

State of Maine



WHEREAS, Maine has more than 7,000 farms that have secured our state as the largest producer of wild blueberries globally, as well as ranking second in New England in dairy and livestock production, second in brown eggs, third for maple syrup, and tenth in the country in potatoes; and

WHEREAS, Maine farmers and agricultural organizations are a cornerstone of our great state, working tirelessly to create vibrant local food systems and make farm products available and accessible year-round; and

WHEREAS, Maine has remained committed to supporting agritourism for decades, creating opportunities for our farmers to generate revenue while ensuring more people learn about food and fiber production, land stewardship, and the history and importance of agriculture; and

WHEREAS, opportunities to explore Maine agriculture on farms and through local businesses have never been more widely available, with such options as farm tours, hay rides, demonstrations, pick-your-own vegetables, fruits, and flowers, and events such as Maine Maple Weekend, the Maine Artisan Bread Fair, the Fiber Frolic, Wild Blueberry Weekend, the Maine Cheese Festival, and tastings and tours at craft beverage operations and makers of all sorts throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, for over 30 years, Maine Open Farm Day has been celebrated on the fourth Sunday each July to boost agricultural tourism, allowing farmers to diversify their customer base by encouraging visitors to mix travel with the insatiable curiosity in local food and supporting business collaborations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of July 17th through July 23rd, 2022 as

Explore Maine Agriculture Week

in Maine so that we may ensure Maine's working landscapes thrive, agriculture remains a cornerstone of our state economy, and quality farm products are accessible and available for generations to come.



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

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State