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Department of  
Natural Resources

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Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: May 14, 2020

## **Alaskans invited to celebrate Agriculture Day on May 15**

**(Palmer, AK)** – Alaskans can support local agriculture by celebrating Alaska Agriculture Day on Friday, May 15, by seeking out and purchasing products produced in Alaska, and by educating young people about the vital role agriculture plays in our economy.

Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a proclamation commemorating the day in recognition of the importance of agriculture to the daily life of all residents, and in appreciation for all farmers and producers in the state of Alaska.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, however, the Division of Agriculture will not be able to mark the event with a public gathering as in previous years. Instead, the Division invites Alaskans to visit the <http://www.buyalaskagrown.com/> webpage for information on where to find farmer's markets, stores and retailers that support the "Alaska Grown" program and where they can buy directly from farmers, growers and producers around the state.

Alaskans are also invited to visit the Alaska Grown Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/dnr.alaskagrown/> where they may read the division's Alaska Agricultural Day post thanking Alaska farmers for always being there, and for working hard to feed and supply Alaskans, even during difficult times.

Members of the public are encouraged to like the post, to leave a comment supporting Alaska farmers, and to share the post with the hashtags #stillfarming and #thankafarmer for a chance to win an Alaska Grown gift basket.

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# STATE OF ALASKA



## *Executive Proclamation* by *Governor Mike Dunleavy*

WHEREAS, agriculture plays an integral role in the success of every civilization, and was instrumental to the settlement of Alaska. From early Russian trading posts to the settlers of the Tanana Valley, Alaskan frontiersman have seen the potential for agriculture and development in Alaskan communities; and

WHEREAS, agriculture provides what we eat, use, and wear on a daily basis, and we recognize the importance of teaching our youth how foods and fibers are produced and distributed. The Alaska Agricultural Industry supports thousands of statewide jobs and produces food and fiber worth \$100 million each year; and

WHEREAS, as a result of successful agriculture endeavors, Alaskan's have the opportunity to enjoy farm fresh local produce, high quality meats, flowers, local fibers, and everything from barley flour to qiviut; and

WHEREAS, Alaska agriculture producers are modern day pioneers who provide the food, fiber, and energy resources into our economy. Alaska is a state rich in resources; and with continued dedication, generations of Alaskans will reap the benefits of their harvest; and

WHEREAS, modern agricultural education programs offer Alaska youth across the state the benefits of a curriculum that helps foster future leaders, farmers, and consumers in their communities; and

WHEREAS, just in the past few years, Alaskans have been made increasingly aware of the need to enhance the security of our in-state food supply due to many floods, wildland fires, the November 30, 2019 Earthquake, and the COVID-19 Pandemic.


NOW THEREFORE, I, Mike Dunleavy, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim May 15, 2020 as:

### *Agriculture Day*

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to support local agriculture by seeking out and purchasing products produced and grown in Alaska and to appreciate the agricultural industry's significant contributions to the well-being of the state.

Dated: May 15, 2020



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