

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, agriculture has been a foundation of America's economy and social structure for more than 200 years, and today's farmers continue to play a major role in the economic development of our natural resources. Alaska's farmers and processors provide local, safe, healthy, high quality products; and

WHEREAS, the agriculture industry includes people who not only produce crops and livestock, but also those who supply specialized equipment and seeds, and those who transport, process, and market these products. Each plays an important role in the industry and our economy, and the links between them must be strong if our agricultural system is to succeed and contribute to economic development in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's farmers have a tradition of providing fresh, quality products. Alaska Grown products keep dollars in Alaska, and help to maintain competition in the marketplace; and

WHEREAS, with increased consumer interest in purchasing local foods, demand for Alaska Grown products has multiplied. Higher demand can spur expansion in production, enhancing Alaska's economy and increasing our food security; and

WHEREAS, the need for agriculture education has increased because the number of people living and maintaining Alaska's farms has decreased. We appreciate the contributions of agriculture to provide what we eat, use, and wear. Nothing has a greater impact on the quality of a person's life than the quality of the food they eat.

WHEREAS, many Alaskans have access to Farmers Markets in their communities to purchase high-quality, locally-grown products and support Alaska's economy. The Division of Agriculture provides a directory of events across our state online at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag>; and

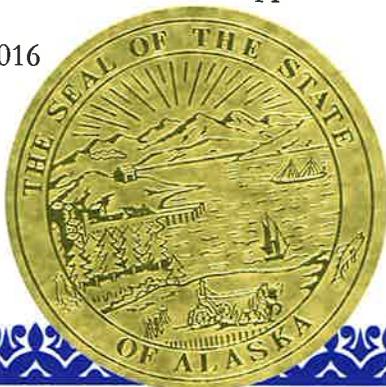
WHEREAS, we look forward to seeing many Alaskans at community events and Farmers Markets across Alaska this summer.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2016 as:

Alaska Agriculture Day

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to recognize the contributions of Alaska's farmers and producers, and to Meet Me at the Market as we support our farmers and products produced and grown in Alaska.

Dated: April 26, 2016



Bill Walker

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*