



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK

August 4-10, 2019

By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS farmers and ranchers provide Americans with access to healthy foods produced locally and regionally through farmers markets, which are expanding and evolving to accommodate the demand for a diverse array of agricultural products; and

WHEREAS farmers markets and other agricultural direct marketing outlets provide infrastructure to assist in the distribution of farm and value-added products, thereby contributing approximately \$9 billion each year to the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS farmers markets serve as significant outlets for small-to-medium, new and beginning, and veteran agricultural producers to market agricultural products, in turn generating revenue that supports the sustainability of family farms and the revitalization of rural communities nationwide; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Agriculture recognizes the importance of expanding agricultural marketing opportunities that assist and encourage the next generation of farmers and ranchers; generate farm income to help stimulate business development and job creation; build community connections through rural and urban linkages; and more;

NOW, THEREFORE, to promote awareness of farmers markets' contributions to American life, I, Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim the week of August 4-10, 2019, as National Farmers Market Week. I call upon the American people to celebrate farmers markets with appropriate observances and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of July 2019, the two hundred forty-third year of the Independence of the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sonny Perdue".

SONNY PERDUE
Secretary