



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: With more than 80,000 farms comprised of 27 million acres — more than half of the state's land area — Agriculture is the backbone of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: The American farmer, a national symbol of strength and character, has demonstrated ingenuity in times of prosperity and perseverance in the face of hardships, while consistently supplying our state, nation, and world with an abundance of high-quality agricultural goods and products; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota's farm families are stewards of the land, contributing to the health, beauty, productivity, and quality of our state's natural resources for the benefit of all Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS: The mission of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture is to enhance the quality of life for all Minnesotans by ensuring the integrity of our food supply, the health of our environment, and the strength of our agricultural economy; and

WHEREAS: Agriculture is essential to the state's health, recreation, and economy, generating more than \$18.5 billion in farm income and more than \$6 billion in agricultural exports annually; and

WHEREAS: In conjunction with National Agriculture Day on Tuesday, March 25, 2014, Minnesota Agriculture Week raises awareness of agriculture's crucial role in providing the food and fiber necessary for everyday life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of March 23-29, 2014, as:

## AGRICULTURE WEEK

in the state of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the state of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE