

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

**TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:**

**WHEREAS:** Agriculture is Arkansas' largest industry, contributing more than \$20.9 billion annually to our state's economy and providing one of every seven jobs in the state.

**WHEREAS:** Our diverse agricultural production includes poultry, livestock, row crops, aquaculture, specialty crops, and forestry;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas' 41,900 farms and ranches operate on 14 million acres, with agricultural operations occurring in all 75 counties within the state;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas is nationally ranked in the top 24 states for the production of 15 different agricultural commodities and 14th for agricultural receipts;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas is nationally ranked in the top ten for the production of rice, broilers, turkeys, cotton, cottonseed, catfish, peanuts, eggs, and soybeans;

**WHEREAS:** Our agricultural producers are creative, resilient, efficient, and hardworking individuals that represent some of the best and brightest in the world who work tirelessly to feed, clothe, and shelter those here at home and across the globe;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners play a vital leadership role in our communities and in the preservation and sustainability of our natural resources; and

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas is home to almost 12 billion trees on nearly 19 million acres of forestland, which is more than 55 percent of the state's entire land mass;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas' economy is the most forestry-dependent of all the southern states, with forest industries contributing \$5.5 billion to the state's economy;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas' annual timber growth—53 million tons with an annual harvest of 28 million tons—leaves an annual surplus of 29 million tons, making for attractive investment opportunities for forest-based businesses;

**WHEREAS:** Arkansas' agricultural producers are the backbone of our state's economy, and our strong agricultural heritage has given us the ability to overcome challenges and work together for the benefit of the industry at the state, national, and international level.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim March 17-23, 2024, as

**"ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE WEEK"**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 15th day of February, in the year of our Lord 2024.

*Sarah Sanders*

Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor



Attest:

*John Thurston*

John Thurston, Secretary of State