

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For more information, contact:
Krystal Caron, communications director
651.905.8500 or kcaron@agrigrrowth.org

Agri-Growth President to Minnesota: Ag Week Serves as a Reminder as to the Importance of Agriculture

Statement from Daryn McBeth, Agri-Growth Council president, urges consumers to recognize the food and agriculture industry this week.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (March 14, 2010) — Governor Mark Dayton has proclaimed March 13-19 as Minnesota Agriculture Week. The designation is an effort to raise awareness of the positive and important contributions agriculture makes to Minnesota's economy and its people. The National Ag Day falls on March 15. Agri-Growth President Daryn McBeth issued the following statement in regards to the significant event and says that it's a great reminder on the important role agriculture plays in each of our lives.

"This week is a very exciting week for the Minnesota Agri-Growth Council and our membership. Obviously our organization values the agriculture and food industry everyday, but it's very exciting to see people from all industries getting involved and sharing the message of how critical agriculture is to Minnesota and the U.S. overall. The word 'agriculture' now means so much more than ever. This unique industry – comprised of farmers, food processors, energy producers, transportation, manufacturing, and so much more – bears a heavy burden of trying to feed the equivalent of two Chinas over the next 40 years: 2.6 billion more people. And the agriculture industry is rising to this challenge while protecting the environment and improving sustainability. This week serves as a reminder to everyone on the importance of agriculture and the respect and support the industry needs and deserves. America's farmers live on the land they tend and care for the environment; they provide a fresh, safe, and a secure food supply; and they are critical to the health and well-being of our economy."

Sincerely,
Daryn McBeth
President, Minnesota Agri-Growth Council

- ✓ Learn more about the Minnesota Agri-Growth Council and our membership at www.agrigrrowth.org.
- ✓ Hear real farm stories at www.americasfarmersblog.blogspot.com
- ✓ Check out the daily Ag Week facts by following Agri-Growth at twitter.com/mn_agrigrrowth
- ✓ Get the facts on Ag Day and other important industry facts at www.agday.org.
- ✓ Learn more about Farmers Feed Us at www.farmersfeedus.org.

Minnesota Agriculture Week is being recognized in conjunction with National Ag Week. 2011 marks the 38th anniversary of the national celebration

The Minnesota Agri-Growth Council (www.agrigrrowth.org) is an advocate for the state's food and agriculture industry. Founded in 1968, the Council is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that represents the shared interests of its 200-plus members, which include food and agriculture businesses, organizations and producers, as well as the service industries that support them.

###