



WHEREAS, Maine's farmers are a cornerstone of our great state and provide numerous benefits to Maine's residents and visitors, we all must continue to support our agricultural producers to ensure Maine's working landscapes thrive, agriculture remains a foundation of our state, and Maine-grown farm products are accessible and available for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Maine's agriculture sector fuels our economy, contributing more than \$3.6 billion in economic impact, employing over 27,000 people, and supporting approximately 1.3 million acres of farmland; and

WHEREAS, Maine's agricultural community has worked tirelessly to build the foundation for a vibrant local food system which ensures the availability of Maine farm products year-round; and

WHEREAS, farmers uphold one of the state's key heritage industries by stewarding land resources, sustaining a legacy of farm trades, and ensuring an abundant supply of food and other agricultural products; and

WHEREAS, Maine has set goals to strengthen our state's agricultural infrastructure and increase the amount of food produced and processed in-state, to end hunger, decrease reliance on food imports, and increase Maine people's consumption of locally and regionally produced food;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize and proclaim March 20th through 26th, 2022, as

Agriculture Week

in Maine so that we may all support and celebrate Maine's resilient working landscape, its lasting heritage of high-quality products, and the vast opportunities that the future of farming holds.



In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this twenty-third day of March Two Thousand Twenty Two

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State