

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## CALLING ALL CHEFS TO “BRING TEXAS TO THE TABLE”

### Texas Department of Agriculture Seeks GO TEXAN Restaurants to Participate in First-Ever Statewide Dine-Out Day on Oct. 1

AUSTIN, Texas – July 11, 2008 – The Texas Department of Agriculture is looking for chefs and restaurant owners who buy local to “bring Texas to the table” by offering special Texas menu items, a food and wine pairing, or a Texas wine list on Wednesday, Oct. 1, as part of the inaugural GO TEXAN Restaurant Round-Up.

Texans will be invited to dine at their favorite GO TEXAN Restaurant to enjoy the foods and wines from the Lone Star State during the first-ever statewide dine-out day, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting local food banks.

Launched in January 2008, the GO TEXAN Restaurant Program already has signed up more than 300 establishments such as Perini Ranch Steakhouse in Buffalo Gap, the Bill Miller Bar-B-Q chain and the landmark Driskill Grill in Austin. To qualify, establishments must be located in Texas and serve Texas products.

“The GO TEXAN Restaurant Round-Up is the perfect opportunity to celebrate the restaurant owners and chefs who care about serving the freshest local ingredients and who pride themselves on Texas quality,” Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples said.

The GO TEXAN Restaurant Round-Up also kicks off Texas Wine Month in October.

A restaurant interested in becoming a GO TEXAN Restaurant and participating in the Oct. 1 dine-out day can go to [www.GOTEXANRestaurantRoundUp.com](http://www.GOTEXANRestaurantRoundUp.com) for more information.

GO TEXAN Restaurants receive:

- Connections to local products and growers
- Inclusion in GO TEXAN directories, Web sites, printed materials, advertisements, e-zines, calendars and newsletters
- Branding opportunities through GO TEXAN logos on menus, printed materials and a GO TEXAN window decal
- Discounted rates to exhibit at events and festivals spotlighting Texas cuisine and discounted advertising rates for print publications

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