STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; boasting 1.28 million cows and more dairy farms than any other state, Wisconsin has a long tradition as "America's Dairyland"; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's dairy industry adds over \$45 billion to our economy every year, stimulating a vast network of equipment manufacturers and technicians, cooperatives, veterinarians, construction companies, milk haulers, processing plants, software companies, and many other industries, and creating a wave of economic impact that is felt in every corner of our state; and

WHEREAS; our nearly 1,200 licensed cheesemakers produce a quarter of our nation's cheese in over 600 varieties, ranking Wisconsin as our nation's top cheese producing state; and

WHEREAS; our hardworking, resilient, and dedicated dairy farm families are an important part of our collective heritage, culture, and identity as Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes the many difficulties that our dairy farmers have endured over the past few years, including low milk prices and international trade wars, and the unique challenges that have emerged in the past months as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's farm families deserve to be supported, which is why our state directed \$50 million of the funding we received through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act toward direct payments to support our farmers, including dairy producers; and

WHEREAS; this month, we honor our dairy farm families for their continued resilience in the face of constantly changing circumstances, and reaffirm our commitment to being better partners for our farmers, agricultural industries, and rural communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 2020 as

JUNE DAIRY MONTH

roughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 1st day of June 2020.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the vernor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State