



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly has declared 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer, recognizing the vital role women play in agriculture, food production, and sustaining rural economies worldwide; and

WHEREAS, this designation provides an opportunity to highlight and celebrate the essential contributions of women in agriculture, and encourage policies and investments that empower women farmers, ranchers, and agribusiness professionals; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and its members are championing the International Year of the Woman Farmer to uplift, equip, connect, and recognize women in agriculture across the United States; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2022 Census of Agriculture, there are approximately 15,000 female farmers and ranchers in New Mexico, accounting for 41 percent of all agricultural producers; and

WHEREAS, 84 percent of New Mexico farms and ranches are family operated, producing the beef, chile, pecans, onions, dairy and other commodities for which the state is known; and

WHEREAS, women farmers and ranchers in New Mexico not only cultivate the land but also contribute to research and development, manufacturing, sales and distribution, innovation, entrepreneurship, conservation, leadership in food systems, agricultural education, community resilience, agribusiness, and advocacy, which extends benefits to individuals around the globe; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's agricultural sector is a diverse and dynamic part of the State's economy, contributing more than \$2.9 billion annually, employing tens of thousands of people, encompassing 40.6 million acres of agricultural land, and preserving rural heritage, food security, local jobs, and community well-being; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico recognizes the significant positive influence women in agriculture have on food resources and the agricultural workforce; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico women in agriculture have been recognized as national leaders by serving as presidents of national organizations, serving on national committees, and by induction in the National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame, the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum Hall of Great Westerners, to name a few.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim 2026, as:

"National Year of the Woman in Agriculture"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
6th day of February 2026.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

