

STATE OF ARKANSAS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Agriculture is Arkansas's largest industry and contributes over \$21 billion to our state's economy each year. Our diverse agricultural production includes livestock, poultry, aquaculture, row crop, specialty crop, and forestry; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas is home to over 43,000 farms across 13.7 million acres. We are also home to 19.2 million acres of forestland, which comprises 57% of the state's land area; and

WHEREAS: One out of every six jobs in Arkansas is related to agriculture with agricultural operations in all 75 counties within the state; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas consistently ranks in the top 25 for the production of over 15 different agricultural commodities and ranks 16th in the nation with \$8 billion in total cash receipts from agriculture; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas continues to be the top rice producer in the country and ranks among the top ten in rice, broilers, eggs, turkeys, catfish, grain sorghum, and cotton. We are also among the top 25 states for acres harvested in specialty crops including blackberries, dewberries, peas, sorghum for syrup, peanuts, turnips, and more; and

WHEREAS: Our agricultural producers are creative, resilient, efficient, and hardworking individuals that represent some of the best and brightest in the world who work tirelessly to feed, clothe, and shelter those here at home and across the globe; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas's strong agricultural heritage has given us the ability to overcome challenges and work together for the benefit of the industry at the state, national, and international level. Our agricultural producers are the backbone of our state's economy and the foundation for our future; and

WHEREAS: President Trump has proclaimed March 14th, 2019, as National Ag Day as part of a nationwide effort to recognize and celebrate the abundance provided by agriculture across the United States in the everyday lives of Americans. I join the President in recognizing the dedication and commitment of our agricultural producers within our state's largest industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim March 10th through March 16th, 2019, as

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE WEEK

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 5th day of March, in the year of our Lord 2019.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston
John Thurston, Secretary Of State