

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by *Governor Sean Parnell*

WHEREAS, Alaska's agricultural industry is comprised of a wide range of businesses that provide residents with locally-produced, safe, healthy, and high quality products; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is the foundation of every civilization and was integral in the settlement of Alaska. From the Russian trading posts of the early 1800s to the Matanuska Colony of the 1930s, and the Northern Region farm projects of the 1980s, farmers and livestock producers have been at the forefront of frontier expansion in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, today, Alaska's agricultural industry adds more than \$32 million to the state's economy. Alaska's farmers, ranchers, fishermen, and gardeners produce exceptional products, offering Alaskans an abundant array of local food options and commercial agricultural products; and

WHEREAS, with increased consumer interest in purchasing local foods, demand for Alaskan Grown products has multiplied. Higher demand spurs expansions in production, adding to Alaska's food security; and

WHEREAS, we can continue to support Alaskan agriculturalists and businesses by shopping for Alaska Grown products at our local grocery stores, supermarkets, or other businesses; and

WHEREAS, as agriculture provides almost everything we eat, use, and wear on a daily basis, Alaska Agriculture Day provides us with an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the abundant goods provided by agriculture, as well as to acknowledge the important contributions of agricultural workers across our great state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim
May 6, 2014 as:

Alaska Agriculture Day

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to learn how food and fiber products are produced, to recognize the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy, and to express appreciation for Alaska's agriculturalists by shopping for Alaska Grown foods and products.

Dated: May 2, 2014



A blue ink signature of Sean Parnell.

Sean Parnell, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.