



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

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK  
August 5–11, 2018

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By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

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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

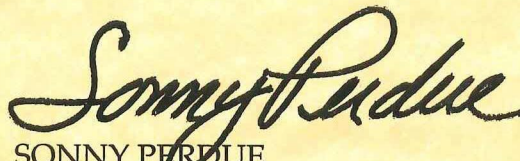
**WHEREAS** farmers markets and other agricultural direct marketing outlets provide infrastructure to assist in the distribution of farm and value-added products, thereby contributing approximately \$9 billion each year to the U.S. economy; and

**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 further awareness of farmers markets' contributions to American life, I, Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim the week of August 5–11, 2018, 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 20th day of June 2018, the two-hundred forty-second year of the Independence of the United States of America.

  
SONNY PERDUE  
Secretary