

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH 20, 2002
"NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DAY" AND THE WEEK
OF MARCH 17 - 23, 2002, "NATIONAL AGRICULTURE
WEEK" IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, California has been the nation's number-one farm state and the state's farmers and ranchers have led the U.S. in the production of 77 separate commodities; and

WHEREAS, California agriculture produces more than 250 different commodities - from alfalfa to zucchini; and

WHEREAS, the state's farmers and ranchers, who represent less than 1 percent of the state's 33 million people, contribute nearly \$27 billion in high-quality food, fiber, flowers and forest products annually; and

WHEREAS, California agriculture provides more than half of the nation's total supply of fruits, vegetables and nuts from just 3 percent of the nation's farmland, and fertile soils. Forgiving climates, agricultural technology and innovation allow each California farmer to produce food and fiber for 135 people; and

WHEREAS, California agriculture is a renewable economic resource for the state, creating income that is replenished every year; and

WHEREAS, farmers and ranchers provide a bounty of products while protecting the environment through the wise management of natural resources; and

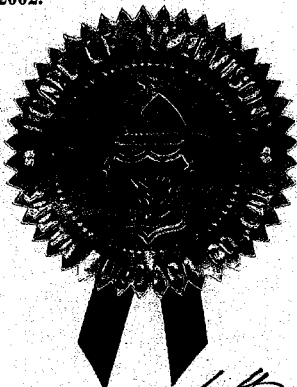
WHEREAS, California agriculture is a family affair with more than 97 percent farms being operated as family farms or partnerships; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County's \$735 million agricultural industry produces a bounty of high quality commodities such as wine grapes, vegetable crops, strawberries, citrus, avocados and livestock; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is a vital and vibrant contributor to our local economy as the county's major industry providing a local impact in excess of 1.5 billion dollars through the multiplier effect and contributes materially to our way of life by providing open space and stewardship to natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND HEREBY ORDERED that this Board of Supervisors recognizes the contributions and honors the achievements of farmers, ranchers and the 1.1 million people involved in jobs relating to California agriculture and proclaims March 20, 2002, "National Agriculture Day" and March 17 - 23, 2002, "National Agriculture Week" in Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this nineteenth day of March 2002.



ATTEST:

[Signature]
Clerk of the Board

Naomi Schwartz
Supervisor ~ 1st District
Laura Rose
Supervisor ~ 2nd District
Mark Miller
Supervisor ~ 3rd District
Joni Gray
Supervisor ~ 4th District
Tom Osborne
Supervisor ~ 5th District

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