



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors

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Delaware Agricultural Week planned for January 16 – 21, 2006

On July 28, Governor Ruth Ann Minner read and signed a proclamation (attached) declaring the week of January 16 – 21, 2006 as Delaware Agriculture Week. During this week, the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension, the Delaware State University Cooperative Extension, the Delaware Department of Agriculture, and other agricultural organizations are jointly sponsoring a week of agricultural education and celebration for the agricultural community. Most of the sessions will be at the State Fairgrounds in Harrington. The Modern Maturity Center in Dover will be utilized for horticulture and pesticide meetings. The Virdin Center, in Lewes, will be used for the Delmarva Forestry Seminar. The week will end on Saturday night with the Agricultural Industry Dinner.

Planning for this weeklong event has been underway for many months. We urge the agricultural community to join us. Whether you raise meat goats, chickens, horses, cattle, flowers, or vegetables, there will be something there for you. Interested in marketing? Need to know more about risk management? Are you into agritourism? Conservation programs on your mind? Hey, what about hay? Save the week on your calendar and come and join us. All of these topics and much more will be covered.

For more information contact: Ed Kee, University of Delaware Extension Specialist at (302) 856-7303 or kee@udel.edu.

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Statement in Recognition of Delaware Agricultural Week

Whereas, agriculture is the reflection of our past and the bridge to our future; and

Whereas, agriculture is Delaware's number one and most vital industry, with production agriculture alone adding more than \$900 million to the state's economy each year; and

Whereas, people in agriculture are conscientious stewards of the land, and continue to seek new methods to maintain harmony with the environment and new methods to produce the food, fiber, and shelter so vital to our health and well-being; and

Whereas American agriculture builds on centuries of progress by constantly seeking advances in science, research, technology, production, and marketing to meet the demands of changing consumer needs and complex world markets; and

Whereas, on-going education and sharing of knowledge will sustain and empower Delaware's farmers and the agricultural community; and

Whereas, the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension, the Delaware State University Cooperative Extension, and the Delaware Department of Agriculture are presenting educational conferences, workshops, seminars, and meetings for Delaware's farmers and the agricultural community during the week of January 16, 2006.

Now therefore, We, Ruth Ann Minner, Governor, and John Carney, Lieutenant Governor, of the State of Delaware, do hereby recognize the importance of Delaware agriculture, our number one industry, and declare the week of January 16, 2006 as:

Agriculture Week

in the State of Delaware; and we urge all Delawareans to celebrate and understand Delaware's modern agricultural industry, and to salute the farmers, the agricultural community, and the educators who provide the research and the education so vital to sustaining our agricultural industry.