

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: In 2020, corn was America's second largest agricultural commodity. The United States agricultural sector produces over \$350 billion in commodities annually and employs millions of people; and

WHEREAS: Over 111 million bushels of corn was produced last year in Arkansas on 605 thousand acres; and

WHEREAS: The value of corn produced in Arkansas reached \$440 million, contributing to the largest industry in Arkansas, at \$21 billion; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas ranks 18th for corn production in the United States, with Arkansas, Lee, and Craighead counties being the top three producing counties; and

WHEREAS: Corn is a food enjoyed throughout life in many forms, such as popcorn, tortillas, chips, flour, cornmeal, hominy, grits, syrup, corn on the cob, and other healthful foods; and

WHEREAS: Corn is one of the most widely consumed cereal grains worldwide and is widely used for fuel and animal feed; and

WHEREAS: Cornbread has been a stalwart side dish on Arkansans' tables for centuries, a tradition with roots in early settlers' experiments with a staple grain of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS: Cornbread is a good source of several nutrients. Calcium, iron, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, folic acid, folates and vitamins A, B-6, and B-12 are found in cornbread;

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 October 2021, as

ARKANSAS CORN MONTH

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 9th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2021.



Asa Hutchinson
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston
John Thurston, Secretary Of State