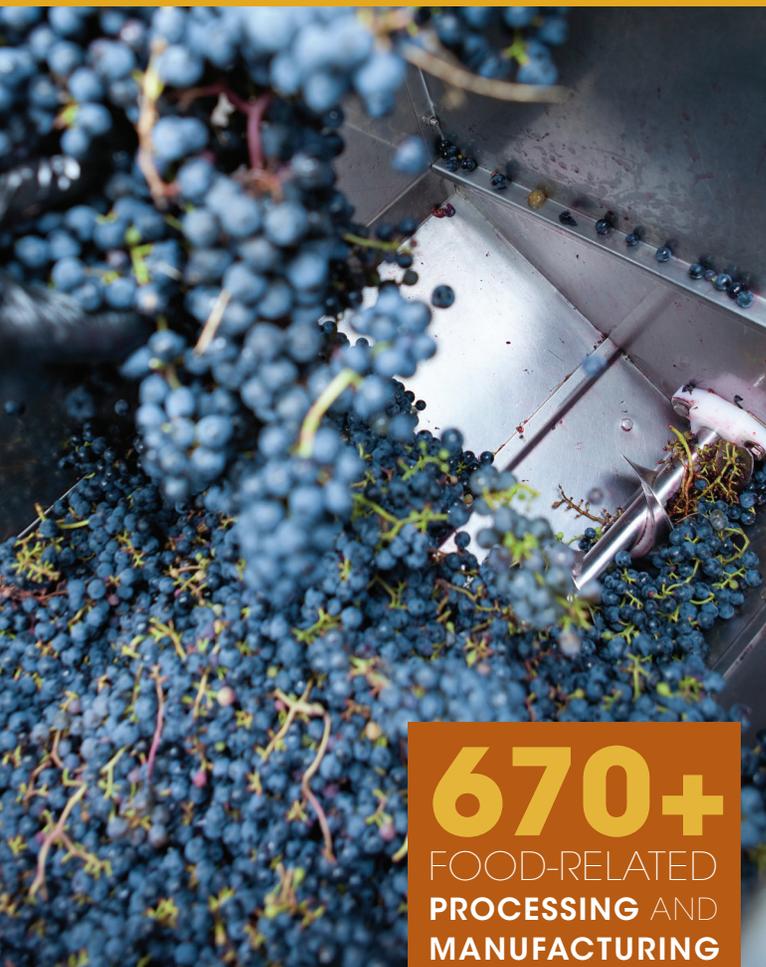


# WE MAKE THINGS HERE

IDEAS + PRODUCTS + PROFITS



**670+**  
FOOD-RELATED  
PROCESSING AND  
MANUFACTURING  
ESTABLISHMENTS IN  
NORTHEAST  
OHIO

Source: Reference USA

FOOD PROCESSING



WE MAKE

# FOOD PROCESSING BUSINESSES THRIVE

Northeast Ohio is home to a thriving cluster of food processing companies that provide food and beverage products to consumers worldwide. The Cleveland Plus® region has become the location of choice for food processing businesses with more than 670 processing and manufacturing establishments (including PepsiCo, H.J. Heinz, Daisy Brand LLC, Nestlé USA and J.M. Smucker), a trained talent pool of nearly 22,000 food manufacturing and production workers, easy access to raw materials and suppliers, and an abundant supply of fresh water from Lake Erie.

Source: Moody's Economy.com & EMSI

## GET TO MARKET FAST

The Cleveland Plus logistics infrastructure is designed to move products quickly. Our central location, at the crossroads between the grain belt and Eastern US markets, offers great accessibility. The combined result? You get to market fast.

## RESOURCES TO IGNITE YOUR BUSINESS

Ohio is home to a variety of leading food-related research centers. Your business can move to market even faster by partnering with these institutions:

- + **The Center for Innovative Food Technology (CIFT)** provides technical innovations and solutions to the food processing, agribusiness and agricultural sectors of the economy.
- + **Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC)** is the largest and most comprehensive agricultural bioscience research and development center in the country. It collaborates with more than 150 global corporations annually, providing an accelerator environment with individual offices, labs and other working areas.
- + **Plant and Animal Agrosecurity Research (PAAR)** is a facility within the OARDC designed to enable researchers to study microscopic organisms that present serious health risks to plants and food-producing animals. The PAAR facility is a biosafety level 3 (BSL-3) containment laboratory. It is one of only two BSL-3 labs in the country that can do research on large plants and animals. This is a tremendous asset that develops new diagnostic tools, treatments, vaccines and genetically resistant animals and plants

that reduce economic losses from disease and pests and make our food supply safer.

## LEGENDARY WORK ETHIC, TALENTED WORKFORCE

Home to more than two million workers, Cleveland Plus meshes our incomparable work ethic with outstanding education programs that can provide you with a dedicated labor force and high-caliber professional talent. Of particular note are educational opportunities available at The Ohio State University (OSU) Agricultural Technical Institute. OSU's Regional Food Processing Training Consortium provides companies with cost-effective technical and industrial training.

## CLEVELAND PLUS IS HOME TO MANY GLOBAL FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Cleveland Plus is home to major production facilities for globally recognized companies. One reason is Ohio's Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) does not include sales exported outside of the state.

FOOD IN  
MANUFACTURING IS A \$3.4 BILLION INDUSTRY IN NORTHEAST OHIO 2015

Source: Moody's Economy.com

Cleveland+  
Akron+ Canton+ Youngstown

## NORTHEAST OHIO FOOD-RELATED COMPANIES

The Cleveland Plus food-related cluster includes food processing companies, as well as organizations in the supply chain that service the industry, such as food manufacturers.

- + Ambaflex
- + Brand Castle
- + Case Farms
- + Combi Packaging Systems
- + Cres Cor
- + Daisy Brand LLC
- + Fresh Mark, Inc.
- + Great Lakes Brewing Company
- + H.J. Heinz
- + Kaufman Container
- + Nestlé USA
- + Nickles Bakery
- + PepsiCo
- + Pierre's Ice Cream Company
- + Shearer's Foods
- + Smith Dairy
- + J.M. Smucker Company
- + Summer Garden Foods
- + Sugardale Foods

## COMPANY SUCCESS TELLS THE STORY

### DAISY BRAND LLC

A fourth-generation, family-owned business, Daisy Brand provides dairy products to markets across the nation. When the company began exploring site options for a new production facility to grow its brand in the Midwest and Northeast, they considered Northeast Ohio along with Michigan and Indiana. They selected Northeast Ohio because of the region's superiority in the areas of site quality, market (customer base) and supply chain access as well as workforce quality and availability. Daisy has committed to a \$125 million investment and 89 new jobs.

### PEPPERIDGE FARM COMPANY

When exploring expansion options to boost its production of Goldfish® crackers. Connecticut-based Pepperidge Farm considered its Willard, Ohio plant, where workers have been making cookies since 1977. Pepperidge Farm ultimately chose to expand in Northeast Ohio because of the logistical benefits of the location, the quality of Northeast Ohio's workforce and the low cost of doing business here. The company has committed to adding 50 jobs and investing \$94 million in the build-out.

## FOOD PROCESSING COMPANIES COMMITTED TO CLEVELAND PLUS

"Producing 230 million pounds of Shearer's snacks with 'perfection' requires the right ingredients: talented people, ample raw materials, a central location, low costs and the region's well-known manufacturing know-how. Northeast Ohio is right for food processors."

### Bob Shearer, *Shearer's Foods*

Shearer's Foods manufactures and distributes snacks for its own family of brands, as well as contract and private label products for top snack companies and retailers throughout the country.

"We are excited to be celebrating 80 years in Cleveland. Our Northeast Ohio location enables us to source ingredients and raw materials efficiently from our suppliers. Plus, we value our talented team of employees, who are well-trained and knowledgeable... and call Northeast Ohio their home."

### Shelley Roth *President and CEO, Pierre's Ice Cream Company*

Pierre's Ice Cream Company is a leader in the production and distribution of gourmet ice creams, sherbet, frozen yogurt, sorbet and frozen novelties. The company distributes regionally and beyond from its headquarters and production plant in Cleveland.

Food processing businesses choose Cleveland Plus. From ideas to products to profits, we make things here. We make things happen.

Cleveland+  
Akron+Canton+Youngstown

We make things here.  
Ideas + Products + Profits

To find out more about Cleveland Plus, contact us at **888.NEO.1411**. Or visit **clevelandplusbusiness.com** today.

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