



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Tennessee is one of the nation's leading agricultural states and benefits from an annual economic impact of more than \$78.9 billion generated from agriculture and forestry; and

WHEREAS, most students today are several generations removed from the farm and do not appreciate the importance of agriculture, nor do they understand from where their food and fiber comes; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we educate students about the importance of agriculture to our state and our nation to ensure a safe and affordable food supply; and

WHEREAS, a study shows that elementary school students are more open and able to apply agricultural concepts; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee agriculture industry is committed to recognizing and celebrating the contributions of agriculture to our everyday lives, sharing the message of how agriculture contributes to our strong economy through the production of safe, abundant, and affordable food and fiber products, renewable energy, and job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom strives to increase the agricultural literacy of all Tennesseans to promote an efficient, productive, and environmentally beneficial food and fiber system; and

WHEREAS, reading is an important skill that influences success in school and in life, and Tennessee Agriculture Literacy Week promotes reading accurate agriculture books and sparks discussion about the importance of Tennessee agriculture;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of November 16-22, 2014 as

Agriculture Literacy Week

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this seventh day of November, 2014.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Kergett

Secretary of State

