

State of Maine



WHEREAS, the heart of Maine agriculture occurs on 7,600 farms and 1.3 million acres of farmland in the state; and

WHEREAS, Maine farms and the farmers who run them are a cornerstone of our state, producing a variety of high-quality crops and livestock that contribute substantially to our economy and our way of life; and

WHEREAS, since the last USDA Census of Agriculture, Maine agriculture expanded the value of food sold directly from the farm to consumers by 53 percent and organic farm sales increased by 65 percent, with total production valued at more than \$320 million annually; and

WHEREAS, the latest Census recorded an increase in the number of women in farming, as well as the number of young farmers; and

WHEREAS, Maine added nearly 8,000 acres of rich agricultural land to the registry of conservation lands, and the number of farms using no-till conservation increased by 66 percent; and

WHEREAS, Maine Agriculture in the Classroom reaches up to 200,000 Maine grade school-aged children annually through educators, supplies, and grants; and

WHEREAS, Agricultural Fairs of the State of Maine promote good fellowship and agricultural education in family-friendly settings; and

WHEREAS, Maine's 129th Legislature and the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry are celebrating agriculture on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, and honoring the invaluable farming families who feed our people, fuel our economy, and grace our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby recognize March 24th as

Agriculture Day

in Maine, and I encourage all citizens to recognize the vital contributions made to our state by Maine farms and farmers.



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

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY