

Oregon Trail Farm Leavenworth, Ks www.oregontrailblueberryfarm.com

- 1. As a berry grower, fruit producer and apiarist, the option to utilize a producer permit would extend and supplement on-farm sales and support specialty events outside of a short limited growing season.
- 2. Know your farmer, know your food! In 2012, USDA introduced the Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food initiative. It seeks to focus that conversation on supporting local and regional food systems to strengthen American agriculture by promoting sustainable agricultural practices and spurring economic opportunity in rural communities. Kansas producers and farmers have the increased opportunity to connect directly with consumers with a producer permit. This builds stronger bonds and understanding between producers / farmers and the relationship with vintners to the consumer.
- 3. Anything that supports local producers and farmers strengthens the local economy and helps to revitalize a community. A growing Kansas wine industry and incentives for Kansas producers will improve sales, which increase taxable revenues. Several studies have shown that when you buy from an independent, locally owned business, rather than a nationally owned business, significantly more of money is used to make purchases from other local businesses, service providers and farms, this strengthens the economic base of Kansas communities.